

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

Abstract }
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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., March 17, 1887.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended March 17, 1887.

(Published in accordance with section 4, act approved April 29, 1878.)

England and Wales.—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended February 26 corresponded to an annual death rate of 21.3 per thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,245,099. The lowest death rate was recorded in Nottingham, viz., 13.5, and the highest in Huddersfield, viz., 33.0 per thousand.

London.—One thousand six hundred and ninety deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 52 from measles, 17 from scarlet fever, 14 from diphtheria, 35 from whooping-cough, 10 from enteric fever, 17 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and 1 from cholera infantum. There were 466 deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs. Different forms of violence caused 55 deaths, and 6 suicides were registered. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 20.9 per thousand. In greater London 2,052 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual death rate of 19.8 per thousand of population. In the outer ring 12 deaths from measles and 4 from diphtheria were registered.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended February 26 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 29.5 per thousand of population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz., 0.0, and the highest in Kilkenny, viz., 42.3.

Dublin.—Two hundred and eight deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 2 from scarlet fever, 2 from whooping-cough, 5 from enteric fever, 3 from simple continued and ill defined forms of fever. In 40 instances the cause of death was uncertified, there having been no medical attendant during the last illness. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 30.7 per thousand.

Scotland.—The death rate in 8 principal towns during the week ended February 26 was 22.5 per thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 1,299,000. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz., 11.0, and the highest in Aberdeen, viz., 33.7 per thousand. The aggregate number of deaths from all causes registered was 562, including 30 from measles, 17 from scarlet fever, 3 from diphtheria, and 33 from whooping-cough.

Germany.—The deaths registered in 51 cities of Germany, having an aggregate population of 6,696,302, during the week ended February 12 corresponded to an annual death rate of 24.5 per thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Karlsruhe, viz., 13.6, and the highest in Frankfort, viz., 44.4 per thousand. During the week ended February 19 the deaths from all causes in 50 cities corresponded to an annual rate of 24.3 per thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Karlsruhe, viz., 14.4, and the highest in Bochum, viz., 39.8 per thousand.

Gibraltar.—Four hundred and two deaths were registered in the fixed civil population, which was estimated at 18,381 during the year 1886, corresponding to an annual death rate of 21.8 per thousand. In the military population, which was estimated at 5,234, 64 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 12.2 per thousand. The aggregate number of deaths from all causes included 5 from whooping-cough, 13 from diphtheria, 6 from enteric fever, 4 from epidemic diarrhoea, and 1 from dysentery.

Calcutta.—Two hundred and thirty-seven deaths were registered during the week ended January 22, including 18 from cholera, 62 from fevers, 38 from bowel complaints, and 30 from tetanus.

Guayaquil.—One hundred and sixty-two deaths were registered during the two weeks ended February 17, including 46 from yellow fever, 20 from small-pox, and 34 from enteric fever.

Havana.—The United States Sanitary Inspector reports for the month of February 416 deaths from all causes, including 6 from yellow fever, 7 from enteric fever, 5 from pernicious fever, 2 from diphtheria, 3 from croup, 2 from measles, and 1 from hydrophobia. One death from yellow fever was reported for the week ended March 3.

Esseg, Austro-Hungary.—There were 18 cases of cholera and 6 deaths from that disease in the almshouse hospital from January 27 to February 7, 1887, but no cases in the city proper.

La Paz, Bolivia.—The United States minister at La Paz, in his dispatch dated February 6, 1887, states that—

“The cholera is the all absorbing question of the day. The Government has organized very stringent preventive regulations, and is anxious that other nations should not disapprove of them. While they

weigh very heavily on commerce, the people generally are inclined to approve of them.

"When the disease assumed an alarming shape in the Argentine confederation non-intercourse was proclaimed by the Bolivian Government, and maintained by a cordon of the military * * *.

"The port of Arica, near Tacna, though closed to northern vessels, being open to the South, is liable to be infected at any moment. Hence, a military force guards the mail route to La Paz, and prohibits all ingress from that direction * * *.

"The moment a case occurs, either in Arica or Tacna, liable any day, the steamer on the lake will be stopped, and intercourse with Mollendo and Arequipa suspended, thus cutting off communication with Mollendo, if open, and with both mail and cable routes to the rest of the world. Bolivia will then be completely isolated.

"Can the cholera be kept out? This is an important question, because places of refuge in Bolivia are wanting, and most of the cities are so filthy or fall easy victims to the plague * * *.

"In two months more the cold weather may prevent its spreading to the northward, and thus save Arica, Tacna, and Bolivia. But if it should escape to Mollendo and northward, there is nothing to prevent its spreading all along the warm countries of the western coast, and remaining there indefinitely."

Santiago, Chili.—The United States minister, in his dispatch, dated January 15, states that "cholera is slowly extending along the valley of the Aconcagua, following the course of the river towards the sea, near Valparaiso. About 600 cases have so far been reported, of which about 250 have proved fatal. The victims are almost exclusively confined to the poorer classes of people. Every precaution possible has been taken by the authorities to check the spread of the disease, and stringent sanitary measures adopted, especially in the cities of Santiago and Valparaiso, which for the last month show a death rate less than has ever been known at this season. The following dispatch from Iquique, dated January 5, appeared in the press of this city: 'The Peruvian Government has decreed to take active measures against the cholera, and has ordered the closing of all the ports against vessels coming from infected countries.' This very extraordinary and premature action of Peru, in closing all her ports against vessels from the ports of Chili, with its vast line of sea-coast of over 2,500 miles in extent, and stretching along the Pacific from Arica, on the borders of Peru, to Cape Horn, because cholera appeared in a section of Chili, midway between the points mentioned, may be likened to a European nation closing its ports to vessels from the United States because cholera had appeared in Connecticut. It is unnecessary for me to point out how very seriously this action of Peru affects our interest. All the steamship lines have been withdrawn from the route between here and Panama, so that the Pacific from Panama to Cape Horn is practically

closed to our commerce and communication by steam. All the traffic and commerce from this coast have now to go to Europe, and this dispatch will leave Valparaiso on the 18th instant for Lisbon, thence by rail to Paris and Calais, thence by Liverpool to New York, and will probably take fifty days alone in transit."

Callao.—The United States consul, in his dispatch, dated February 19, 1887, states that no cases of cholera have appeared in Peru. The latest official intelligence is contained in the following cable messages from Santiago, dated February 15, and from Valparaiso, under the same date: "*Santiago*.—From Saturday to Monday noon, 435 cases and 213 deaths. It is difficult to obtain exact data." "*Valparaiso*.—I have visited the lazaretto, established on the Baron hill. Seven cholera patients. Freight from Santiago enters free. Passengers quarantined for twenty-four hours." The minister reports that the health of Lima and Callao is exceptionally good. Strict sanitary precautions and hygienic regulations are still observed.

Paris.—One thousand two hundred and eleven deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 4 from small-pox, 17 from whooping-cough, 42 from enteric fever, 6 from scarlet fever, 55 from diphtheria, 219 from consumption, 86 from pneumonia, and 117 from diseases of the cerebro-spinal apparatus.

Rheims.—Fifty-six deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 1 from small-pox, 2 from whooping-cough, 2 from enteric fever, and 2 from diphtheria.

Genoa.—One hundred and thirty deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 3 from small-pox and 2 from enteric fever.

Leghorn.—Eighty-two deaths were registered during the week ended February 27, including 1 from enteric fever. There were 3 cases of small-pox, but no deaths reported from that disease.

Rome.—One hundred and sixty-three deaths were registered during the week ended January 15, including 2 from small-pox, 3 from enteric fever, 1 from scarlet fever, and 6 from diphtheria.

Guaymas.—Thirty-four deaths were registered during the month of February, including 8 from small-pox.

Bristol.—One hundred deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 5 from scarlet fever. One case of small-pox was reported.

Warsaw.—Two hundred and twenty deaths were registered during the week ended February 19, including 6 from small-pox.

Glasgow.—Two hundred and fifty deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 3 from scarlet fever and 2 from diphtheria.

Edinburgh.—One hundred and four deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 1 from typhus fever and 11 from scarlet fever.

Leith.—Twenty-seven deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 2 from enteric fever.

Palermo.—One hundred and fifteen deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 7 from diphtheria.

Leipsic.—Seventy-one deaths were registered during the week ended February 26, including 5 from diphtheria.

Toronto.—Forty deaths were registered during the week ended March 5, including 2 from enteric fever and 7 from diphtheria.

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—						
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.
Calcutta.....	January 22.....	433,219	237	18						
Guayaquil.....	February 10.....	35,000	70		22	5		15		
Guayaquil.....	February 17.....	35,000	92		24	15		19		
Paris.....	February 26.....	2,260,045	1,211			4		42	6	55
Rheims.....	February 26.....	98,083	56			1		2		2
Genoa.....	February 26.....	179,403	130			3		2		
Leghorn.....	February 27.....	101,172	82					1		
Rome.....	January 15.....	364,511	163			2		3		6
Bristol.....	February 26.....	223,695	100						5	
Warsaw.....	February 19.....	431,572	220			6				
Glasgow.....	February 26.....	545,678	250						3	2
Edinburgh.....	February 26.....	258,629	104				1		11	
Leith.....	February 26.....	72,297	27					2		
Palermo.....	February 26.....	250,000	115							
Leipsic.....	February 26.....	170,000	71							7
Toronto.....	March 5.....	120,000	40					2		5
Rotterdam.....	February 19.....	190,521	93						1	7
Kingston, Canada..	March 11.....	15,109	15							
Havre.....	February 26.....	112,074	65							
Rotterdam.....	February 12.....	190,521	88							
Cadiz.....	February 26.....	65,028	54							
Gibraltar.....	February 20.....	23,631	11							
Matamoras.....	March 5.....	12,000	5							

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