

ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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No. 5.

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UNITED STATES.

SPECIAL REPORTS.

Influenza and allied diseases.

NOTICE.—Health officers are particularly requested to send full statements of the reigning epidemic. A collective statement of its symptomatology, with dates of first and last cases, will be made at the close.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Week ended January 25. There were 52 deaths from influenza.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Week ended January 25. There were 25 deaths from influenza.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—Week ended January 4. One death from influenza, 67 from phthisis pulmonalis.

Week ended January 18. Fifty-six deaths from influenza, 100 from phthisis pulmonalis.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Week ended January 25. Ninety-seven deaths from pneumonia, 63 from phthisis pulmonalis, and 24 from bronchitis.

BALTIMORE, MD.—Week ended January 25. Three deaths from bronchitis, 5 from congestion of lungs, 41 from phthisis pulmonalis, and 56 from pneumonia.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.—Week ended January 25. Seventeen deaths from bronchitis, 35 from pneumonia, and 23 from phthisis pulmonalis.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.—Week ended January 18. One death from influenza, 3 from bronchitis, and 10 from pneumonia.

DENVER, COLO.—Week ended January 17. Pneumonia and phthisis were the prevailing diseases.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—Week ended January 24. The prevailing diseases were pneumonia and influenza, which caused 15 deaths.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Week ended January 25. Ten deaths from pneumonia, 3 from bronchitis, 2 from influenza, 10 from influenza with pneumonia, and 3 from influenza with other diseases.

CHARLESTON, S. C.—The medical officer in command of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service reports, under date of January 24, a number

of cases of catarrhal fever admitted to the hospital at that port during the week. The disease does not seem to spread rapidly, although the atmospheric conditions are favorable.

PORTLAND, ME.—Week ended January 25. The number of deaths, although nearly double the average, shows a large falling off from last week.

YONKERS, N. Y.—Week ended January 17. The prevailing diseases were influenza and diseases of the respiratory organs.

Week ended January 24. The prevailing diseases were pneumonia and consumption.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.—Week ended January 25. Eight deaths from acute lung diseases.

KEOKUK, IOWA.—Week ended January 25. La grippe has many victims. Some cases are severe, but no worse than, and differing but little from, catarrhal fever or bronchitis.

Leprosy—Danger of its introduction through the northern frontier.

The following letter was written from this Bureau under date of January 14, 1890 :

Dr. FREDERICK MONTIZAMBERT,
Medical Superintendent of Quarantine, Quebec, Canada.

SIR : Referring to Weekly Abstract No. 52, December 27, 1889, and the copy of the circular therein concerning the prevention of the introduction of leprosy into the United States, I have to state that letters have been received calling attention to the danger of the introduction of this disease through the northern frontier or boundary line between the United States and Canada.

Emigrants who are landed in Montreal or Quebec find their way into this country by the several lines of railroads, and surveillance may be necessary, and possibly restriction, to insure the protection contemplated by this circular. Will you kindly state whether a similar action is contemplated by the Dominion health authorities?

I have also to inquire whether, when cases of leprosy are detected at your quarantine, you will send notification to that effect to and at the expense of this Bureau.

To which reply was received as follows :

GOVERNMENT QUARANTINE SERVICE,
*Office of Medical Superintendent,
Quebec, January 23, 1890.*

SIR : Referring to my letter dated the 18th instant, I have now to say that I am authorized to inform you that it is the intention to furnish all Canadian officers with a special circular calling their attention to the subject of the circular published in the Weekly Abstract No. 52 on the 27th ultimo, and directing the detention of any cases of leprosy, and a report upon them to the Government. A special investigation is now

being made in certain alleged cases of leprosy in Cape Breton Island, with a view to their segregation and the prevention of contact elsewhere in the Dominion.

I am further instructed that there can be no objection to furnish you with a report on any cases which may be detected.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

F. MONTIZAMBERT, M. D., F. R. C. S., D. C. L.,
Medical Superintendent.

Reports of States and Yearly and Monthly Reports of Cities.

IOWA—*Dubuque*.—Month of December, 1889. Population, 35,000. Total deaths, 35, including croup, 1, and diphtheria, 1.

MICHIGAN.—Week ended January 18, 1890. Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, from 56 observers, indicate that whooping-cough, diarrhoea, tonsilitis, pneumonia, remittent fever, and membranous croup increased, and that scarlet fever, diphtheria, cerebro-spinal meningitis, and puerperal fever decreased in area of prevalence.

Diphtheria was reported at 20 places, scarlet fever at 19 places, and enteric fever at 19 places. Measles increased by 25 per cent., and was reported at 10 places.

TENNESSEE—*Chattanooga*.—Month of December, 1889. Population, 40,000. Total deaths, 53, including measles, 4.

During the year ended December 31, 1889, there were 551 deaths from all causes, including croup, 10 ; diphtheria, 1 ; measles, 5 ; scarlatina, 1 ; enteric fever, 21 ; and whooping-cough, 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.	Whooping-cough.
New York, N. Y.	Jan. 26.	1,598,241	872							5	10	21	3	7
Chicago, Ill.	Jan. 25.	1,100,000								15	3	24	1	7
Philadelphia, Pa.	Jan. 4.	1,064,277	492							24	5	17	3	3
Philadelphia, Pa.	Jan. 18.	1,064,277	777							33	1	14	5	1
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Jan. 25.	852,467	432							2	4	23	3	1
Baltimore, Md.	Jan. 25.	500,343	267							3	1	7	11	2
St. Louis, Mo.	Jan. 18.	450,000	174								3	3		2
Boston, Mass.	Jan. 25.	420,000	214							2		17		
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Jan. 25.	325,000	175							5	1	7	1	3
New Orleans, La.	Jan. 18.	254,000	121							3		2		
Washington, D. C.	Jan. 25.	250,000	161										1	
Detroit, Mich.	Jan. 18.	250,000	123							1	5	4		
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Jan. 18.	240,000	79							4	1	5	1	
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Jan. 25.	240,000	124							5		8	2	2
Cleveland, Ohio.	Dec. 14.	240,310	99							3	2	6	5	2
Cleveland, Ohio.	Dec. 21.	240,310	92							4	1	7	3	4
Louisville, Ky.	Jan. 18.	227,000	*82							1		3		
Kansas City, Mo.	Jan. 25.	180,000	75							2	1	1	2	2
Denver, Colo.	Jan. 17.	150,000	63							1		1		
Indianapolis, Ind.	Jan. 24.	135,000	46							1				
Providence, R. I.	Jan. 25.	130,000	71									1		
Richmond, Va.	Jan. 18.	100,000	58							1				
Richmond, Va.	Jan. 25.	100,000	38											1
Toledo, Ohio.	Jan. 24.	92,000	28									4		
Fall River, Mass.	Jan. 25.	69,000	51									1		
Nashville, Tenn.	Jan. 25.	68,531	26											
Charleston, S. C.	Jan. 25.	60,145	41											
Portland, Me.	Jan. 25.	42,000	25											
Galveston, Tex.	Jan. 10.	40,000	9											
Galveston, Tex.	Jan. 17.	40,000	10							1				
San Diego, Cal.	Jan. 15.	32,000	3											
San Diego, Cal.	Jan. 22.	32,000	3											
Yonkers, N. Y.	Jan. 17.	31,800	12											
Yonkers, N. Y.	Jan. 24.	31,000	12											
Binghamton, N. Y.	Jan. 25.	30,000	17											
Canton, Ohio.	Jan. 24.	30,000	5											
Altoona, Pa.	Jan. 11.	30,000	2											
Altoona, Pa.	Jan. 18.	30,000	5											
Auburn, N. Y.	Jan. 25.	26,000	18											
Newport, R. I.	Jan. 23.	23,000	7									3		
Newton, Mass.	Jan. 18.	22,011	14											
Newton, Mass.	Jan. 25.	22,011	15										1	
Rock Island, Ill.	Jan. 19.	16,000												
Keokuk, Iowa.	Jan. 25.	16,000	6							1				
Pensacola, Fla.	Jan. 18.	15,000	5											

* Fourteen of these were from drowning in a caisson used in bridge building.

FOREIGN.

(Reports received through the Department of State and other channels.)

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended January 11 corresponded to an annual rate of 28.1 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Berkenhead, viz, 17.4, and the highest in Manchester, viz, 33.8 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths in Salford, 3 in Liverpool, and 2 in Manchester.

London.—Two thousand seven hundred and forty-seven deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 24; scarlet fever, 13; diphtheria, 26; whooping-cough, 112; enteric fever, 11; and diarrhoea and dysentery, 12. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 32.4 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 1,069 deaths, and exceeded the corrected average by 522. In greater London 3,640 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 30.3 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 6; diphtheria, 5; whooping-cough, 22; scarlet fever, 6.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended January 11, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 33.7 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz, 51.2, and the highest in Dublin, viz, 43.0 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 299 deaths were registered, including measles, 7; scarlet fever, 2; enteric fever, 3; whooping-cough, 6; diarrhoea, 1; and influenza, 4.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in eight principal towns during the week ended January 11 corresponded to an annual rate of 29.0 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz, 15.1, and the highest in Edinburgh, viz, 33.4 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 750, including small-pox, 1; measles, 39; scarlet fever, 7; diphtheria, 13; whooping-cough, 22; fever, 7; and diarrhoea, 4.

FRANCE—*Paris.*—There were 2,334 deaths registered during the week ended December 28, 1889, of which 421 were from phthisis pulmonalis, 347 from pneumonia, and 397 from other pulmonary diseases.

During the week ended January 4, 1889, there were 2,683 deaths, of which 498 were from phthisis pulmonalis, 500 from pneumonia, and 477 from other pulmonary diseases.

Marseilles.—One hundred and forty-seven deaths were registered during the month of December, 1889, in a population of 375,378. The

deaths included small-pox, 34 ; enteric fever, 26 ; diphtheria and croup, 41 ; measles, 16 ; whooping-cough, 4 ; diarrhœa and enteritis, 50. The United States consul says :

The influenza appeared here the second week of December. About 25 per cent. of the population is down with it. The number of deaths from December 16 to 31, 1888, was 443 ; from December 16 to 31, 1889, it was 612 ; the increase being attributed to the effects of the influenza.

GERMANY—*Mayence*.—December 28, 1889. The influenza is prevailing extensively at Mayence and vicinity, but not in a dangerous form. The doctors are overrun with patients, but the malady is not dangerous.

ITALY—*Leghorn*.—January 5, 1890. The influenza is increasing in this consular district, but up to the present time it has only assumed a mild form. No fatal cases have been reported.

DENMARK—*Copenhagen*.—There were 3,378 officially reported cases of influenza up to December 28, 1889.

SPAIN—*Cadiz*.—January 4, 1890. The United States consul states that the increase in the number of deaths is caused by pulmonary and catarrhal troubles, accelerated by unusually cold weather. The houses are built of stone, and are cold and damp. They are entirely without means for warming.

Under date of January 2, 1890, he writes as follows :

The epidemic called dengue has reached Spain, and assumed a very malignant character in Madrid, Barcelona, and Seville.

The consular agent of the last-named place has just informed me that among the sick is Thomas W. Palmer, United States minister.

The death rate at the places named is said to exceed that caused by cholera. In Cadiz and Jerez de la Frontera the disease thus far has proven quite mild. The deaths at Madrid have numbered 200 in one day.

CUBA—*Santiago de Cuba*.—The United States consul furnishes the following sanitary report for the month of December, 1889 :

Inclosed I have the honor to hand you sanitary statistics for the month of December, 1889, which show a mortality of only 91 during the whole month. The "grippe," or *componte*, as we call it here, has, during the last month, appeared in a mild form, and nearly every one has been ill with it. The increased mortality from pulmonary tuberculosis shows that it has claimed some few victims here.

This present month we have had only one bad case of yellow fever. Of small-pox there are no cases. At Guantanamo a few cases of small-pox occurred a week since ; but as these were mild and confined to the colored population, no scare resulted from it, and at present the disease is on the decline. High north winds are prevailing, and have prevailed during the last six weeks, and, strange as it may seem, there are more cases of yellow fever and deaths therefrom in winter than in summer in this climate. However, no case is at present reported in the town or port, and excellent health prevails.

Havana.—Four deaths from yellow fever were reported for the week ended January 16, 1890.

BAHAMAS—*Nassau, N. P.*—January 18, 1890. City is healthy. No signs of influenza as yet.

BRITISH GUIANA—*Georgetown, Demerara*.—December 25, 1889. Population 54,000. Number of deaths never reported. Diseases of the lungs, bowels, and kidneys are prevalent.

NICARAGUA—*San Juan del Norte*.—Twenty deaths were reported during the period from September 23 to December 2, 1889. The prevailing diseases were native fever, rheumatism, and colds, with a few cases of dysentery. The rain-fall has been almost continuous and copious during the month of November.

HAYTI—*Cape Haytien*.—Sixty deaths were registered during the period from November 3, 1889, to January 11, 1890, in a population of 15,000. The health of the city was good.

GILBERT ISLANDS—*Butaritari*.—Four deaths were registered during the period from September 15 to November 3, 1889, in a population of 3,000. None from zymotic diseases.

YUCATAN—*Merida*.—The United States consul, under date of January 6, says:

The influenza known as “la grippe” prevails here to a considerable extent. From six to eight persons in the city of Merida proper daily die of this disease, and many more die of the diseases sequent to it.

Among the natives of the interior the disease is making great havoc, as with them it often terminates in pneumonia and death.

During my recent explorations in the interior I have encountered entire pueblos of natives sick with “la grippe,” fever, and ague combined.

I have effected cures, or rather decided alleviations, among the natives of the pueblos by the free use of quinine in its various forms and the usual remedies for pneumonia.

The disease was first made known in Yucatan November 16, 1889.

Cholera in Mesopotamia, and its threatened invasion of Syria.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
Beirut, November 30, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department dispatch No. 106 of the 8th instant, and inclose herewith some information concerning the extension of cholera in Mesopotamia, together with a map showing the proximity of the vilayets of Adana, Aleppo, Syria, and Beirut, comprising the limits of the Beirut consulate, to the infected district.

Although the cholera itself has not reached any point within my jurisdiction, it was nevertheless judged expedient to thus early give notice of its possible progress towards the three provinces first above-mentioned, and of the precautionary measures adopted by the Ottoman authorities for its arrest.

Paragraphs 333 to 335, inclusive, of the Consular Regulations will be strictly observed in case of emergency.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

ERHARD BISSINGER, *Consul*.

Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,

Assistant Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

Intelligence concerning the extension of the cholera in Mesopotamia, of which the following is a literal translation, has just been officially communicated to the representatives of the foreign powers residing in Beirut :

“SANITARY OFFICE, *Beirut*, November 18–30, 1889.

“In consequence of the extension of the cholera in Mesopotamia to Mosoul, where it has lately made its appearance, the sanitary administration has adopted several prophylactic measures, of which the following is a recapitulation : A cordon, commencing at Katoum, in the vilayet (province) of Van, passing through the principal points of Amadie, Zakho, and Tchelake, thence along Hesaoni to join Telehavakib near Kalour, where a second cordon commences, passing through Chedadise Zor, Buseira beyond Deir, Meyadin Abou Kamal, and Djied Kavakel.

“The first cordon is under the direction of Di Saad and the second cordon under that of Di Steipovich, the one being located at Diarbekia and the other at Dier.

“Besides this, stations of observation have been established at Meskené, Beredjick, Orfa, Harun, and Baku, with an advance post at Basel Ain, near Damascus ; there is also a post at Cairtein, and another at Tedamour.

“The quarantine restrictions for land arrivals are fixed at fifteen days, notwithstanding that the epidemic is decidedly on the decrease in Mesopotamia and even in Mosoul.

“DI DE LUCIANO.”

It will be observed by a glance at the map which accompanies these notes that although the cholera itself has not reached any point within any one of the four vilayets of Adana, Aleppo, Syria, and Beirut, which compose the jurisdiction of the Beirut consulate, the two sanitary cordons extend into the very center of the three first named, but as the epidemic is reported to be on the decrease much hope is entertained that its appearance in this part of the Ottoman dominions may be averted.

On the Persian frontier, and in that portion of Mesopotamia lying outside the competency of this consulate, the cholera has been raging more or less violently all through the summer, but as its progress seems to have been confined to a comparatively limited extent, and as there is little if any direct communication between the infected points and Beirut, the divers prophylactic measures, such as sanitary cordons, etc., at no time extended to any point near the seat of the Beirut consulate.

Should the cholera leap over the frontier or encroach upon any portion of the four vilayets above cited, the consulate will at once bring the matter to the notice of the Government, and in case of emergency proceed, pursuant to paragraphs 333 to 335, inclusive, of the Consular Regulations.

Danger in using lead water-pipes.[Translated for this Bureau from the *Journal d'Hygiene*, Paris, France.]

Our colleague, M. A. Hamon, publishes a very complete study on the employment of lead pipes for conducting drinking water. The following are the principal conclusions:

1. Hard, calcareous water attacks lead.
2. The corrosion of lead by water is accelerated by the alternate presence of air and water, by the presence of chlorides, nitrates, nitrites, organic salts and acids, ammoniacal salts, different metals (iron, zinc, copper, etc.).
3. The salts of lead, even the carbonates and sulphates, are soluble in water.
4. All the conditions commonly existing in the distribution of water assist in the action of this liquid on lead.
5. Infinitesimal doses of lead absorbed continuously act on the human organism.
6. The disorders of the economy derived from this source are frequent. They are often ignored because their origin is misunderstood.
7. Morbid accidents, some of them followed by death, often supervene on the use of lead pipes.

MORTALITY TABLE—FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated popula- tion.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—								
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping- cough.
London.....	Jan. 4.....	5,758,500	2,921	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	19	39	44	.....
Paris.....	Jan. 28.....	2,260,945	2,334	.....	.....	3	.....	49	1	32	21	17
Paris.....	Jan. 4.....	2,260,945	2,683	.....	.....	3	.....	37	1	32	12	24
Glasgow.....	Jan. 4.....	545,678	312	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	3	9	10
Glasgow.....	Jan. 11.....	545,678	330	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	2	3	14	10
Warsaw.....	Dec. 28.....	445,770	296	.....	24	.....	.....	.....	3	14	.....	.....
Amsterdam.....	Jan. 4.....	399,051	209	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	10	.....	.....
Copenhagen.....	Dec. 28.....	307,000	161	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	11	.....	.....
Palermo.....	Jan. 4.....	250,000	106	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Genoa.....	Jan. 4.....	180,405	114	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Trieste.....	Dec. 28.....	158,054	95	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	7	.....	.....
Trieste.....	Jan. 4.....	158,054	129	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stuttgart.....	Jan. 4.....	125,510	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Stuttgart.....	Jan. 11.....	125,510	111	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	6	.....	.....
Havre.....	Dec. 28.....	112,074	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
Catania.....	Dec. 30.....	109,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Barmen.....	Jan. 4.....	109,000	70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Barmen.....	Jan. 11.....	109,000	111	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1
Leghorn.....	Jan. 5.....	103,659	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mayence.....	Dec. 21.....	65,802	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Mayence.....	Dec. 28.....	65,802	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....
Cadiz.....	Jan. 4.....	57,157	66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merida.....	Dec. 23.....	47,448	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merida.....	Jan. 6.....	47,448	71	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merida.....	Jan. 13.....	47,448	62	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gibraltar.....	Dec. 29.....	23,681	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kingston, Can.....	Jan. 17.....	18,284	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sagua la Grande.....	Jan. 4.....	15,605	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sagua la Grande.....	Jan. 11.....	15,605	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sagua la Grande.....	Jan. 18.....	15,605	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Laguayra.....	Jan. 4.....	7,428	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Laguayra.....	Jan. 11.....	7,428	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

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