REPORT OF WORK OF KENT COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.

All Phases Of Public Health Work Stressed

(Continued from Page 1)

At the present time one could not find anywhere a more intensive and comprehensive program of public health work than we have here in Kent County with one very important phase excepted.

Approximately 25 per cent of our mothers belonging to the in digent and low-income groups; do not have any professional care at the time of delivery. A prenatal and postpartum clinic is conducted by a competent obstetrician once each month at the County Seat, offering consultation for physicians' cases and examination and advice to others. Hospitalization can be arranged only for abnormal cases. Mothers do not appreciate prenatal and postpartum care when they are left stranded in their times of greatest need,—the time of delivery. Beginning in September 1940, we plan to begin to rectify this condition and further decrease our high infant mortality rate with a well planned nursing midwifry program.

Six infant and preschool child health conference are held regularly by the health officer in various parts of the county, except during the months of July and August, when the pediatrician of the State Healthmobile carries on this work for us in these and ten additional areas. Sixteen of the nineteen county physicians refer infant feeding problems to us. Proper care of the well child is stressed at these meetings. Our Department assists in arranging for remedial defects to be corrected. Diphtheria immunization, by agreement with the County Medical Society is given to all who ask for it. Smallpox vaccination which is required by State law, is left mainly to the family physician. Infants at six months receive a greeting from the Health Department telling them to ask their mothers to take them to their family doctor for toxoid, at twelve a similar greeting is received concerning vaccination.

A pediatrician is in our county one-half day per month to offer his services as consultant to the family physician.

The schools of Kent County, white and colored, are visited once per week by the Health Officer or some member of the Department. Medical inspections are always made during the first three weeks of school to check up on vaccinations and to isolate and advise as to the treatment of cases of scabies, impetigo, pediculi, and such.

Every school child receives a medical check-up during the year and parents are urged and assisted in getting the childrens' remedial defects corrected according to ability to pay. For the past two years Wassermann surveys have been kept up to date in the colored school and all those who need it are under treatment. A very active communicable disease program is carried out in conjunction with the school authorities.

Last year we carried out very thoruoghly and sold to both the physician and the public the pneumonia control program. This year we plan to carry out a pneumonia immunization program authorized by Dr. Lloyd Felton, who has spent years in pneumonia prevention work.

....B.—Public Health Nursing Service for Maternity Patients, for Infants, and for Children of Preschool and School Ages.

Maternity Patients:

All prenatal cases are referred to the family physicians for care. Those cases to be delivered by a mid-wife are referred to the prenatal clinic. Bi-monthly visits are made to the mothers, diet instructions, instructions in general care; as exercise, rest, care of teeth, dress, etc., and plans for the delivery are carried out during these visits.

Mid-wives are under the supervision of the P. H. N. Equipment is inspected frequently. Each mid-wife delivery is visited within 24 hours after delivery to check on eye drops.

Mid-wives are urged to bring their patients to the prenatal clinics and receive directly from the obstetrical consultant recommendation as their patients.

All infants are visited within two weeks after delivery. The mother is instructed in general baby care. According to the response, intelligence, and cooperatives of the mother, the babies are visited weekly, bi-monthly or monthly. Literature is always given the mother.

All cases are referred back to their physician or Child Health Clinic in their area for diet instructions, etc.

If there are preschool or school children in the home, a conference is held with the mothers, during these visits to the infant, in regards to immunization for diphtheria nad smallpox, diet, correction of defects, mental hygiene and general care.

To the preschool child four routine visits during the year are made to instruct the mothers in the above services.

Home visits to the school child for corrections of defects are made after school medical examinations. Arrangements for the correction of eye cases, urgent tonsil cases and malnourished children are made at once if the family is cooperative.

Visits for the control of communicable diseases are made to infants, preschool and school children during the year.

C.—Dental Services for Mothers and Children.

No dental service is offered to the prenatal cases, but occasionally the local dentist through our office will give emergency care.

The only dental services offered the preschool child is that which is offered at the time the Health-bus visits the county.

A dentist visits the schools five months during the school year. Children in the first 3 grades are given dental care at a very small fee.

Prophylaxis is taught and stressed both by the dentist and nurse.

In one part of the country the nurse was so amazed to find so few children with individual tooth brushes that she arranged through the kindness of a local druggist to distribute nine dozen tooth brushes at a reduced price.

A self-appointed pupil made daily checks on this work. Plans for the future—a full time dentist for six months of the year to cover the whole M. C. H. group is our aim.

D.—Nutrition Services.

The nutrition program was one of our heaviest services during the 1939 1940 year.

The State Nutritionist visited the prenatal clinics during 1939 and individual conferences with the mothers. These were followed up by the P. H. N.

Conferences were held with the mothers in the homes and child health clinics. Adequate diet for the infant, preschools and school child was stressed. Budget assistance was given in the home.

Much literature was distributed through the home, clinic and school visits.

A concentrated program was arranged during the fall of 1939 and each P. T. A. in the county was addressed by the State Nutritionist on "Adequate Diet for the School Child."

Surplus commodities were added to the school lunches which were a great help in extending, over a longer period of time, the already established program.

In some schools, through the cooperation of the teacher, the nurse was able to carry out a health project. "Proper Food Charts" were used and checked by the nurse.

Through the courtesy of the Maltex Company cereal was distributed posters hung, health travel charts filled in and 56 buttons awarded for eating a 100 per cent breakfast for over a period of a month. The breakfast interest was very much stimulated.

The milk intake was increased through demonstrations of evaporated milk. Formulas, milk drinks for the preschools and school child, the use of evaporated milk in home cooking were well received. These demonstrations were made possible through the courtesy of the Pet Milk Company, who contributes a case of milk for clinic use monthly. For further information on our nutrition program see the July "State Monthly Bulletin". The largest school in the county didn't cooperate with the school lunch program. This year we hope to add this school and thus make the county 100 per cent.

E.—Other M. C. H. Services.

Health movies were shown to all the schools in the county, talks on health followed the films. Lay groups, Rotary, Lion's Club, Business and Professional Women Club and P. T. A., were addressed by members of the State and Local Health Department.

The Lion's Club has assumed the responsibility of three eye cases needing follow-up, in the preschool and school age group.

The Negro Health Week program is always very intensive and at this time Child Health Conferences are held as well as School Medical Examinations and Dental Work.

The Beautifications Survey of home and grounds was made, all homes, grounds and out buildings were checked. Suggestions were made to residents in regards to general clean up. The planting of flower, and vegetable gardens was urged. At a later date a follow-up check was made with gratifying results.

F.—Work of Local Maternal and Child Health Committees.

The summer round up conducted by the county P. T. A. is well planned and carried out in each section of the county.

The P. T. A. Health Chairman assists with the school lunch program and also assists in the Child Health Clinics.

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(Continued from Page 6)

Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement), title "Oysters," sub-title "Oyster Culture," be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

129. It shall be lawful at any time after the closed season for taking oysters, to take oysters from such natural beds or bars in Chesapeake Bay as the Commission may mark out for that purpose, and at such time as the Commission may designate, but not to exceed one month in any one year and under such regulations as said Commission may from time to time prescribe; and, provided, however, that said oysters may be sold only for the purposes now permitted under the existing laws of Maryland, during the season of the year above mentioned; and in addition thereto, to persons engaged in the industry of planting and cultivating oysters within the State of Maryland, the same to be delivered only upon land which may have been leased under the provisions of this sub-title for said purposes of planting or cultivation.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That if any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by any Court, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remaining provisions thereof, but shall be confined in its operations to the specific provision so held unconstitutional or invalid and the inapplicability or invalidity of any section, clause or provision of this Act in any one or more instances shall not be taken to affect or prejudice in any way its applicability or invalidity in any other instance.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect on June 1, 1939.

Approved: May 3, 1939.

CHAPTER 732

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 1, 2, 5 and 6 of Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement), title "Workmen's Compensation," sub-title "State Industrial Accident Commission."

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Sections 1, 2, 5 and 6 of Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1935 Supplement), title "Workmen's Compensation," sub-title "State Industrial Accident Commission," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

1. A Commission is hereby created which shall be known as the State Industrial Accident Commission, to be composed of four Commissioners. Upon June 1st, 1939, all of the terms of the Commissioners in office upon the taking effect of this Act shall terminate, and the Governor shall thereupon appoint one Commisioner who shall hold office for a term of one year, one for a term of two years, one for a term of three years, and one for a term of four years. Upon the expiration of the term of each Commissioner, his successor shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of four years. Each Commissioner shall devote his entire time to the duties of the office, and shall not hold any position of trust or engage in any occupation or business interfering or inconsistent with his duties as such Commissioner, or serve on or under any committee of a political party. Each Commissioner shall hold office until his successor shall be appointed and shall have qualified. Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term. The Governor may at any time remove any Commissioner from office for inefficiency, neglect of duty or malfeasance in office. Before such removal he shall give such Commissioner a copy of the charges against him and shall fix a time when he can be heard in his own defense, either in person, or by counsel, which shall not be less than ten days thereafter, and such hearing shall be open to the public. The principal office of the Commission shall be in the City of Baltimore, but branch offices may be established at other places in the State for the purpose of administering this Article.

2. The Governor shall designate one member of the Commission as the Chairman thereof, and he shall be the administrative and executive head of the Commission and shall have the final authority in all matters relating to the assignment of cases for trial, the management of the State Accident Fund and the administrative work of the Commission and its employees, except in the promulgation of rules and regulations wherein the Commission shall act as a body, and in the trial and determination of cases, as hereinafter provided. The other three members are hereby vested with authority to hear and determine any hearing, trial, inquiry or investigation which the Commission is authorized to hold or undertake; and any one of such other three members can preside alone at any such hearing, trial, inquiry and investigation, and every order and determination made by any one member shall be deemed to be the order or determination of the Commission. The Chairman shall only sit in the trial of cases when, in his judgment, it is necessary to expedite the trial work of the Commission.

5. The present employees of the Commission shall continue to serve in their present positions and shall retain all of their rights under Article 64A of the Annotated Code, title "Merit System." The Chairman of the Commission shall have the power to make any future appointments as are provided for in the Budget, which appointments must be made in accordance with the provisions of said Article 64A. The secretary and other assistants that may be employed shall be entitled to receive their actual necessary expenses while traveling on the business of the Commission. Such expenses shall be itemized and sworn to by the person who incurred the expense, and allowed by the Chairman of the Commission. The Chairman of the Commission shall keep and maintain its main office and such branch offices as he shall deem proper and necessary for the administration of this Article, and shall provide suitable rooms, necessary office furniture, supplies, books, periodicals and maps for the same. All necessary expenses shall be audited and paid out of the appropriation in the State Treasury provided for in this Article. The Commission shall provide itself with a seal for the authentication of its orders, awards and proceedings, upon which shall be inscribed the words, "State Industrial Accident Commission, State of Maryland—Official Seal."

Each member of the Commission and each person appointed to office or employment by the Commission shall, before entering upon the duties of his office or employment, take and subscribe the constitutional oath of office.

6. The Secretary of the Commission shall keep and maintain a full and true record of all proceedings of the Commission, of all documents or papers ordered filed by the Commission or by its rules, of decisions or orders made by any member of the Commission and of all decisions or orders made by the Commission or approved and confirmed by it and ordered filed, and he shall be responsible to the Commission for the safe custody and preservation of all such documents at its office. He shall have the power to administer oaths in all parts of the State, so far as the exercise of such power is properly incident to the performance of his duty or that of the Commission. The Chairman of the Commission may designate, from time to time, one of the clerks of the office, appointed by him, to exercise the powers and duties of the Secretary during his absence.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1939.

Approved: May 11, 1939.

WHEREAS, petitions to refer the aforesaid Acts of the General Assembly to the voters of the State of Maryland, for adoption or rejection, have been filed with the Secretary of State in conformity with the provisions of Article XVI of the Constitution of Maryland, entitled "The Referendum," and the said Acts of Assembly will be so submitted to the voters at the election to be held on November 5, 1940.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HERBERT R. O'CONOR, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, pursuant to the authority and direction contained in Section 5 (a) of Article 16 of the Constitution of Maryland, do hereby order and direct that this Proclamation containing a full, true and correct copy of Chapters 353 and 732 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1939, be published in at least two newspapers in each of the Counties of the State where so many may be published and where not more than one may be published then in that newspaper, and in three newspapers published in the City of Baltimore, one of which shall be published in the German language, in such manner and for such time as is provided in Section 1 of Article 14 of the Constitution of Maryland.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND. DONE AT THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS, THIS 29TH DAY OF JULY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY.

THE GREAT SEAL OF MARYLAND

HERBERT R. O'CONOR
By the Governor:

FRANCIS PETROTT
Secretary of State.