

(1872-1900) being ex-officio State Superintendent. The State Superintendent of Schools is appointed by the State Board of Education for a term of four years and is ex-officio secretary and treasurer of the Board.

He is the executive officer of the State Board of Education, which, in addition to having general control of the State School System, is charged with the duties of interpreting school laws and acting without expense to the parties concerned in all controversies and disputes involving the proper administration of the public school system. He carries out the educational policies of the State Board of Education. He conducts conferences of school officials and teachers, issues teachers' certificates, passes upon proposals for the sale of school sites and buildings, and the plans for the construction of new buildings. He directs the taking of the bi-ennial school census, prepares courses of study and an annual report. He also issues bulletins from time to time on the conditions and needs of the schools.

Either in person, or through his assistants, he has general supervision over the educational affairs of the counties, co-operates with county school officials in welding together school interests in a State system. He certifies to the Comptroller each year a list of schools entitled to receive State aid, and the amount due each county in part payment by the State of the salaries of superintendents, supervisors and attendance officers. He audits the accounts of the county boards of education and sees that their expenditures conform to the law.

The appointment of the county superintendents and supervisors and attendance officers is made by the county boards of education subject to the approval of the State Superintendent.

All communications pertaining to the supervision and administration of the State School System (Baltimore City not included) should be sent to him either as State Superintendent of Schools, or as secretary to the State Board of Education.

Work of the State Department of Education.

The twenty-three counties of the State in 1923-24 enrolled in school 151,500 pupils in nearly 2,300 schools in charge of over 4,500 teachers. Over 16,600 of these pupils were in the 155 high schools distributed in the twenty-three counties of the State. In the same year the counties expended on schools approximately \$6,500,000 for current expenses and \$950,000 for capital outlay. Of the former amount, over \$2,000,000, or 31.9 per cent, was received from the State of Maryland. Baltimore City received over \$1,000,000 from the State school funds.

The State public school budgets for 1925-1926, and 1927, totaling \$3,629,745, \$3,742,600, and \$3,826,681, to be expended in the counties, for the normal schools, and the State Department of Education, will insure continued progress in carrying forward the policies established by the Legislature of 1922. State aid for high schools, the Equalization Fund, and provision for a new Eastern Shore Normal School at Salisbury are the only items with increases of more than \$10,000 over the corresponding appropriations for 1924.

High school enrollment and attendance in the counties increased last year approximately ten per cent, necessitating sixty additions to the teaching staff. The larger amount of State aid provided annually merely takes care of this necessary and normal increase required by greater enrollment.

There were 7,570 graduates from county white elementary schools and 2,218 from county white high schools, in 1924. Twenty-one per