

or attempt to cause fires occurred, should he deem it necessary in the proper discharge of his duties; and they may, in the exercise of their discretion, take full control and custody of the said buildings and premises, and place such person in charge thereof as they may deem proper, until their examination and investigation shall be completed. The commissioner and special deputy shall also have authority to inspect public buildings, such as schoolhouses, churches, opera houses, theatres, hospitals, asylums, public halls, factories, hotels and other buildings of like character, and to compel the owner or owners thereof to provide sufficient fire escapes or other means of exit as he shall direct for the benefit and safety of the occupants of said buildings, and the said commissioner or his said special deputy shall give thirty days' notice to the owner or owners of such buildings to provide such fire escapes or other means of exit as in his judgment shall be deemed necessary. Upon failure or refusal of the said owner or owners of said buildings to comply with the said notice, the said commissioner or his deputy shall arrest or cause the said person or persons to be arrested, and upon conviction before any justice of the peace of the city or county of the state of Maryland wherein the owner or owners reside, or the respective building or buildings may be located, they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall pay the fine of not more than one hundred dollars or less than twenty-five dollars for each offense, and an additional fine of five dollars for each and every day thereafter that such violation shall continue; and if the accused shall feel himself aggrieved by the judgment of the justice of the peace, he shall have the right of appeal to the circuit court for the county or the criminal court of Baltimore City and have a jury trial; this act shall, however, not conflict with any existing laws now fully covering the same in any of the towns or cities of the state of Maryland.

SEC. 57. *Reports of Examinations of Fires.* The commissioner shall, at the request of the board of fire commissioners of the city of Baltimore, or the county commissioners of any county, or the municipal authorities of any incorporated city or town in this state, make to them a written report of the examination made by him or his deputy regarding any fire happening within their respective jurisdiction.

SEC. 58. *Companies Shall Report Facts Regarding Losses.* It shall be the duty of each fire insurance company or association doing business in this state, within ten days after the