

terests of the residents of their respective districts, and shall make sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting the causes of disease, especially epidemics and the cause of mortality; they shall inquire into and investigate all nuisances affecting the health, comfort or property of the citizens of their respective districts, and for this purpose they are authorized to go upon any premises or into any house in their respective districts. They shall furnish the County Health Officer with a full report of all their investigations and findings in such matters, and shall take such steps as the County Commissioners shall direct to abate any nuisance injuriously affecting the public health or the lives of persons making complaint, or unduly injuring the health or comfort, or damaging the property of the persons affected by the aforesaid nuisance. In case of any epidemic or contagious or infectious diseases within the county, the County Commissioners or the County Health Officer may send one or all of said sanitary officers to the locality where the said epidemic exists, for which services they shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the County Commissioners of Howard County; they shall also serve as vaccine physicians for their respective districts, and it shall be their duty to vaccinate free of charge any child whose guardian or parents are too poor to pay for the service. It shall further be the duty of said district health officers to examine into the sanitary conditions of all highways, alleys and by-ways in their respective districts, and if the same are found to be in an unsanitary condition, to report such fact immediately to the county health officer. Upon request of any school teacher they shall also examine all primary school children's eyes once a year for refractional and focal difficulties, and cause the parents or guardian of children whose eyes are defective to be so informed. They shall examine all exposed parts of school children at least once a term, or oftener, if requested by the teacher, for contagious skin diseases, and such children together with those whom the teacher shall show to have parasites, shall be excluded from school until they can furnish a certificate from a regular qualified physician that they are rid of trouble. They shall also act as physicians to the coroners of their respective districts, and examine indigent insane when requested by any officer of the county. No medical services shall be engaged or employed to carry out the provisions of this act without the specific order of the Local Board of Health, and no such services shall be employed without the permission of the Local Board of Health and the County Health officer.