

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by the county commissioners of the county of Hampden; provided, that such acceptance occurs prior to December thirty-first in the current year. *Approved June 8, 1922.*

To be submitted to Hampden county commissioners. Proviso.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DIVISION OF MENTAL HYGIENE *Chap. 519*
 IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter nineteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section four the following new section:— *Section 4 A.* There shall be in the department a division of mental hygiene, under the supervision of a director. The commissioner, with the approval of the governor and council, may employ such expert assistance to serve in said division as may be necessary.

G. L. 19, new section after § 4.
 Division of hygiene in department of mental diseases, director, etc.

SECTION 2. Chapter one hundred and twenty-three of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section three the following new section:— *Section 3 A.* The department shall take cognizance of all matters affecting the mental health of the citizens of the commonwealth, and shall make investigations and inquiries relative to all causes and conditions that tend to jeopardize said health, and the causes of mental disease, feeble-mindedness and epilepsy, and the effects of employments, conditions and circumstances on mental health, including the effect thereon of the use of drugs, liquors and stimulants. It shall collect and disseminate such information relating thereto as it considers proper for diffusion among the people, and shall define what physical ailments, habits and conditions surrounding employment are to be deemed dangerous to mental health.

G. L. 123, new section after § 3.
 Department of mental diseases, duties as to mental health, etc.

SECTION 3. Said chapter one hundred and twenty-three is hereby further amended by inserting after section thirteen the following new section:— *Section 13 A.* Such of the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the department, relating to the cause and prevention of mental disease, feeble-mindedness, epilepsy and other conditions of abnormal mentality, as the commissioner may determine may be exercised and performed by the division of mental hygiene. In addition to said powers and duties, said division shall institute inquiries and investigations for the purpose of ascertaining the causes of mental disease, including epilepsy and feeble-mindedness, with a view to its prevention. It may also establish, foster and develop out-patient clinics.

G. L. 123, new section after § 13.
 Division of mental hygiene, powers, duties, etc.

Approved June 8, 1922.