

ease dangerous to the public health, he shall immediately report such notice to the local board of health, and upon obtaining the approval of such local board of health investigate the matter and take all proper steps for the restriction or suppression of such disease or diseases; and the local boards of health shall incur and pay, as other expenses are paid, the necessary and legitimate expenses thereof; he shall promptly notify the Secretary of the State Board of Health of the existence of any epidemic or unusual sickness or mortality that may come to his knowledge within his own sanitary jurisdiction or contiguous thereto, and when thus informed, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the State Board of Health to co-operate with and aid the local health authorities in making scientific and practical investigation into the cause or causes of any existing disease, and in devising the most efficient means for its restriction or suppression or for the exclusion of any threatened disease, and to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the spread of such disease or diseases; and to this end he may exercise all the powers of the State Board of Health.

1922, ch. 271.

53. Any physician called to attend a person suffering with any disease embraced within the provisions of Section 52 of this Article shall have the power to exercise all the powers conferred by said section upon the health officers of the several counties to restrict or suppress such disease or diseases until the health officer of the county wherein said disease may occur shall investigate the matter as directed in Section 52. Said attending physician may exercise said power without securing the prior approval of the board of health of the county; but said power shall be exercised only during the emergency existing until the county health officer shall make his investigation, and immediately upon said investigation, the power hereby conferred upon the attending physician shall cease. This section shall not apply to Baltimore City.

Infectious Diseases—Small-Pox.

An. Code, sec. 41. 1904, sec. 30. 1888, sec. 15. 1882, ch. 155, sec. 1. 1920, ch. 496, sec. 41.

54. When any local health officer is of the opinion that the cleansing and disinfecting of any house or part thereof, and of articles therein would tend to prevent or check infectious diseases, it shall be the duty of such health officer to cause such house or parts thereof and articles to be cleansed and disinfected; and the city, town or county in which such house is situated shall defray the expenses thereof.

Any local health officer may direct the disinfection or destruction of any bedding, clothing or other articles which have been exposed to infection from any dangerous infectious disease; provided that when any person sustains any damage by reason of the exercise of any of the powers of this section, in relation to any matter as to which he is not himself in default, reasonable compensation shall be made by the municipal or county authorities to such person.

See secs. 21 and 52; also sec. 76, *et seq.*, and sec. 96, *et seq.*