

The Maryland State Weather Service is similar in its organization and methods to like services in other states; the personnel consists of voluntary observers who have been selected at favorable points throughout the state, and of a corps of permanent observers who have been assigned from the United States Weather Bureau to take charge of the work at the central office. The National Bureau also supplies instruments, forms and stationery to all stations of the service, and all the correspondence and reports are mailed under the frank of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The stations connected with the service are of three classes: first, those which report meteorological facts; second, those which send crop notes; third, those which display signals. In a few instances the same person fulfills the duties of all three offices. Nearly every section of the state is represented in this manner, several stations having been established in each county.

The publications of the Maryland State Weather Service consist of monthly Meteorological Reports and weekly Crop Bulletins. Both of these reports were published independently by the Maryland State Weather Service until the autumn of 1896, but since that date they have been prepared and printed in co-operation with the United States Weather Bureau as part of its Climate and Crop Service, Maryland and Delaware Section. The publications are devoted chiefly to a discussion of the climate of Maryland, the efficacy of meteorological conditions upon the products of the soil, and the especial advantages in these directions to be enjoyed by the inhabitants of the state. On account of the varied climate of Maryland, the difference of its soil formations and its extensive coast-line, the agricultural and commercial interests of the state are many and important, and the Maryland State Weather Service has been of great value in bringing to the attention of the public the special advantages which the state possesses in these several directions.

Several special reports have been brought out by the Maryland State Weather Service in addition to the regular publications above described. In 1893 series of large Climatic Charts with explanatory texts were prepared to represent the seasonal and annual tempera-