

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., June 7, 1889.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended June 7, 1889, and information received through other channels.

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

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended May 18, corresponded to an annual rate of 17.2 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Norwich, viz., 11.0, and the highest in Preston, viz., 38.1 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 4 deaths in Salford, 2 in Birmingham, 2 in Leeds, and 2 in New Castle upon Tyne.

London.—One thousand two hundred and thirty-one deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 53; scarlet fever, 7; diphtheria, 24; whooping-cough, 36; enteric fever, 7; diarrhœa and dysentery, 14. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 14.8 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 217 deaths. In greater London 1,509 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 14.0 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 8; and whooping-cough, 8.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended May 18, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 21.8 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz., 0.0, and the highest in Kilkenny, viz., 50.7 a thousand. In Dublin 170 deaths were registered, including measles, 2; whooping-cough, 4; enteric fever, 2; diarrhœa, 1; scarlet fever, 1; and typhus 1.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended May 18, corresponded to an annual rate of 21.5 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz., 15.9, and the highest in Aberdeen, viz., 26.5 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all

causes was 550, including measles, 24; scarlet fever, 6; diphtheria, 8; whooping-cough, 37; fever, 4; and diarrhoea, 15.

During the month of April, 1889, there were 2,562 deaths registered in these towns, including whooping-cough, 198; typhus, 4; enteric fever, 11; measles, 150; diarrhoea and dysentery, 35; diphtheria, 26; and scarlatina, 13.

Malta and Gozo.—One hundred and forty-nine deaths were registered during the period from the 16th to 30th of April, 1889, including measles, 4; whooping-cough, 2; diphtheria, 1; and remittent fever, 1.

BRAZIL—Rio de Janeiro.—The United States consul-general, in his dispatch to the Department of State, under date of April 24, 1889, says: "We have had (so say the natives) the worst season ever known in the history of the city. The epidemic of yellow fever has moderated very much, yet there are still from 8 to 12 deaths from it per day, and many deaths from other kinds of fever; and while the death rate has reduced very much from what it was, yet the present rate is more than double the normal death rate of the city. We are needing rain very much, and there is in many parts of the city a lack of water. I trust, however, the worst is over for this season."

DENMARK.—The following quarantine order has been issued by the Danish Government, under date of May 8, 1889.

Information having been received that an epidemic of yellow fever has broken out along the whole coast of Brazil and Cuba, Hayti, and Porto Rico, the provisions of section 2, paragraph 1, of the law of July 2, 1880, referring to precautionary measures against the introduction of contagious diseases into the kingdom are enforced until further notice with reference to ships coming from or having touched ports in Brazil or ports of the above islands.

With reference to the same law, paragraph 32, the importation into the kingdom from said ports of used linen, used articles of clothing, and used bed-clothes (providing the articles named do not constitute the personal effects of travelers), waste cotton or wool, refuse paper, hair and hides, is forbidden; and special attention is to be paid to the cleansing under official inspection, of linen, clothing and bed-clothes brought from any of the named places as the personal effects of travelers. The orders of the ministry of justice, dated April 27, 1887, and March 12, 1889, requiring a general inspection according to section 2, paragraph 1, of the law of July 2, 1880, of ships coming from or having touched ports in Chili or Palma, are hereby discontinued, and the provisions of the same orders prohibiting the importation from these ports of the articles named in paragraph 32 of said law, and requiring special attention to be paid to the cleansing under official inspection, of linens, clothing, and bed clothes, brought from these places as the personal effects of travelers are also hereby suspended.

The provisions of section 2, paragraph 1, of the law of July 2, 1880, referring to precautionary measures against the introduction of conta-

FIG. 1.

Map of the city of Catania, Italy, showing the infected localities during the small-pox epidemic in the years 1877-1888.

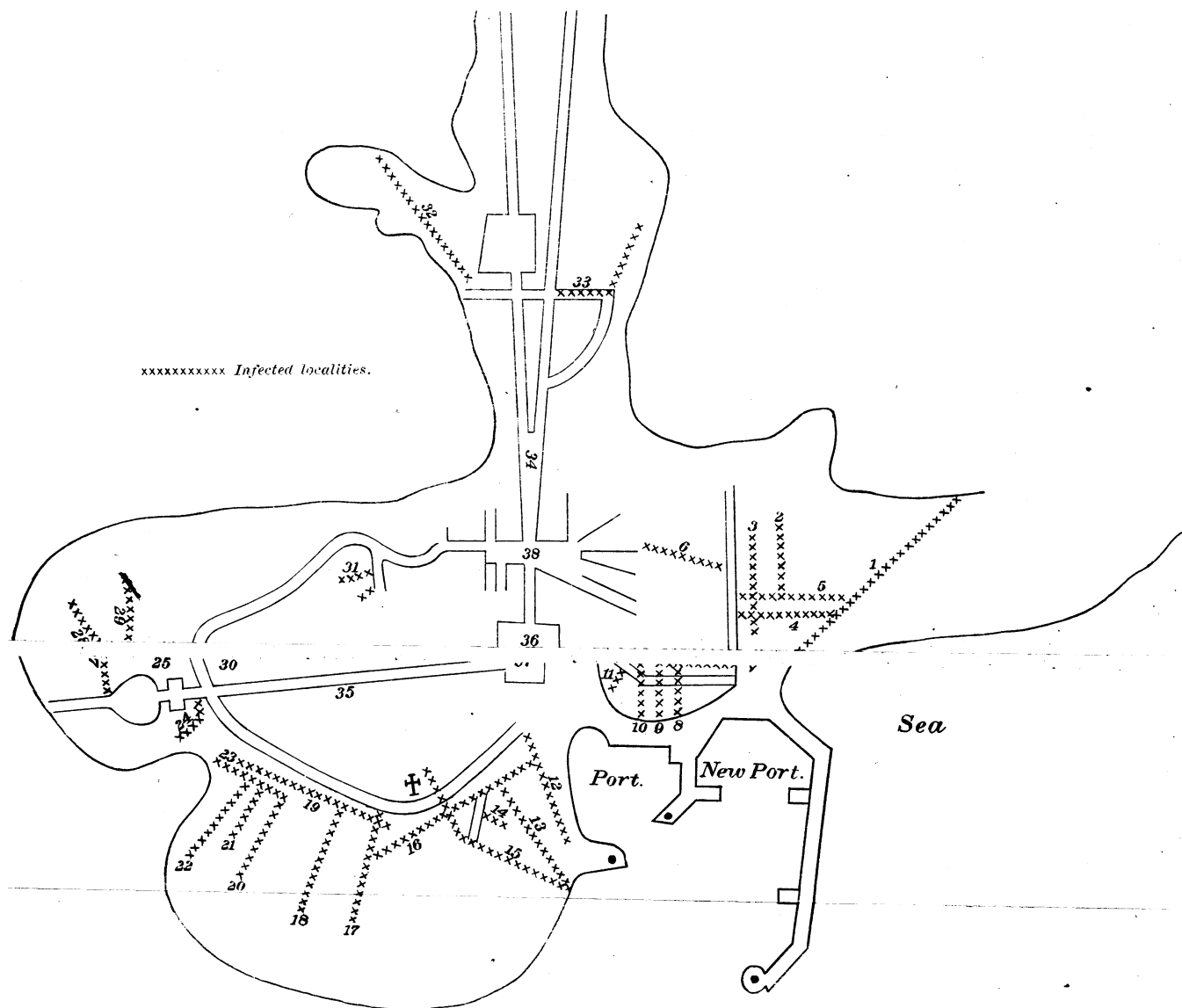
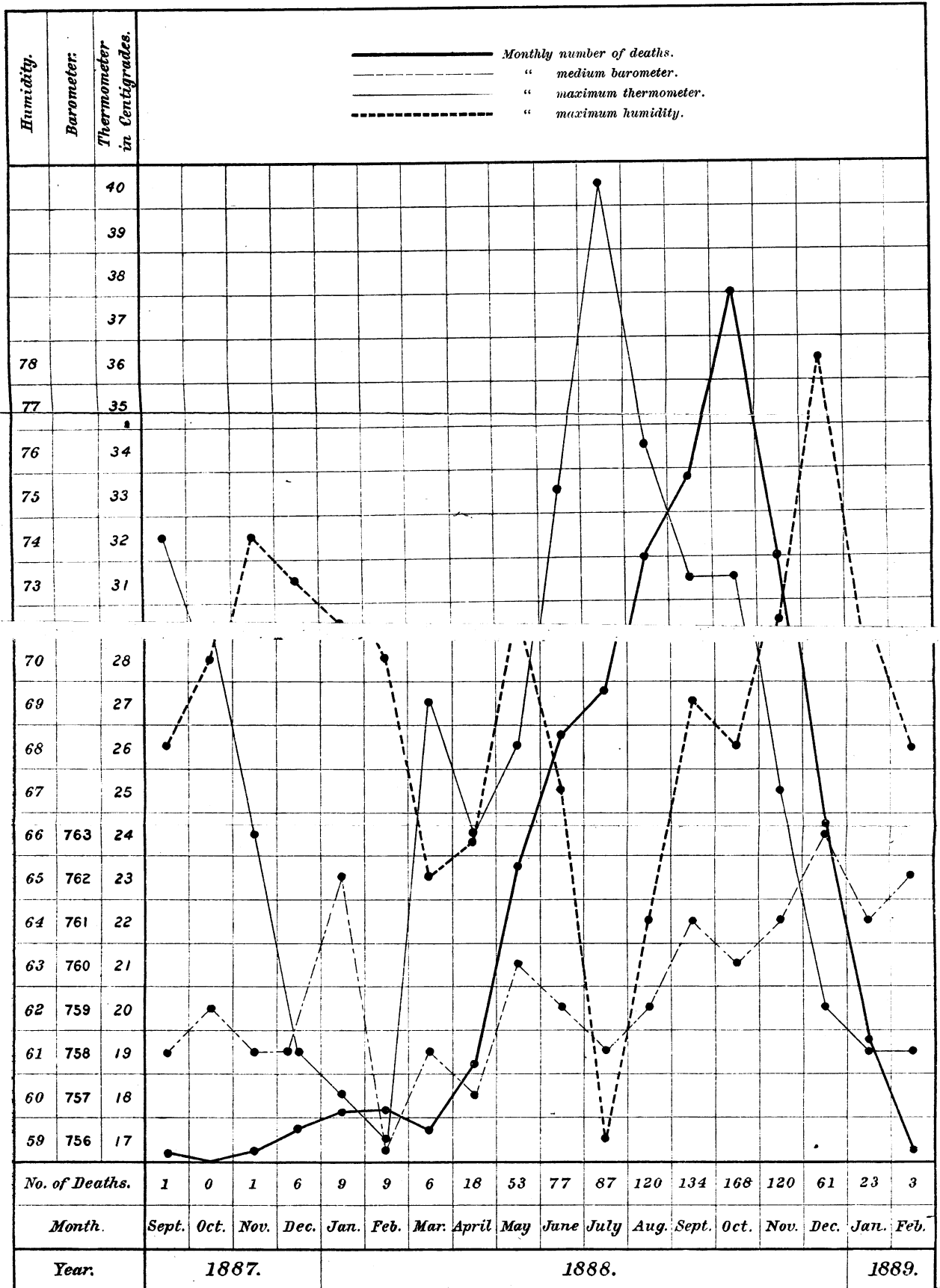


FIG. 2.

Diagram showing the number of deaths from small-pox and the weather, during the epidemic at Catania, Italy, in the years 1887-88-89.



CATANIA, March 1, 1889.

VINCENT LAMANTIA,
U. S. Consul.

gious diseases into the kingdom, are hereafter to be enforced with reference to the following places :

Marseilles; ports in Sicily; Trieste; Lisbon; all ports in Egypt; ports in Tonkin and Cochin-China; and in the East Indies, including the Dutch East Indian Colonies; ports on the Red Sea; ports in Brazil; Cuba; Hayti; Porto Rico.

The prohibition against the importation into the kingdom of used linen, used articles of clothing, and used bed-clothes, providing the articles named do not constitute the personal effects of travelers, waste cotton or wool, refuse paper, hair, and hides, remains in force with reference to the places named.

In addition thereto special attention is to be paid to the cleansing under official inspection, of linen, clothing, and bed-clothes, brought from any of the above-named places as the personal effects of travelers.

This order to go into effect at once.

ITALY—*Catania*.—*Small-pox epidemic of 1887–8–9*.—The United States Consul at Catania, Italy, furnishes the following diagrams concerning the small-pox epidemics which prevailed at that place during the years 1887–8–9, the first case occurring on the 25th of August, 1887. During the epidemic, out of a population of 177,165, only 12,579 were revaccinated. The consul draws the following conclusions :

First.—The mortality was at the rate of 15 per cent.

Second.—No person having previously been successfully vaccinated contracted the disease within the period of six years from that vaccination.

Third.—Out of every 100 persons, 59 were vaccinated; 41 vaccinated without result, or else vaccinated long before without effect.

The ages of the patients affected varied. In every 100, four were 20 years of age; 26 from 10 to 20; and 67 under 10 years of age.

The mortality in the regular hospitals only reached 4 per cent., while the general mortality for patients attended at the domicile, including those at hospital, was 15 per cent. There were about 6,000 persons attacked by the disease, of whom 926 died.

KEY TO MAP.

Names of infected streets.

- + First case of small-pox.
- 1. Via Messina.
- 2. " Misterbranco.
- 3. " Distefano.
- 4. " Tezzano.
- 5. " Platamone.
- 6. " Deodato.
- 7. " Sorrentino.
- 8. " Cali.
- 9. " Porta di Ferro.
- 10. " St. Gaetano.
- 11. " St. Tomaso.
- 12. " Gayometro.
- 13. " Grimaldi.
- 14. " Ortolani.
- 15. " Palumbo.
- 16. " Angelo Custode.
- 17. " Gramignani.

- 18. Via Cordai.
 - 19. " Camastra.
 - 20. " Belfiore.
 - 21. " Nicatra.
 - 22. " Testulla.
 - 23. " Elia.
 - 24. " Sacchero.
 - 25. " Ferlito.
 - 26. " Vittorio Emanuele.
 - 27. " Stracci.
 - 28. " Curia.
 - 29. " Acquidotta.
 - 30. " Pesce.
 - 31. " Paradisa.
 - 32. " Consolazione.
 - 33. " Monserrato.
- xxxxxxxxxxxxx—infected localities.

NETHERLANDS.—The deaths registered in the principal cities of the Netherlands, having an aggregate population of 1,129,678, during the month of March, 1889, corresponded to an annual rate of 25.1 a thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Arnhem, viz., 17.5, and the highest in Hertogenbosch, viz., 39.6 a thousand. The deaths included typhus and enteric fever, 11; scarlet fever, 3; measles, 50; croup, 29; whooping-cough, 20; and diarrhœa and dysentery, 28.

CUBA—*Havana*.—Five deaths from yellow fever were registered during the week ended May 24, and four during the week ended May 31, 1889.

The United States Sanitary Inspector at Havana reports that there were 506 deaths registered in that city during the month of May, including yellow fever, 19; so-called pernicious fever, 30; remittent fever, 1; enteric fever, 10; small-pox, 1; diphtheria and croup, 4; and glanders, 2.

“Up to the present time, diphtheria has shown no very marked tendency to spread this season, but small-pox in some interior towns, as Corrales Falso, in the province of Matanzas, is an active epidemic.”

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

[illegible]

UNITED STATES.

DELAWARE BREAKWATER QUARANTINE STATION.—The following telegram has been received from Acting-Assistant Surgeon Wm. P. Orr :

“*June 6, 1889*: British steamer “Baltimore City,” from Havana, via Santiago de Cuba, for Philadelphia, arrived at this station this morning with two suspicious cases on board. They will be admitted to hospital, and steamer detained for observation.”

PENNSYLVANIA—*Johnstown*.—Owing to the bursting of a reservoir, from floods caused by recent heavy rains, this town was destroyed on Friday evening, May 31, 1889. Passed-Assistant Surgeon P. M. Carrington, in charge of the Marine-Hospital Service at Pittsburgh, Pa., was ordered to go to Johnstown and aid the State board of health, if necessary, and report the condition of the place. The following telegrams have been received from Johnstown :

June 4: Arrived six P. M. Large portion of town in ruins. Many bodies of men and animals yet among debris. Dead horses being buried, and human bodies recovered, embalmed, and buried as rapidly as possible. Considerable sickness from exposure to wet and cold. Greatest danger to public health feared from overcrowding and filth in inhabitable part of town. Sanitary meeting to-morrow morning, when I will report further.

CARRINGTON,

Passed-Assistant Surgeon Marine-Hospital Service.

June 4: Accept thanks for your timely offer. The immediate need is for crude disinfectants. Will retain Surgeon Carrington for a few days.

BENJAMIN LEE,

Secretary State Board of Health.

June 5: Have conferred with Doctor Lee and looked situation over. There is danger of sickness unless active sanitary measures are taken. Corps now being organized. Dead animals are being buried as rapidly as possible and disinfectants used freely. The work will require considerable time.

CARRINGTON.

June 5: The situation here is very serious. A large sanitary corps will be needed, with Carrington to remain as long as his services are needed. Make arrangements for at least a month.

BENJAMIN LEE.

June 5: Yours received. Thanks. Ship everything by Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Temporary depopulation is being urged. Carrington is very useful.

BENJAMIN LEE.

June 7: Dr. Lee has established his head-quarters in Pittsburgh, leaving Doctors Groff and Sibbett in charge here. I am inspecting morgues to-day. Dr. Groff thinks I may return to Pittsburgh to-night. Weather continues cool. Sanitary work progressing favorably.

CARRINGTON.

FLORIDA—*Pensacola*.—Month of *May*, 1889. Estimated population, 15,000. Total deaths, 21, including whooping-cough, 1; erysipelas, 1; enteric fever, 1; and dysentery, 1.

IOWA—*Keokuk*.—Month of *May*, 1889. Population, 16,000. Total deaths, 22, including diphtheria, 1; and measles, 7.

MICHIGAN.—Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, by 56 observers, indicate that for the week ended May 25, 1889, rheumatism increased, and pneumonia and typho malarial fever decreased in area of prevalence. Including reports by regular observers and others, diphtheria was reported present during the week ended May 25, and since, at five places; scarlet fever at thirteen places; enteric fever at two places; measles at nine places; small-pox at two places; one case at Battle Creek, and one in hospital at Detroit.

VIRGINIA—*Petersburg*.—Month of *May*, 1889. Population, 22,000. Total deaths, 37, including phthisis pulmonalis, 10; congestive chills, 1.

MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—									
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Varioloid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.
New York, N. Y.	June 1	1,567,812	629							2	28	30	5
Brooklyn, N. Y.	June 1	821,525	335							1	7	26	7
Baltimore, Md.	June 1	500,343	136							2		3	1
Cincinnati, Ohio.	June 1	325,000	106							1		5	1
New Orleans, La.	May 25	254,000	169							2			
Cleveland, Ohio.	May 4	235,000	67						5	3			
Cleveland, Ohio.	May 11	235,000	75						1			3	
Detroit, Mich.	May 25	230,000	50									1	
Washington, D. C.	June 1	225,000	84							3	1	1	1
Milwaukee, Wis.	June 1	210,500	50								3	1	
Rochester, N. Y.	May 25	130,000	34									1	2
Providence, R. I.	June 1	127,000	41										1
Richmond, Va.	June 1	100,000	24										
Denver, Colo.	May 31	100,000	30			1						4	
Toledo, Ohio.	May 31	83,500	12										
Nashville, Tenn.	June 1	65,153	14								1		
Fall River, Mass.	June 1	65,000	22							1		1	
Lynn, Mass.	June 1	50,000	14								1	1	
Portland, Me.	June 1	42,000	12										
Galveston, Tex.	May 17	40,000	12										
Davenport, Iowa.	June 1	33,715	8									1	
Binghamton, N. Y.	June 1	30,000	7								1		
Altoona, Pa.	May 25	30,000	3										
Auburn, N. Y.	June 1	26,000	4										
Haverhill, Mass.	June 1	25,000	8										
Newport, R. I.	May 23	22,000	6										
Newport, R. I.	May 30	22,000	3										
Newton, Mass.	June 1	21,553	4									1	
Keokuk, Iowa.	June 1	16,000	2										1
Pensacola, Fla.	May 25	15,000	5										

JOHN B. HAMILTON,
Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.