

sponse to a request by the President of the United States. The Committee coordinates and promotes the programs of counseling, training, and placement that exist among State agencies for the physically handicapped. It works to create greater public awareness of the problems faced by the handicapped in finding employment, and to develop in employers a desire to give work to these people when possible. The Committee has publicized the experience of employers with handicapped workers and endeavors to stimulate public interest in providing suitable facilities for the handicapped in Maryland.

In order to reach all sections of the State, twenty-four local committees have been organized, one in each county and one in Baltimore City.

Appropriations	1957	1958
General Funds .....	\$3,000	\$3,500

## Supervision of State Employment

### STATE COMMISSIONER OF PERSONNEL

- Russell S. Davis, State Commissioner of Personnel, 1961
- Wayne W. Ransom, Assistant to the Commissioner
- Margaret Dambly Frank, Director, Examination Division
- Betty Wintz Klare, Director, Classification and Compensation Division
- Nathan E. Needle, M.D., Medical Examiner
- Ruth Engel Hubbard, Supervisor, Merit System
- Lillian Hoshall Trost, Supervisor, Merit System

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The State Commissioner of Personnel is the head of the State Merit System, which was established in 1920 by the Act now codified as Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition). The title of State Commissioner of Personnel was established by the Acts of 1953. The position had previously been known as Commissioner of State Employment and Registration (Code 1951, 1957 supp., Art. 64A, sec. 9). The Commissioner, who is appointed by the Governor for a six-year term, administers the Merit System Law, and with the approval of the Governor, makes such rules as he deems necessary. The purpose of the Merit System Law is to test the fitness of candidates for positions in the classified service according to a standard of business efficiency, without regard to political or religious opinions or affiliations; to provide means for promptly removing from positions in the classified service all persons therein who may be indolent, incompetent, inefficient, or otherwise unfit; and to keep in a workable state the provisions for the promotion of employees as provided in this Law to ensure that the best class of candidates will be attracted to the classified service (Code 1951, Art. 64A, sec. 39). The State Commissioner of Personnel is, therefore, the Chief Personnel Officer for the State of Maryland, which at present employs approximately 14,500 Classified and 5,078 Unclassified workers. The Commissioner is an ex officio member of the State Employees' Retirement System (Code 1951, Art. 73B, sec. 9) and Chairman of the Standard Salary Board (Code 1951, 1957 supp., Art. 64A, sec. 24). His Department is the