

The balance of the increase is reflected in the Equalization Fund to provide for the increase in basic minimum salaries of teachers provided by law, one extra month's salary for colored teachers made mandatory by law, additional high-school aid, additional number of teachers resulting from increased enrollment and ten additional special classes for the mentally handicapped.

While the total appropriation for the support of public schools of the State for the years 1940 and 1941 represents roughly twenty-nine (29%) per cent of the total appropriations from General Funds, it is my opinion that the amount is needed to maintain adequately the Public School System. Maryland's Public School System and the administration of its affairs, must be maintained in its enviable position among the States of the Country, and it would be a definite step backward to withdraw any support necessary to maintain it in a highly developed and efficient state.

### State Aided Institutions

Having its origin many decades ago when the State had no College or University of its own, and when public school facilities were grossly inadequate to meet the educational needs and demands of the youth of the State, and when the State afforded only a very meager hospital and institutional care for its mentally and physically afflicted, and indigent and homeless men, women and children, the present system of so-called State aided Institutions receiving financial assistance from the State today represents one of the State's major problems.

Their aggregate requests for State financial assistance for the years 1940 and 1941 amount to \$1,857,414.00, notwithstanding the State and Federal Governments are today spending millions of dollars annually for aid to dependent children, aid to the blind, the deaf, the crippled, to the unemployed, in old-age and military pensions, in free medical and clinical services, in free educational and vocational opportunities, and in hospitalization of the mentally and physically afflicted.

The budget which I am submitting to you will disclose that these requests, aggregating, as I said before \$1,857,414.00 are from 108 institutions and associations scattered throughout the State, classified as follows:

	Number
Care of Poor and Dependent .....	11
Care of Children .....	25
Care of Deaf, Dumb and Blind .....	4
Rescue Home .....	1
Semi-Public and Private Hospitals, Dispensaries and Institutions for Mentally or Physically Afflicted .....	46
Reform and Correctional Institutions .....	4
Colleges, Academies and Schools .....	11
Miscellaneous Associations, Agencies and Depart- ments .....	6

For many years it has been the accustomed practice for the Board of State Aid and Charities to conduct hearings shortly prior to the meeting of the Legislature, at which representatives from the many Institutions, associations and agencies seeking financial assistance from the State for the ensuing biennium were scheduled to appear and, within an allotted few minutes, were required