

CITY OF BALTIMORE

---

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THIRD  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1947



*To the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the  
Year Ended December 31, 1947*

*There can be no real and lasting success of efforts to promote the health of the people and to prevent disease without the active sympathy, support, and participation of the medical profession. How this is to be more largely secured merits the most serious consideration.*

FROM  
WILLIAM H. WELCH  
*Sedgwick Memorial Lecture, 1924*

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Commissioner, HUNTINGTON WILLIAMS, M.D., DR. P.H.  
Assistant Commissioner, ROSS DAVIES, M.D., M.P.H.  
Secretary, REED GAITHER

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### ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

Administration.....HUNTINGTON WILLIAMS, M.D., DR. P.H.  
Health Information.....ESTHER S. HORINE  
Laboratories.....C. LEROY EWING  
Eastern Health District.....HARRY L. CHANT, M.D., M.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.  
Sydenham Hospital.....HORACE L. HODES, M.D.

### MEDICAL SECTION—PREVENTIVE

Communicable Diseases.....J. WILFRID DAVIS, M.D., M.P.H.  
Tuberculosis.....MIRIAM E. BRAILEY, M.D., DR. P.H.  
Venereal Diseases.....NELS A. NELSON, M.D., M.P.H.  
Occupational Diseases.....  
Child Hygiene.....M. ALEXANDER NOVEY, M.D.  
School Hygiene.....HENRY F. BUETTNER, M.D.  
Public Health Nursing.....JANE B. LAIB, R.N.

### MEDICAL CARE SECTION

WENDELL R. AMES, M.D., M.P.H., Director

### 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

### STATISTICAL SECTION

W. THURBER FALES, Sc.D., Director

Vital Records.....ISADORE SEEMAN, M.P.H.  
Biostatistics.....

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*Learn to Do Your Part in the Prevention of Disease*



# BALTIMORE HEALTH NEWS



*Published Monthly by the*

BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Learn to do Your Part in the Prevention of Disease*

VOL. XXIV

November, 1947

No. 11

## *Medical Society Requests That Program Go Forward For Medical Care*

**A**T a meeting of the Baltimore City Medical Society held on October 3, Dr. C. Reid Edwards, presiding, the following resolution on medical care was presented by Dr. Frank J. Geraghty and was thereupon adopted by unanimous vote:

WHEREAS, The Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland in 1939 requested the State Planning Commission to establish a standing committee to keep under constant survey the medical care problems of the citizens of Maryland, and

WHEREAS, The State Medical Care Committee in 1944 issued a report that resulted in a new medical care program being established in the 23 counties of Maryland, and early in 1947 issued a companion report for the City of Baltimore recommending that responsibility for medical care be placed with the Baltimore City Health Department, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Baltimore City Medical Society is in favor of this new work being undertaken in Baltimore in a comprehensive manner and in accordance with the original appeal of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty, and requests the City Health Department to organize and proceed with the medical care program as provided, and urges the physicians of Baltimore to cooperate with the Commissioner of Health in making the new work successful in the best interests of the people of the City.

In transmitting the text of the resolution to the Commissioner of Health Dr. Lewis P. Gundry, Secretary of the Society wrote: "The Baltimore City Medical Society and its officers will be glad to cooperate with you in every way possible in carrying out this important program."

**"IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE"**

## CONSULTANTS

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

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

DR. ANDREW C. GILLIS,  
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*Dean Emeritus, School of Medicine, University of Maryland.*

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*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.*

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DR. THOMAS B. TURNER,  
*Professor of Bacteriology, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.*

DR. ALLEN F. VOSHELL,  
*Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Maryland.*

DR. SAMUEL WOLMAN,  
*Assistant Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.*

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*Vice-President, Goucher College.*

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*Assistant Professor of Physiology,  
Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.*

DR. FRANK S. FELLOWS,  
*Medical Director, United States Public Health Service  
in charge of the Baltimore Quarantine Station.*

MR. NATHAN L. SMITH,  
*Director of Public Works of Baltimore.*

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

## MEDICAL STAFF

<p>           GEORGE G. ADAMS, M.D. t            MAURICE L. ADAMS, M.D. v            TOWNSEND W. ANDERSON, M.D. v            McDONALD BANDO, M.D. c            M. L. BARSDALE, M.D. v            WALTER P. BLOCK, M.D. v            HARRY E. BLOOM, M.D. h o            LOUIS V. BLUM, M.D. t            HELEN BOWIE, M.D. c            M. L. BREITSTEIN, M.D. ea            ROSS C. BROOKS, M.D. m i            G. RAYNOR BROWNE, M.D. v            WILLIAM BERKLEY BUTLER, M.D. v            CHARLES R. CAMPBELL, M.D. v            JAMES D. CARR, M.D. v            HERBERT G. CHISSELL, JR., M.D. v            J. W. V. CLIFT, M.D. c            JOHN COLLINSON, M.D. v            DONALD DWIGHT COOPER, M.D. s            THEODORE COOPER, M.D. t            ROSCOE Z. G. CROSS, M.D. h o            W. ALLEN DECKERT, M.D. m            ALFRED B. DIXON, M.D. c            SOLON A. DODDS, M.D. c            HANIA WISLICKA EHLERS, M.D. c            HARRIS GOLDMAN, M.D. v            JAMES PRESTON GRANT, M.D. v            WALTER E. GREMLER, M.D. c            RICHARD DAVID HAHN, M.D. v            LOUIS E. HARMON, M.D. v            THOMAS W. HARRIS, JR., M.D. v            JAMES B. HAWKINS, M.D. h o            MARY L. HAYLECK, M.D. c            CLEWELL HOWELL, M.D. c            HUGH P. HUGHES, M.D. h o            RICHARD HENRY HUNT, M.D. v            MEYER W. JACOBSON, M.D. t            R. DONALD JANDORF, M.D. v            FRANCIS J. JANUSZESKI, M.D., m i            WILLIAM ATWELL JONES, M.D. v         </p>	<p>           ALBERT L. LAFOREST, M.D. v            CHARLES D. LEE, M.D. t            LUCILLE LIBERLES, M.D. h o            R. B. LIGHSTON, M.D. c            JERRY C. LUCK, M.D. c            WILLIAM R. LUMPKIN, M.D. m i            CHARLES F. MALONEY, M.D. m i            FRANK GOODNOW MACMURRAY, M.D. v            ROBERT MCDANIEL, M.D. v            ISRAEL P. MERANSKI, M.D. v            JOHN HUFF MORRISON, M.D. c            SIGMUND R. NOWAK, M.D. m i            GEORGE C. PAGE, M.D. v            GEORGE H. PENLETON, M.D. v            GEORGE F. PHILLIPS, M.D. m i            WILLIAM G. POLK, M.D. c            J. EMMETT QUEEN, M.D. m i            FRANCIS E. M. READ, M.D. c            A. L. RETTALIATA, M.D. m i            ALMA S. ROTHOLZ, M.D. c            GILBERT E. RUDMAN, M.D. m i            CECIL RUDNER, M.D. t            J. DOUGLASS SHEPPERD, M.D. v            ERNEST W. SHERVINGTON, M.D. v            M. S. SHILING, M.D. t            ISADORE A. SIEGEL, M.D. m            JOHN MORRIS SIEGEL, M.D. v            Charlotte Silverman, M.D. t            WILLIAM A. SINTON, M.D. h o            Harry B. Smith, M.D. v            JOHN P. SMITH, M.D. m i            WILLIAM C. STIFLER, M.D. c            FRANCIS W. TRAYNOR, M.D. m i            HOWARD H. WARNER, M.D. h o            WILLIAM E. WEEKS, M.D. c            SAMUEL WEINBERG, M.D. h o            H. L. WHITTLE, M.D. c            GUSTAV H. WOLTERECK, M.D. c            CHARLES T. WOODLAND, M.D. v            Elizabeth Woodward, M.D. c            RALPH J. YOUNG, M.D. v         </p>
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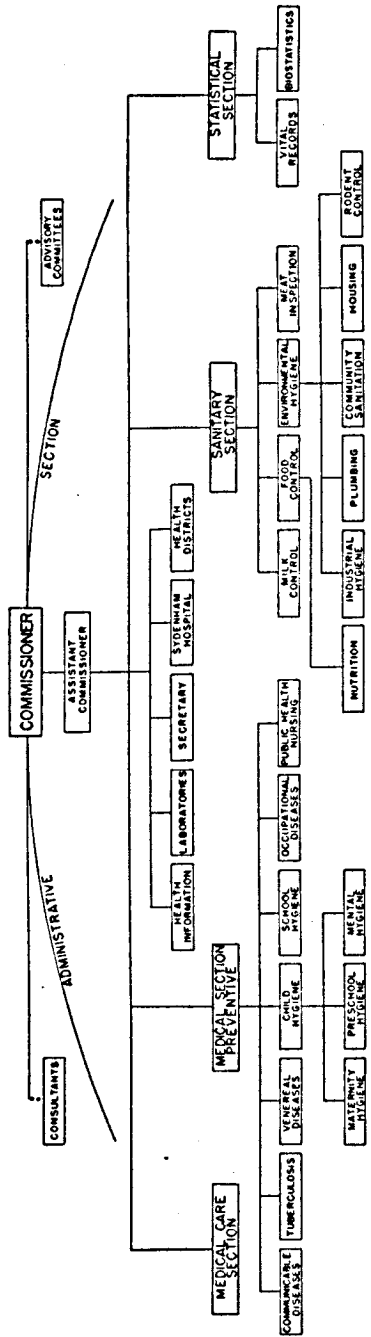
c = child hygiene, ea = ear clinic, h o = health officer for communicable disease control and school hygiene, m = maternity hygiene, m i = medical investigator, s = Sydenham Hospital, t = tuberculosis clinic, v = venereal disease clinic, bold type = full time.

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# ORGANIZATION CHART BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL  
REPORT OF THE BALTIMORE CITY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1947

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

*The Honorable,*

THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE

GENTLEMEN:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 81 of the City 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 thirty-third in a series of consecutive annual reports of the work done by the Baltimore City Health Department, and by the several bureaus thereof, for the year ended December 31, 1947.

**Introduction**

The year 1947 was one of unusual significance in the public health history of Baltimore because during its latter half the new Medical Care Section was established in the City Health Department. Its preparatory work was inaugurated for the administration of ambulatory medical care for the public assistance clients of the City Welfare Department. Reports for earlier years tell of the strong professional medical backing for this work and its origin with the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland and the Medical Care Committee of the Maryland State Planning Commission.

It was Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, Jr. who persuaded the new Board of Estimates in June to make available a salary adequate to attract a thoroughly qualified medical director for the new Medical Care Section. To this new position came Dr. Wendell R. Ames who for the prior six years had served as Commissioner of Health for Cattaraugus County, New York. The State Legislature enacted Chapter 714 of the Maryland Laws of 1947 so that state appropriations might be used for the medical care of needy persons in Baltimore under City Health Department administration. This law, approved by Governor William Preston Lane, Jr. on April 25, authorized the Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City to contract with

physicians, hospitals and other agencies for the medical, hospital or other related care of eligible persons. The appropriation for the new work in Baltimore City from state tax funds for the year ending June 30, 1948 was in the sum of \$376,750.00, and for the following year in the sum of \$418,500.00. These enactments enabled Baltimore City to be brought into the state-wide medical care program for Maryland.

On September 4 announcement was made of the appointment of the Baltimore City Advisory Committee on Medical Care, a group which consists of professional and civic leaders selected for the purpose of conferring on the new medical care plans for Baltimore. At the regular meeting of the Baltimore City Medical Society held on October 3 action was taken by the Society requesting that the City Health Department organize and proceed with the medical care program as developed by the special committee under the State Planning Commission, and urging "the physicians of Baltimore to cooperate with the Commissioner of Health in making the new work successful in the best interests of the people of the City."

An important advance was made on February 10 when Dr. Sibyl Mandell became the first chief of a newly established Division of Mental Hygiene in the Health Department Bureau of Child Hygiene. While there are many approaches to a program for mental hygiene, the City Health Department has made its start by incorporating the new activity into the work of the physicians and public health nurses attached to the well baby clinics in the city. Assistance in preparing for this new form of "anticipatory guidance" in parent-child relationships was given generously by Dr. George H. Preston, Maryland State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, and Dr. Paul V. Lemkau of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

The Bureau of Venereal Diseases was very fortunate in being provided by the city with a new and very adequate central clinic at 414 N. Calvert Street. This was dedicated on June 24 in the presence of Mayor D'Alesandro and three former Mayors of Baltimore, William F. Broening, Howard W. Jackson and Theodore R. McKeldin. With relation to the work of this important bureau it may be said that its director, Dr. Nels A. Nelson, assisted in the preparation of two important publications for the May issue of *Baltimore Health News* entitled "False Positive Syphilis Blood Tests Need Study" and "Why Is A Pre-Marital Blood Test Law Unsound Legislation?". March 1 saw the transfer from argyrol to penicillin for the treatment of sore eye cases in newborn infants that come under the supervision of the City Health Department.

Baltimore's vital statistics record for 1947 included new low achievements

in the infant mortality and in the maternal mortality rates for the city, and for the first year in the city's history the twelve-month period was passed with no resident death recorded as due to typhoid fever. After careful study by the U. S. Public Health Service of the possible relationship of ornithosis to wild pigeons in Baltimore, an article on this matter prepared by Dorland J. Davis and C. Leroy Ewing was published in the October 10 issue of *Public Health Reports* by the federal agency. While virus was found in fifteen of the one hundred pigeons captured in this city, the findings as summarized for the period of study in 1945 indicated that wild pigeons did not constitute a serious public health hazard to the population of Baltimore.

During the year the Maryland Rheumatic Fever Association was organized under the presidency of Dr. Francis F. Schwenker and a cerebral palsy project was authorized by the Board of Estimates as a joint undertaking of the City Departments of Health and Education with assistance from the U. S. Children's Bureau, to be conducted in special classes in the two public schools for handicapped children in the city. Chapter 583 of the State Laws of 1947 transferred control of the Maryland tuberculosis sanatoria from a special Commission established in 1907 to the State Board of Health as of June 1.

Advances in industrial hygiene were numerous during the year and included special reports on the discovery of lead poisoning in attendants at shooting galleries and on the identification and control of the city's first "grain itch" outbreak, in a local broom factory. Other outstanding events within the scope of the Sanitary Section included the transfer from the Department of Public Works of the Rodent Control Division under city auspices on May 1, and the establishment as a result of the City Health Department suggestions to the Housing Law Enforcement Committee of a special Housing Court in the Central Police Station in July.

Dr. W. Thurber Fales, Director of the Statistical Section, was chosen Vice-Chairman of the International Committee for the Preparation of the Sixth Decennial Revision of the International Lists of Diseases and Causes of Death while he was at work as a member of this important World Health Organization committee at Ottawa early in the year. In October the Commissioner of Health was reelected to membership on the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association, and on December 8 as Vice-President of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland he addressed the Annual Convention of the State Congress of Parents and Teachers on the topic "The Physician Looks for Comprehensive Medical Service for the People."

### The Health of the City

The estimated population of the city on July 1, 1947 which has been used for calculating the rates in this report was 947,000; the white population was 753,000 and the nonwhite population was 194,000 or 20 per cent. The maternal death rate in 1947 set a new low record for Baltimore. There were 26 resident deaths of mothers from conditions associated with pregnancy and childbirth out of the total of 23,992 babies born. The maternal death rate was therefore 1.1 per 1,000 live births. A reduction in the city's infant death rate occurred in 1947 and established a new low record of 32.7 per 1,000 live births for this very delicate index of community health. There were 785 resident deaths of infants during 1947. The rate of 28.5 for white infants and 44.9 for colored infants also set new low records for these groups.

New high records were made in the number of resident births and in the city birth rate, with 23,992 births to Baltimore mothers or a rate of 25.3 per 1,000 population. This record exceeds the previous high observed in 1946 when 21,111 babies were born to Baltimore mothers, a rate of 22.7. Both the white birth rate of 23.6 and the colored birth rate of 31.9 set new high records for Baltimore residents. For the total population, the death rate was 11.6 per 1,000 population, the same as for 1946.

There was no resident death from typhoid fever in 1947, the first calendar year in the city's history with such a record. Eleven cases of this disease were reported. Fewer cases of diphtheria were reported than for any of the three previous years. In 1947 a total of 142 cases was recorded as compared with 424 cases in 1946. There were 5 resident deaths from diphtheria in 1947 as compared with 19 such deaths in 1946. Meningococcus meningitis cases declined for the fourth consecutive year, with 31 cases and 6 deaths recorded in 1947. Scarlet fever was less frequent than in any year since 1918 and for the nineteenth consecutive year no case of smallpox was reported in the city. Whooping cough and mumps showed increases over the prior year.

The number of reported cases of tuberculosis rose slightly from 1,524 in 1946 to 1,548 in 1947 but the number of deaths decreased from 747 in 1946 to 718 in 1947. The tuberculosis death rate in 1947 was 75.8 per 100,000 population; the white death rate was 41.2 and the colored rate was 210.3.

#### *Principal Causes of Death*

The death rates for the seven leading causes of death in 1947 and 1946 are shown in the accompanying table. Other vital statistics appear at the close of this report.

RESIDENT DEATH RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION FOR THE SEVEN LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH; TOTAL, WHITE AND COLORED POPULATION: BALTIMORE 1946-1947

TOTAL POPULATION			WHITE POPULATION			COLORED POPULATION		
CAUSE	Death Rate per 100,000		CAUSE	Death Rate per 100,000		CAUSE	Death Rate per 100,000	
	1947	1946		1947	1946		1947	1946
Diseases of heart.....	395.3	382.8	Diseases of heart.....	412.1	395.6	Diseases of heart.....	330.4	330.2
Cancer, all forms.....	156.9	155.7	Cancer, all forms.....	164.3	162.0	Tuberculosis, all forms.....	210.3	218.7
Nephritis.....	86.5	91.3	Cerebral hemorrhage..	80.7	72.6	Nephritis.....	144.3	162.1
Cerebral hemorrhage....	84.2	77.9	Nephritis.....	71.6	74.1	Cancer, all forms.....	128.3	129.7
Tuberculosis, all forms..	75.8	80.3	Accidental causes.....	54.6	54.8	Cerebral hemorrhage..	97.4	100.0
Accidental causes.....	56.6	57.6	Tuberculosis, all forms	41.2	46.7	Pneumonia, all forms..	72.2	80.8
Pneumonia, all forms...	38.7	41.4	Diabetes.....	35.7	31.8	Accidental causes.....	64.4	69.2

Administration

There follows a financial statement for the Baltimore City Health Department for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1947.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As of December 31, 1947

Total City Appropriations.....	\$1,671,643.92
Total City Expenditures.....	1,531,342.69
Appropriations by Ordinance of Estimates, January 1, 1947.....	\$1,546,878.50
Appropriation for Transportation....	37,599.15
Supplementary Appropriations for Rodent Control, Building Maintenance and Special Projects.....	87,166.27
	<hr/>
	\$1,671,643.92

Expenditures of the Baltimore City Health Department

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

Administration.....	\$36,131.83
Health Information.....	14,456.39
Laboratories.....	118,136.21
Eastern Health District.....	62,404.51
Western Health District.....	53,007.22
Druid Health Center.....	74,168.64
Southeastern Health District.....	52,975.04
	<hr/>
	\$411,279.84
Sydenham Hospital.....	\$353,209.40

## MEDICAL SECTION—PREVENTIVE

Communicable Diseases.....	\$25,089.58	
Tuberculosis.....	32,826.35	
Venereal Diseases.....	104,130.85	
Occupational Diseases.....	2,657.32	
Child Hygiene.....	65,593.03	
School Hygiene.....	11,970.63	
Public Health Nursing.....	180,238.91	
		<u>\$422,506.67</u>

## MEDICAL CARE SECTION

Administration.....	\$2,847.03	
		<u>\$2,847.03</u>

## SANITARY SECTION

Administration.....	\$13,006.63	
Milk Control.....	52,205.90	
Food Control.....	30,912.82	
Environmental Hygiene.....	151,298.04	
Meat Inspection.....	67,244.18	
		<u>\$314,667.57</u>

## STATISTICAL SECTION

Administration.....	\$17,609.07	
Vital Records.....	34,903.43	
Biostatistics.....	24,319.68	
		<u>\$76,832.18</u>

Total, Salaries and Expenses.....	<u>\$1,581,342.69</u>
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*Receipts*

Vital Records.....	\$19,635.30	
Child Hygiene Licenses.....	89.00	
Milk Permits.....	13,861.00	
Plumbing Permits.....	24,509.75	
Meat Permits.....	25,137.00	
Rooming House Permits.....	1,416.00	
Sydenham Hospital, County Patients..	28,666.59	
Miscellaneous Revenue.....	270.50	
		<u>\$113,585.14</u>

*Additional Non-Health Department Expenditures*

There follow certain tabulations of expenditures for health work in Baltimore in 1947 which were closely related to the work of the City Health Department:

**I OFFICIAL EXPENDITURES**

City Department of Education—high school medical services.....	\$68,081.28
City Department of Welfare—tuberculosis hospital service.....	290,326.94
City Department of Welfare—venereal disease hospital service.....	12,208.82
State Tuberculosis Hospital Service—city cases.....	698,324.80
State Department of Health Funds	
City venereal disease control.....	4,575.00
Services for city crippled children.....	34,641.98
Medical care, drugs for city welfare clients.....	7,800.00
U. S. Public Health Service Funds	
General.....	23,943.16
The Johns Hopkins Hospital—venereal disease control.....	133,923.04
Rapid Treatment Center.....	72,217.82
Tuberculosis control.....	31,907.74
Industrial hygiene.....	411.12
U. S. Children's Bureau Funds	
Services for crippled children.....	21,384.37
Services for cerebral palsy project.....	10,024.14
Maternal and child health services.....	2,689.78
	\$1,412,459.99

**II NONOFFICIAL EXPENDITURES**

Babies Milk Fund Association.....	\$17,972.93
Instructive Visiting Nurse Association.....	95,971.16
Food establishments—sanitary control.....	20,000.00†
Johns Hopkins University—Eastern Health District.....	27,322.50
Laboratory services—hospital or private.....	82,500.00†
Maryland Chapter—National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.....	58,508.45
Maryland Society for the Prevention of Blindness.....	8,274.00
Maryland Tuberculosis Association.....	93,400.00
Mt. Pleasant Sanatorium—city cases.....	98,000.00
Pasteurization plants—farm and laboratory control.....	68,340.00
Venereal disease control—hospital dispensaries.....	100,000.00†
	\$670,289.04

Total..... \$2,082,749.03

This \$2,082,749.03 added to the City Health Department expenditures of \$1,581,342.69 gives an estimated total of \$3,664,091.72 or \$3.87 per capita. This does not include large expenditures for water purification, sewerage, or medical care rendered by the City Welfare Department.

† Approximate figure.

*Personnel*

Dr. Arthur J. Lomas, Consultant to the City Health Department since the organization of this advisory group in 1932, died on May 17, 1947. Dr. Wendell R. Ames became the first Director of the new Medical Care Section on September 10 and Dr. W. Ross Cameron discontinued his *liaison* services as Deputy Commissioner of Health for Medical Care on March 14. On January 1 Dr. Harry L. Chant became Health Officer of



the Eastern Health District and Dr. Konstantin Sparkuhl was appointed as his assistant on October 10. The directorship of the Bureau of Occupational Diseases became vacant when Dr. John M. McDonald resigned on January 17 to join the staff of the Florida State Health Department.

With the transfer of the Division of Rodent Control from the Department of Public Works to the City Health Department on May 1 Mr. Charles M. Kenealy was made chief of the division. Miss Esther S. Horine resigned as Chief of the Division of Health Information on October 29 after more than ten years of service and Mr. Isadore Seeman, Director of the Bureau of Vital Records, then became acting chief of that division. Dr. Elizabeth Woodward was appointed Administrative Health Officer in the Bureau of Child Hygiene on May 19 to assist the bureau director in pediatric matters and Sibyl Mandell, Ph.D., clinical psychologist, was chosen on February 10 to serve as the first chief for the new Division of Mental Hygiene in the same bureau.

### Health Information

The Southern Medical Association met in Baltimore in November. A paper on a local outbreak of endemic typhus fever and an extensive exhibit of the work of the City Health Department were included in the program. Other health exhibits were also prepared for the Better Homes Exposition, the Baltimore Food Show and for the sesquicentennial celebration of the founding of the city held at the Fifth Regiment Armory in December.

Perhaps the most extensive single health information program of the Health Department year was the series of 42 illustrated talks on housing and slum control given to 3,434 persons in civic, educational, church and other groups that requested them, and the 32 tours of inspection conducted by the Chief of the Division of Housing for 491 persons.

Other health information activities of significance in 1947 included the following:

1. The *Baltimore Health News* was published each month and mailed to the physicians and teachers of the city and to a selected mailing list of other interested persons within the state and beyond its borders.
2. The 1946 ANNUAL REPORT of the Department was published and the summary, **GUARDING THE HEALTH OF BALTIMORE**, was distributed to the physicians of the city and to others desiring it.
3. News releases were prepared regularly and to meet special problems, including special articles on whooping cough, diphtheria, undulant fever and rabies. The "Saturday Letter to the Mayor" was sent to the newspapers each week and resulted in valuable health information publicity.

4. A dramatization presenting the preventive aspects of communicable disease control, sanitation and accident hazards was broadcast each week in the "Keeping Well" series sponsored jointly since 1932 by the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland and the City Health Department. Spot announcements were made over all radio stations as need arose to carry particular messages promptly. Plans were initiated to begin a television series of health information programs also under joint sponsorship with the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty.
5. Members of the Department staff gave more than 1,200 addresses to nearly 270,000 persons. In addition, lectures and seminars for students of medicine and public health were conducted by staff members at the two medical schools in the city and at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.
6. Health Department leaflets and other informational materials were made available by distribution by the public health nurses and sanitarians, through the forty-nine racks maintained by the Department and on special request. An estimated total of 541,572 pieces of literature was distributed.
7. The film loan service was maintained with more than 100 showings.
8. The Health Department participated in the usual community observances during the year in cooperation with other official and with nonofficial agencies. These included: The March of Dimes campaign, Syphilis Control Day, Cancer Control Month, Negro Health Week, Public Health Nursing Week, Child Health Day and the Seal Sale of the Maryland Tuberculosis Association.
9. Editorial and library services were rendered to the Department staff and the multilith service was continued.

### Laboratories

During the year the Bureau of Laboratories made 230,650 examinations of 153,249 specimens and samples. Laboratory assistance was given in the investigation of the local outbreak of endemic typhus fever. Agglutination and complement fixation tests were made of specimens of blood from patients and contacts. In addition, complement fixation tests were done on specimens of blood from 101 rats trapped in the area of the outbreak and in various other sections of the city. Endemic typhus vaccine was obtained and distributed to private physicians and for the use of the Bureau of Communicable Diseases.

Diagnostic and other services involved the examination of 53 animals for rabies; 2,751 cultures for diphtheria; 7,529 specimens for tuberculosis;