

CITY OF BALTIMORE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1941



*To the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the
Year Ended December 31, 1941*

He won campaign after campaign but never fought a battle; haste was unknown to him, or anger or the exuberant joy of putting an opponent down . . .

He criticized only indirectly through suggesting something better.

Flexner and Flexner

William Henry Welch, 1941

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Commissioner, HUNTINGTON WILLIAMS, M.D., Dr.P.H.

Assistant Commissioner, ROSS DAVIES, M.D., M.P.H.

Secretary, REED GAITHER

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

Administration.....	HUNTINGTON WILLIAMS, M.D., Dr. P.H.
Vital Statistics.....	W. THURBER FALES, Sc.D.
Health Information.....	ESTHER S. HORINE DOROTHY REGINA KALBEN
Laboratories.....	C. LEROY EWING
Eastern Health District.....	C. HOWE ELLER, M.D., Dr.P.H.
Western Health District.....	ALFRED C. MOORE, M.D.
Druid Health Center.....	H. MACEO WILLIAMS, M.D., M.P.H.
Southeastern Health District.....	JOHN A. SKLADOWSKY, M.D.

MEDICAL SECTION

Communicable Diseases.....	DAVID H. ANDREW, M.D., C.P.H.
Sydenham Hospital.....	MYRON G. TULL, M.D., M.P.H. HORACE L. HODES, M.D.
Tuberculosis.....	MIRIAM BRAILEY, M.D., Dr.P.H.
Venereal Diseases.....	FERDINAND O. REINHARD, M.D., M.P.H. RALPH F. SIKES, M.D., M.P.H.
Occupational Diseases.....	JOHN M. McDONALD, M.D., D.P.H.
Child Hygiene.....	WILLIAM K. SKILLING, M.D.
School Hygiene.....	H. WARREN BUCKLER, M.D.
Public Health Nursing.....	JANE B. LAIB, R.N.

SANITARY SECTION

WILMER H. SCHULZE, Phar. D., Director

Milk Control.....	IVAN M. MARTY
Food Control.....	FERDINAND A. KORFF
Meat Inspection.....	WILLIAM BRENNER, D.V.S.
Environmental Hygiene.....	GEORGE W. SCHUCKER

Learn to Do Your Part in the Prevention of Disease

Winter Street



Evening Sun Photograph

Before



After

*Another Slum
That Is No More*

CONSULTANTS

DR. THOMAS S. CULLEN,
Member, Maryland State Board of Health.

DR. ARTHUR G. BARRETT,
President, Maryland Academy of Medicine and Surgery.

DR. J. M. T. FINNEY,
Professor Emeritus of Surgery, Johns Hopkins Medical School.

DR. ALLEN W. FREEMAN,
*Professor of Public Health Administration,
Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.*

DR. ANDREW C. GILLIS,
Professor of Neurology, School of Medicine, University of Maryland.

DR. LOUIS HAMBURGER,
Associate in Medicine, Johns Hopkins Medical School.

DR. ARTHUR J. LOMAS,
Administrative Consultant, Catholic Hospitals of Maryland.

DR. MAURICE C. PINCOFFS,
Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Maryland.

DR. ROBERT H. RILEY,
Director, Maryland State Department of Health.

DR. JAMES M. H. ROWLAND,
Dean Emeritus, School of Medicine, University of Maryland.

DR. ARTHUR M. SHIPLEY,
Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Maryland.

DR. SAMUEL WOLMAN,
President, Maryland Tuberculosis Association.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SANITATION

DR. WILLIAM H. HOWELL, *Chairman,*
Director Emeritus, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

DR. ANNA M. BAETJER,
Associate in Physiology, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

DR. C. B. SPENCER,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, United States Public Health Service,
in charge of the Baltimore Quarantine Station.*

MR. GEORGE COBB,
Chief Engineer of Baltimore.

DR. JAMES E. IVES,
*Senior Physicist of the Office of Industrial Hygiene and Sanitation, retired,
United States Public Health Service.*

DR. ABEL WOLMAN,
*Professor of Sanitary Engineering,
Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.*

MEDICAL STAFF

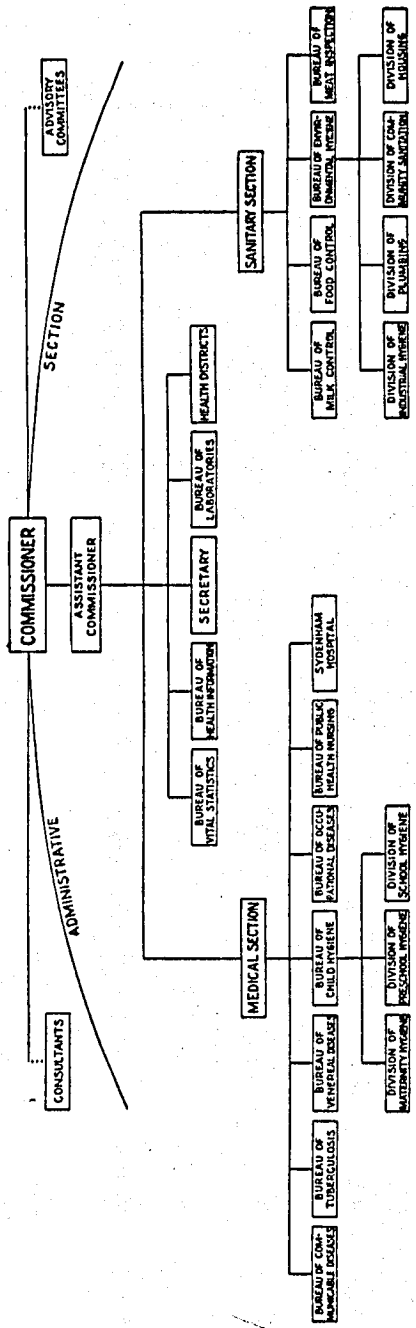
<p>MAURICE L. ADAMS, M.D., v JOHN M. ASHWORTH, M.D., h o c M. L. BREITSTEIN, M.D., ca HARRY BROWN, M.D. c G. RAYNOR BROWNE, M.D. v WILLIAM BERKLEY BUTLER, M.D. v CHARLES R. CAMPBELL, M.D. v JAMES D. CARR, M.D. v EARLE P. CLEMSON, M.D. v J. W. V. CLIFT, M.D. c HENRY T. COLLENBERG, M.D. v JOHN COLINSON, M.D. v THEODORE COOPER, M.D. t ROSCOE Z. G. CROSS, M.D. h o W. ALLEN DECKERT, M.D. m BERNARD GERMAN, M.D. s HARRIS GOLDMAN, M.D. v HARRY C. GRANT, M.D. h o WALTER E. GREMLER, M.D. c LOUIS E. HARMON, M.D. v JAMES B. HAWKINS, M.D., h o JOHN M. HAWS, M.D. m MANES S. HECHT, M.D. c WILLIAM G. HELFRICH, M.D. p BOWMAN J. HOOD, M.D. v LEON S. HORKA, M.D. h o HUGH P. HUGHES, M.D. h o HOWARD J. ICKES, M.D. s MEYER W. JACOBSON, M.D. t ALBERT JAFFE, M.D. c JAMES S. JULIAN, M.D. v LAWRENCE KATZENSTEIN, M.D. v HENRY B. KOLB, M.D. h o ALBERT L. LAFOREST, M.D. v CHARLES D. LEE, M.D. v</p>	<p>ISIDORE I. LEVY, M.D. t LUCILLE LIBERLES, M.D. h o HARRY LINDEN, M.D. v AMELIA LINK, M.D. h o O. L. LONG, M.D. h o FRANCIS J-B. LUKE, M.D. v GEORGE McDONALD, M.D. v HUGH B. McNALLY, M.D. m JAY G. McRAE, M.D. h o ISRAEL P. MERANSKI, M.D. v EDGAR G. MILLER, M.D. h o c MEYER MILLER, M.D. c M. ALEXANDER NOVEY, M.D. m THOMAS R. O'ROURK, M.D. ey GEORGE C. PAGE, M.D. v GEORGE H. PENDLETON, M.D. v D. MCKINLEY REESBY, M.D. h o A. L. RETTALIATA, M.D. h o LEWIS J. ROSENTHAL, M.D. h o ALBERT SCAGNETTI, M.D. c J. DOUGLAS SHEPPERD, M.D. v ERNEST W. SHERVINGTON, M.D. v ISADORE A. SIEGEL, M.D. m WILLIAM A. SINTON, M.D. h o GEORGE A. STRAUSS, M.D. v J. WALKER THOMAS, M.D. h o HOWARD H. WARNER, M.D. h o SAMUEL WEINBERG, M.D. h o ALEXANDER A. WEINSTOCK, M.D. t H. WHITNEY WHEATON, M.D. h o HENRY LYMAN WHITTLE, M.D. c MARY COOK WILLIS, M.D. c CHARLES T. WOODLAND, M.D. v RALPH J. YOUNG, M.D. v</p>
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c = child hygiene, ea = ear clinic, ey = eye clinic, h o = health officer for communicable disease control and school hygiene, h o c = health officer-contract basis, m = maternity hygiene, p = post mortem physician, s = Sydenham Hospital, t = tuberculosis clinic, v = venereal disease clinic, **bold type = full time.**

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ORGANIZATION CHART BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE BALTIMORE CITY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1941

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

The Honorable,

THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE

GENTLEMEN:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 91 of the Charter and also in accordance with a resolution adopted by the City Council in the year 1817, I have the honor to transmit to you a summary of the one hundred and twenty-seventh annual report of the work done by the Baltimore City Health Department, and by the several bureaus thereof, for the year ended December 31, 1941.

Introduction

The health of the city continued to be good during 1941 as may be seen from following sections of this report. Diphtheria again was pushed downward to a new low record of 47 cases for the year. However it was a bad year for poliomyelitis prevalence with 101 cases, and housing shortages due to war work were probably responsible for the increase in meningococcus meningitis to 72 cases.

The outstanding advance on the health front was the enactment of a strong new ordinance to control the hygiene of housing and a companion ordinance amending the rooming house section of the city code. Both were badly needed and in both there is recognition of the time-honored delegation of authority in the matter of health department regulatory control. They constitute the nucleus of the new city housing code and grew out of the deliberations of two committees appointed by Mayor Howard W. Jackson to revise the city building code and to advise on a housing code. The work of the Sanitary Section in this field has proceeded well with an increase in its staff of housing inspectors.

The City's fight against tuberculosis was strengthened by the reorganization of the Bureau of Tuberculosis and the appointment of Dr. Miriam E. Brailey to be its director. Plans were completed to build an adequate

chest clinic service into the Druid Health Center and for this the Maryland Tuberculosis Association generously granted from Seal Sale funds a sum of \$8,400 for the purchase of a new stereoscopic X-ray machine. It also provided a similar apparatus for use in the Eastern Health District.

The national defense effort entered largely into the work of practically all the bureaus in the Administrative, Medical and Sanitary Sections of the Health Department. Other public health matters of importance in the year's record included: The transfer to the Health Department on March 1 of about one-tenth of the work in child hygiene of the Babies Milk Fund Association, in the Southern and Southeastern Health Districts, as the first step in a ten-year program agreed upon by the City and the Community Fund; an approach to a more effective school health service by vital changes in a trial school in the Eastern Health District; the use at Sydenham Hospital of a new serum for the usually fatal influenza bacillus meningitis, and a series of conferences that established the support



THE AMERICAN CIVIL DEFENSE MISSION TO ENGLAND—1941

Left to right, seated: Captain Donald S. Leonard, Michigan State Police; Harry M. Prince, Consulting Architect of the New York City Housing Authority; Major LaGuardia, Director, U. S. Office of Civilian Defense; Major Frank M. Roessing, Director of the Department of Public Works, Pittsburgh; standing: Glenn C. Richards, Secretary of the Department of Public Works, Detroit; Arthur W. Wallander, Deputy Chief Inspector, New York City Police Department; and Dr. Huntington Williams.

of the medical profession for the proposition that there should be no modification in existing city milk control procedures which require the day of the week to appear on milk bottle caps and that pasteurized milk should not be sold more than 36 hours after the day of pasteurization.

The Commissioner of Health, as a Consultant to the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense, was a member of the American Civil Defense Mission that was sent on July 12 by clipper plane to England by Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia to spend a month studying the problems of air raid

administration in that country. After submitting a preliminary report he participated in the arrangements for establishing the Emergency Medical Services of the Baltimore Committee on Civilian Defense. As a result of the summer work he presented an address on blitz medical administration at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association in October and at the same meeting he also read a paper on housing before the Health Officers Section.

The Health of the City

The estimated population of Baltimore City as of July 1, 1941 was 866,000. This was computed by projecting the arithmetical increase in the population of the city during the period between the 1930 and the 1940 Federal censuses. The estimated white population on the same date was 698,000 and the nonwhite or colored population was 168,000 or 19.4 per cent. These are the figures used in the calculation of the rates given in this report.

The most striking feature of Baltimore's vital statistics for 1941 was an increase of 17.1 per cent over the previous year in the number of resident births reported. A total of 15,995 such births occurred in the city during the year as compared with 13,712 in 1940. The new low record of 47 cases of diphtheria reported during 1941 was a slight improvement over the 49 cases reported during the previous year. For a period of more than one year and ten months, from January 7, 1940 to November 12, 1941 there was no resident diphtheria death in the city. There were slight rises in the resident maternal and infant mortality rates for 1941 over the rates established in 1940. The former was 2.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 2.0 in 1940. The latter was 49.6 as compared with 46.7 for the year 1940.

Poliomyelitis, Meningococcus Meningitis and Intestinal Diseases

Acute poliomyelitis and meningococcus meningitis were more prevalent than usual in Baltimore during 1941. There were 101 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis reported which was a larger number than in any year since 1928 when 127 cases were recorded. During 1940 there were only 4 reported cases. The number of cases of meningococcus meningitis reported increased from 13 in 1940 to 72 in 1941.

Typhoid fever, dysentery, and diarrhea and enteritis showed increases during 1941 as compared with 1940. The number of cases of typhoid fever increased from 23 in 1940 to 35 in 1941. Epidemiological investigation indicated that 11 or nearly one-third of the cases were traceable to healthy and unsuspected carriers of the typhoid organism. A total of 11 new carriers was discovered during the year. The increase in the

number of cases of dysentery from 97 in 1940 to 148 in 1941 may reflect the influence of a similar carrier factor. The number of deaths from diarrhea and enteritis in children under two years of age increased from 54 in 1940 to 144 in 1941. Of the deaths, 66 were white babies and 78 colored infants. Deaths of newborn infants apparently due to nursing inadequacies in maternity hospitals were made the subject of special studies during the year.

Tuberculosis and Syphilis

Tuberculosis and syphilis remain among the outstanding public health problems of the city. The resident death rate for all forms of tuberculosis was 93.7 per 100,000 population in 1941 as compared with 94.9 in 1940. The rate for the white population was 50.9 and for the colored population 271.4.

The total number of cases of syphilis reported for the first time during 1941 was 7,838 as compared with 6,213 for the previous year. A large proportion of the increase was the result of examination of registrants under the Selective Service Act. There was a corresponding increase in the number of cases treated in the venereal disease clinics of the City Health Department.

Birth and Death Rates

The birth rates corrected for residence in Baltimore for 1941 was 18.5 per 1,000 of the total population and 17.0 and 24.4 per 1,000 population for the white and colored groups respectively. The recorded or crude death rate for 1941 was the same as for the previous year, 13.4 per 1,000 population. When corrected for residence the death rate for all causes for the entire population was also the same as in 1940, namely 12.9 per 1,000 population; 11.7 for white persons and 18.0 for the nonwhite segment of the population.

RESIDENT DEATH RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION FOR THE SEVEN LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH; TOTAL, WHITE AND COLORED POPULATION; BALTIMORE 1940-1941

TOTAL POPULATION			WHITE POPULATION				COLORED POPULATION			
CAUSE	Death Rate per 100,000		CAUSE	Death Rate per 100,000		CAUSE	Death Rate per 100,000			
	1941	1940		1941	1940		1941	1940		
Diseases of heart.....	388.7	387.1	Diseases of heart.....	307.3	308.3	Diseases of heart.....	353.0	340.0		
Cancer, all forms.....	158.0	150.4	Cancer, all forms.....	106.5	155.9	Tuberculosis, all forms..	271.4	253.0		
Nephritis.....	118.1	137.1	Nephritis.....	103.2	119.0	Nephritis.....	180.4	212.3		
Tuberculosis, all forms..	93.7	94.9	Cerebral hemorrhage...	79.1	85.8	Pneumonia.....	151.8	128.0		
Cerebral hemorrhage..	88.6	91.7	Accidental causes.....	67.2	62.2	Cerebral hemorrhage..	128.0	116.0		
Pneumonia.....	72.4	73.0	Pneumonia.....	53.3	59.7	Cancer, all forms.....	122.6	127.4		
Accidental causes.....	67.3	65.1	Tuberculosis, all forms..	50.9	56.7	Syphilis.....	81.0	80.7		

Principal Causes of Death

“Heart disease” continued in 1941 as the leading cause of death for all segments of the population but there was no significant change from 1940 in the death rates for this condition, as shown in the accompanying table. The death rate for all forms of cancer increased from 150.4 per 100,000 population in 1940 to 158.0 in 1941. The rates by color for the two years for heart disease and cancer and the 5 other leading causes of death are given in the table on page 12.

Certain selected tables containing other important data on the vital statistics of the city for 1941 are presented at the close of the report.

Administration

There follows a financial statement for the Health Department for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1941.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As of December 31, 1941

Total City Appropriations		\$888,810.48
Total City Expenditures		879,690.39
Appropriations by Ordinance of Estimates		
January 1, 1941	\$807,395.00	
Appropriations for Transportation	28,657.49	
Supplementary Appropriations for Sydenham Hospital, Health Districts, Clinics and Special Projects	52,757.99	
		\$888,810.48

Expenditures of the Baltimore City Health Department

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

Administration	26,392.28
Vital Statistics	25,259.84
Health Information	10,072.74
Laboratories	71,277.46
*Eastern Health District	27,841.78
Western Health District	39,538.51
Druid Health Center	34,193.94
Southeastern Health District	32,922.53
Southern Health District	1,381.21

268,880.29

* See page 88.

MEDICAL SECTION

Communicable Diseases.....	16,910.19
Tuberculosis.....	10,196.52
Venereal Diseases.....	61,721.39
Occupational Diseases.....	5,424.92
Child Hygiene.....	31,632.52
School Hygiene.....	12,096.94
Public Health Nursing.....	109,725.14

247,707.62

SANITARY SECTION

Supervision.....	7,926.75
Milk Control.....	39,250.54
Food Control.....	17,509.99
Environmental Hygiene.....	49,259.19
Meat Inspection.....	53,207.91

167,154.38

Morgue and Public Cemetery.....	10,117.82
Sydenham Hospital.....	185,830.28

Total, Salaries and Expenses..... \$879,690.39

Receipts

Health Revenue.....	\$ 336.75
Vital Statistics.....	17,384.50
Child Hygiene.....	366.00
Milk Control.....	12,856.00
Environmental Hygiene.....	22,724.50
Meat Inspection.....	24,179.00
Sydenham Hospital.....	3,878.39

Total Receipts..... \$ 81,725.14

In addition to the total city expenditures, a further sum of \$19,472.83 was expended by the City Health Department from Federal Social Security funds, made available through the Maryland State Department of Health; another sum of \$4,655.07 of State funds was also spent in routine work by the Bureau of Venereal Diseases, and \$34,211.83 from the Work Projects Administration were likewise used in public health work in the city.

Personnel

On February 1 Dr. Henry F. Buettner who had served as health officer since April 1, 1920 and as full time health officer in the Western Health