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or village boards of health, with a view to the establishment of local and immediately available protection against the spread of epidemic or contagious diseases; legislation giving to the State Board of Health sanitary supervision of all lodging houses in cities of 100,000 population or over.

One of the important matters to which attention will be directed by the report of the State Board of Health, relates to the purification of the waters of Lake Michigan from sewage contamination. At present, both the Evanston and Calumet districts empty their untreated sewage into Lake Michigan, a condition not only inimical to the lives and health of the people of the Calumet and North Shore districts, but which overcomes to a certain extent the salutary effect of the provision which Chicago has made for the disposition of the sewage of that city.

The State Board of Health regards the completion of the sewage disposal plans of the Sanitary District of Chicago as one of the most important aids towards the maintenance of the public health, and is therefore solicitous that the General Assembly encourage the completion of this work as rapidly as possible.

THE STATE FOOD COMMISSION.

Our State is deeply interested in the maintenance of a high standard of efficiency in the administration of its Food Inspection Department, because Illinois occupies the first place among the states of the Union in the preparation, manufacture and sale of the various food and dairy products. The national government has recently enacted a food inspection law, which went into effect on Jan. 1 of this year. The Illinois Food Inspection Commission is now engaged in the preparation of a revision of our present food inspection law, with a view to making its provisions harmonize with those of the Federal Statutes. The uniformity and simplicity which will result will be of great advantage in the administrative work of our Food Inspection Department.

The work of this department has rapidly grown in importance and extent in recent years. There are at present in Illinois, in round numbers, 16,000 retail dealers in food products; 4,000 manufactories of foods; 300,000 dairies; 700 creameries and 14 condensaries. Furthermore, Illinois' meat packing houses far exceed in capacity and output those to be found anywhere else in the world. The law creating the Food Inspection Department has imposed upon the commission the work of preventing the manufacture and sale of impure and unwholesome food products. For this work, the last General Assembly appropriated \$17,460.00 per annum. Comparing this appropriation with the appropriations made by other states for their food inspection departments, as for example, New York, \$150,000.00, including fines and license fees; Pennsylvania, \$175,000.00, including fines and license fees; Ohio, \$90,000.00, including fines and license fees; Minnesota, \$80,000.00, including fines and license fees, it will be seen that Illinois' appropriation is relatively small, notwithstanding the fact already adverted to, that our State occupies first place in the production of food products. It is apparent, I think, from the consideration of the report submitted to me, and which I shall have the honor to transmit to you that in order to maintain a high standard of efficiency and keep abreast of the growing business of the department, it must be enlarged and the appropriation for its maintenance correspondingly increased. In the report of the commission, however, you will find the specific recommendations made by the department, in reference to these matters, and I trust the General Assembly will give them the full attention which their importance merits.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FACTORY INSPECTION.

The work of factory inspection has been enormously increased in the last two years, and the present force in this department is insufficient to secure the full discharge of the duties imposed upon the department by the law creating it. Specific recommendations as to the nature and kind of increase in the personnel of the department will be found in its report, which I shall later transmit to your honorable body.

To one class of the industries, subject to inspection, I especially call your attention: the industries which employ hazardous or dangerous machinery. The majority of the accidents, fatal and otherwise, occurring in this class of industries, can be very much decreased by the amendment, amplification and rigid enforcement of the laws designed to compel the use of protective devices about dangerous machinery. Besides the enlargement of the force of factory inspectors, additional legislation may be necessary to make effective the work of the department in connection with sweat shops; with the sanitation of food producing establishments; the regulation of street trades; the provision of temporary floors during the construction of high buildings; the enforcement of the Child Labor Law. Various new bills and amendments to the present law have been prepared by the department covering the subjects mentioned. I desire to say in reference to the work of the department in the enforcement of the Child Labor Law, that its record has been admirable, our State being one of the foremost states in the Union in the effectiveness of its Child Labor legislation.

The department has made an excellent showing during the past two years, but has been hampered, as stated, by a lack of a sufficient corps of inspectors. The number of manufacturing establishments is rapidly growing, and the total number of inspections required has been enormously increased within recent years. To keep pace with the augmentation of its duties, arising from this and other sources, a commensurate enlargement of the department force is necessary. I, therefore, solicit your careful consideration of the factory inspection report, and the legislative measures which will be submitted to you this session, in connection with its recommendations.

REVENUE COMMISSION.

A number of states have recently revised their revenue laws. Others have appointed commissions with that purpose in view. There is a general movement throughout the country to place revenue systems upon a more scientific basis, that the burden of taxation may be more equitably distributed. The inequalities arising under the operation of our present Revenue Law call for a revision of the system. I recommend, therefore, that a commission be appointed to study carefully the question of taxation and to report its findings and recommendations to the Forty-sixth General Assembly.

INTEREST ON PUBLIC FUNDS.

Honorable John F. Smulski, State Treasurer elect, requests that an appropriation be made to meet the expense of securing his bond and also to provide the office of the Treasurer with additional help.

He has made provision with the banks whereby interest will be paid to the State upon the deposit of public funds. As Treasurer, he is required to give a bond of \$1,000,000.00. In order to do so and at the same time be unfettered in making the best terms for the State in reference to interest on the public moneys, he has deemed it wise to procure his bond from surety companies.

The Treasurer receives from the State a salary of \$3,500.00 per annum. The expense incurred by him in securing his bond from surety companies is \$2,500.00 per annum. It is estimated that the amount of interest which will be paid into the State treasury, during the ensuing year from public funds in the custody of the State Treasurer, will be at least \$80,000.00.

I, therefore, recommend that a law be enacted with an emergency clause, requiring the custodians of public funds to deposit the same with banks, under proper safeguards, and providing that the interest received thereon shall be paid into the public treasury; and also that provision be made for the procuring of the bond of the State Treasurer at public expense, when necessary.