

The Bureau of Sanitary Engineering supervises the purity of water throughout the State and examines all sewage, water works, and refuse disposal projects. Through the State Board of Health, it can require local authorities to install sewerage or water works or to alter their construction or operation. The Bureau exercises supervision over the disposal of trade wastes, stream pollution in general, and aerial pollution (Code 1939, Art. 43, sec. 38).

The Bureau of Vital Statistics registers births and deaths in the State; it receives copies of the marriage and divorce records for statistical tabulation and as a safeguard against destruction of the original records maintained in the counties. The Bureau issues certified and uncertified copies of the birth and death records, and a "Registered Notice" of each new birth certificate is also sent to the mother on registration of the birth. It publishes current vital statistics monthly and annually and makes statistical studies based upon population, births, deaths, marriages, divorces, etc. (Code 1939, Art. 43, sec. 39).

The Bureau of Child Hygiene works through the counties in an advisory and building capacity. It promotes, develops and extends the county programs. Upon request of the County Health Officers, and with the approval of local physicians, arrangements are made for obstetrical and pediatric consultation clinics, health conferences for infants and pre-school children, and summer round-up clinics for children about to enter school. A School Health Program is operated in cooperation with the State Department of Education (Code 1939, Art. 43, sec. 40).

The Bureau of Medical Services assists in the medical care of the indigent through a program which includes physician services, diagnostic examinations, nursing homes, dental care and drugs. The Bureau licenses hospitals and nursing homes, and administers chronic disease hospitals in cooperation with the Division of hospital Construction and Administration. The Emergency Maternity and Infant Care Program for the wives and children of service men has been administered under this bureau (Code 1947, supp. Art. 43, sec. 44A). The Division of Cancer Control was organized within the Bureau of Medical Services in 1946. It cooperates with the Maryland Division of the American Cancer Society in the development of a State Cancer Control Program. The principal activities under this program include: education of lay and professional groups; provision of Cancer Detection Clinics and Tumor Clinics; research in cancer control and aid to the medically indigent.

The Chief of the Bureau of Food and Drugs is State Food and Drug Commissioner. This Bureau investigates food and drug products manufactured or sold in the State in order to determine their purity, honesty of labeling, and compliance with the Food and Drug Acts. Its personnel inspects dairies, canneries, pharmacies, stores, markets, seafood establishments, slaughter houses and other places where food or drugs are produced, manufactured or sold (Code 1939, Art. 43, sec. 191).

Also operating within the Department are eight Divisions organized by the State Board of Health.

The Division of Industrial Health enforces the provisions for the prevention of occupational disease as included in the Workman's Compensation Law. The Staff visits plants to determine the extent and severity of health hazards and to make recommendations for needed corrections.