

tricts, cities or villages to investigate the cause of any existing disease, and shall, from time to time, and whenever directed by the Governor or Legislature, make special inspections of public hospitals, asylums, prisons, and other institutions, and shall, at each session of the Legislature, submit, through the board, a full report of his investigations, with such suggestions and recommendations as he may deem proper; he shall, when required by the Governor or other proper authorities, advise in regard to the location, drainage, water supply, disposal of excrement, heating and ventilation of any public institution or building belonging to the State; he shall collect information concerning vital statistics, prevailing diseases and the general hygiene of the State, and through an annual report and otherwise, as the board may direct, shall disseminate such information among the people; he shall receive from the treasury, in monthly payments, an annual salary of three thousand dollars, to be paid on the warrant of the comptroller, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

1898, ch. 312.

6. The secretary of the State board of health shall be the State Registrar of Vital Statistics for Maryland; he shall, under the direction of the State board of health, prepare the necessary methods, books and forms for accurate registration of births and deaths, and shall supply the local registrars, health officers, ministers, physicians, undertakers, mid-wives and other persons charged with any duty under this act, the proper blanks, forms and books of record. The State Registrar shall collect, tabulate and preserve the records of the vital statistics of the State. Annually, in the month of January, he shall prepare a general abstract and report of the vital statistics for the preceding year, so tabulated and arranged as to render them of practical utility, and shall have printed not more than one thousand copies, of which he shall forward five copies each to the Governor and the State Librarian, one to each member of the General Assembly of Maryland, one to each local Registrar of Vital Statistics, one to the board of health of each State and Territory of the United States, and the remainder to such departments, libraries and persons as may seem to the State Registrar entitled to the same.