

SIXTH BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
TO THE
GOVERNOR OF OREGON
AND THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
REGULAR SESSION
1915



SALEM, OREGON:
STATE PRINTING DEPARTMENT
1914

REPORT

*To the Honorable, the Governor and the Legislative Assembly
of the State of Oregon:*

Gentlemen: We have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and approval, a condensed report of activities and expenditures of the State Board of Health for the biennial period from September 30, 1912, to September 30, 1914.

During the biennial period, eight quarterly and six special meetings of the Board were held, at which meetings all matters pertaining to the health and welfare of Oregon were considered and such steps were taken, as, in the Board's judgment, were most needed to safeguard the lives of the citizens of this State.

The collection of vital statistics has been more complete than at any previous biennial period since the inauguration of the Board.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

There were 11,290 male, 10,502 female, a total of 21,792 birth reports received, properly card indexed and made matters of permanent record.

During the same period, 7,572 males and 4,966 females, a total of 12,538 death reports have been received, properly classified as to cause of death and made matters of permanent record.

In addition, hundreds of certified copies of births and deaths have been furnished every state in the Union and almost every European nation for establishing inheritances and property rights.

MARRIAGES

During the same period, 10,546 marriage certificates have been received and filed.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

In the matter of epidemic and contagious diseases, the most serious are as follows:

Tuberculosis	1,784 cases	1,200 deaths
Typhoid fever.....	708 cases	137 deaths
Diphtheria	557 cases	51 deaths
Scarlet fever	1,135 cases	38 deaths
Measles	4,379 cases	65 deaths
Smallpox	1,596 cases	4 deaths
Other infectious diseases.....	321 cases	9 deaths

Total of all contagious diseases, 9,480 cases; 1504 deaths.

In the control of epidemic diseases, the secretary or some member of the Board has visited every portion of the State where epidemics of contagious diseases have been reported and have invariably met with hearty co-operation from health officers and municipal authorities and have been eminently successful in stamping out and preventing further outbreaks of contagious diseases.

CANCER AND TUBERCULOSIS

The enormous increase in the death rate from cancer caused the Board to make a special investigation, and cards detailing the family history and history of injuries have been sent to all the practitioners of every cult in the State of Oregon and are being classified in the hopes of finding some relief in the causative factors of cancer.

The same has been done in attempting to find the value of location and atmosphere in the care of consumptives. The law of 1913 providing for the reporting of all cases and for the disinfection and fumigation of buildings occupied by consumptives has been of great help and the decrease in the mortality rate over previous biennial periods can, in some measure, be accredited to this. In addition, the State Board of Health furnished every reported case with a concise booklet giving advice for the proper care of the patient and the means whereby infection to others may be avoided.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

In addition to the lectures given throughout the State, bulletins have been issued on public health and preventative medicine subjects as follows: "Vaccination", "Rabies", "Carrying Contagion", "Important Rulings of Sanitary Live Stock Commission", "Pollution of Streams", "School Inspection", "Hygiene and Sanitation of Summer Resorts, Hop Yards, etc.", "Typhoid Fever", "Chiropractic", "Quarantine", "Pellagra", "Conservation of Vision and Prevention of Blindness", "Social Hygiene", "Trachoma", "Friedmann Cure for Tuberculosis", "Cancer", "Fraudulent Advertising", "Fumigation" and "Advice to Expectant Mothers".

POLLUTION OF STREAMS

The Board desires to again call the attention of the Legislature to the crime of the present generation in polluting all of our mountain streams. In attempting to abate this, the State Board brought a friendly suit against the City of Silverton to enjoin the pollution of Silver Creek. This was won in the lower court but reversed in the Supreme Court, and the

Board is, at this time, presenting a bill giving the control of water supplies and sewage disposal to the State Board of Health, for which it asks your serious consideration. In this we have none but the most altruistic motives as the prevention of outbreaks of typhoid fever means decreased earnings for the physician but longer life and more happiness for the people of the State. The survey of Clear Lake and its possible use as a water supply for the Willamette Valley, submitted to you two years ago, is again called to your attention in the hope that some way may be found by which this plan can be consummated.

ANTI-TOXIN AND VACCINE VIRUS

In the Session Laws of 1907, a special fund of \$1,000.00 was placed at the disposal of the Secretary of the State Board of Health for the purchase of vaccine virus and anti-toxin and for emergency use in case of epidemics. Of this sum, during the biennial period, \$441.33 has been expended. This has been largely for smallpox vaccine, diphtheria anti-toxin and anti typhoid vaccine, the greatest sums being spent in the Monmouth State Normal School where two outbreaks, one of smallpox and one of typhoid necessitated the immunizing of the entire teaching and student body, which was done by the secretary of the State Board of Health. Epidemics of diphtheria in three of the institutions receiving State aid necessitated the using of a considerable quantity of anti-toxin. The appropriation is a very wise one and the Board pledges that only such sums as are necessary will be expended.

BUBONIC PLAGUE FUND

House Bill No. 125 of the last Legislature, appropriated "\$5,000.00 to be used for the prevention of the spread of bubonic plague, cholera and other menacing Asiatic diseases now prevalent in China, which through the channels of commerce, today seriously threaten the health and welfare of the State of Oregon." It provided that this sum was to be spent in such form and in such amounts as the State Board of Health might direct. This bill, introduced by Representative McArthur to replace a similar bill introduced at the previous session of the Legislature, was passed, not at the request of the State Board of Health. As some work in this special investigation was demanded of the Board, it procured the services of Dr. David N. Roberg, professor of pathology in the medical department of the State University. He was sent to China for a period of two years beginning July 1, 1913. He was equipped with a small laboratory, a complete lot of stains

and bacteriological instruments to do research work, and has been in the Orient since that time. He has rendered valuable service to the State in that he has furnished monthly reports, specimen slides, photographs and very interesting educational data having to do with bubonic plague, Asiatic cholera and the various forms of amoebic dysentery prevalent in the Orient. These have been indexed and filed, some have been given to the public press, and the whole material will be of inestimable value to the State should these diseases at any time appear in any of our seaport towns. The contract made by the Board with Dr. Roberg terminates July 1, 1915, and the Board recommends that either House Bill No. 125, Session Laws of 1913, be repealed, or, if the Legislature should see fit to allow it to remain on the statute books, that the appropriation will not be expended by the State Board of Health unless these diseases appear in the seaport towns of this State and some service demanding remuneration should necessitate its expenditure.

The total expenditure from this fund is as follows:

Salary from July 1, 1913, to September 30, 1914.....	\$3,750.00
Traveling expenses	1,162.27
Equipment for laboratory in Shanghai.....	987.46
Freight on equipment.....	316.30
Total for the biennial period.....	\$6,216.03

This entire sum has been spent on vouchers properly issued and filed with the Secretary of State and you will note the entire appropriation has not been expended.

SCHOOL INSPECTION

Believing that some supervision over the sanitary and hygienic conditions of the rural schools of this State was demanded, the State Board of Health procured the services of two graduate nurses who had been trained in school inspection work, and during 1913-14, they inspected the rural schools in 26 of the 34 counties of this State. Little or no attention was paid to any inspection of the children save for manifest deformities and skin diseases but particular attention was paid to the sanitary condition of the buildings, grounds, water supplies and toilet facilities. The law providing that before any school can draw its proportion of the State fund it must comply with certain sanitary requirements improvised by your honorable body, has been treated in the breach rather than in the observance. The blame for this condition lays largely with the local clerks and board of directors. Many buildings were found unkempt and dirty; toilets indescribably filthy and

without doors. Inadequate, and, in many instances, no water supplies. Considerable improvement has already been made in the correction of these defects.

In the study of the children themselves, some interesting facts have been deduced. For illustration:

Number of counties inspected	26	Defective speech	50
Number of schools inspected	683	Defective hearing	163
Number of pupils inspected	36,254	Mentally deficient	77
Impetigo	456	Inflamed eyelids	170
Scrofula	2	Cleft palate	12
Eczema	20	Tuberculosis suspect	16
Scabies	80	Blind	1
Ringworm	189	Partially blind	1
Possible trachoma	11	Cross-eyed	7
Defective sight	170	Chicken pox	6

A synopsis of the report of the inspection of each county was furnished the county school superintendent. The names of defective children were given and in every single instance assistance was offered in correcting these defects and improving the health of the child. Frequently it was found that feeble minded children who were incapable of acquiring an education, took up the time of the teacher and were made the butt and torment of all the other children in the school. Many with defective eyesight and hearing could be easily corrected and thus save these children from becoming wards of the State in our various institutions later in life. The Board believes that were it financially possible, it would be well to carry on this work covering every county in the State at least once each year.

LABORATORY

The work of the laboratory during the past year has been as follows:

Blood for malaria, blood counts, etc.	118	Wasserman examinations for syphilis	157
Diphtheria	465	Water as to its fitness for domestic use	1,360
Faeces	20	Widals for typhoid	410
Milk	63	Miscellaneous	251
Heads of animals for rabies	90		
Sputum	808		
Urinalysis	168	Total	3,910

In addition, 30 Pasteur treatments were administered in the offices of the State Board of Health, where the cord furnished by the Hygienic Laboratory in Washington was prepared for administration in our own laboratory. In all these cases, no untoward symptoms of any kind have resulted. Twenty-seven of the treatments were furnished gratuitously by the Hygienic Laboratory and three were purchased from the State Laboratory of California for the reason that people

bitten by animals found to have been rabid, reported late for treatment and believing valuable time would be lost in waiting for its arrival from Washington, it was ordered by telegraph from Berkeley.

Following the ruling of the Treasury Department having to do with trains in the interstate traffic, the laboratory has made examinations and furnished certificates of the water and ice used on all the trains from all the stations in the State.

INSTITUTIONS AND POOR HOUSES

Pursuant to the law of 1913, the secretary has visited all of the poor houses in the State at least once each year, and has issued licenses to all the poor houses, save one. All the institutions receiving State aid have been visited and carefully inspected at least once each quarter. Six have been granted certificates to be filed with the Secretary of State and two have been refused. The latter for the reason that they were not able in their present building to conduct the work in a manner to meet the requirements of the Board.

HOTELS AND SUMMER RESORTS

The secretary or some member of the Board has visited as many as possible of the hotels and summer resorts throughout the State and have prepared rules and regulations covering their conduct, and considerable improvement has been made in the sanitary conditions of these places. Much yet remains to be done.

DAIRIES

Two dairies, one of F. M. Kiger in Multnomah County, and the other, the Clover Hill in Columbia County, have been frequently visited by the State Health Officer. The cattle have been tested by the State Veterinarian, the milk has been examined at least once every 60 days in the laboratory and certificates have been issued granting them the privilege of selling certified milk in this State.

EXPENDITURES

The total expenditures of the State Board of Health during the biennial period have been as follows:

EXPENSES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH DURING BIENNIAL
PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 30, 1912, TO
SEPTEMBER 30, 1914

Antirabic treatment—Hygienic Laboratory, Berkeley, Calif.....	\$ 30.00
Esch, William, sheriff Marion County—serving subpoenas in case of State Board of Health v. City of Silverton.....	3.75
Express, freight, cartage	56.19
Filing fee Supreme Court—State Board of Health v. City of Silverton	10.00
Films, photographs, lantern slides.....	62.30
Health officer badges for public school children.....	108.33
Ice	117.81
Laboratory supplies and upkeep.....	1,128.54
Laundry	90.39
Office supplies and upkeep.....	698.21
Postage	339.00
Printing, engraving, binding, etc.....	783.55
Rental of offices	2,160.00

SALARY ACCOUNT

Dr. Calvin S. White, secretary State Board of Health and State Health Officer. Salary, September 30, 1912-September 30, 1914	8,000.00
Prof. Emil F. Pernot, State Bacteriologist. Salary, September 30, 1912-July 31, 1913.....	1,500.00
H. H. Moore, Deputy Health Officer. Salary, September 30, 1912-December 31, 1912.....	400.00
Dr. B. L. Arms, State Bacteriologist. Salary, July 15, 1913- January 31, 1914	1,625.00
Dr. J. S. Saurman, Director State Bacteriological Laboratory, Salary, September 11, 1914-September 30, 1914.....	150.00
Miss Emma M. Howe, Assistant Bacteriologist. Salary, Sep- tember 30, 1912-September 30, 1914.....	2,080.00
Mrs. Katherine J. Kelley, School Nurse. Salary, October 1, 1913-May 31, 1914	640.00
Miss Rosine Vreeland, School Nurse. Salary, January 1, 1914- May 22, 1914	376.77
Miss Inez Richards, Clerk. Salary, September 30, 1912- August 31, 1913	825.00
Miss Anna L. McBride, Clerk. Salary, January 15, 1913- September 30, 1914	1,520.57
Miss Pearl Emken, Stenographer. Salary, August 1, 1913- September 30, 1914	1,050.00

SPECIAL SERVICE ACCOUNT

L. C. Kelsey, Consulting Engineer	61.00
G. H. Huthman, veterinary services for rabid animals.....	64.75
C. M. Gourdoux, assisting in laboratory work.....	75.00
B. L. Morgan, assisting in clerical work.....	94.36
A. E. Rasmussen, assisting in clerical work.....	100.00
Dr. R. L. Benson, assisting in laboratory work.....	100.00
Dr. A. E. Mackay, special laboratory work.....	10.00
Dr. R. C. Yenny, special laboratory work.....	10.00
Dr. Frank McCauley, services as Deputy Health Officer.....	40.00
Telegrams	96.62
Telephones	409.50

TRAVELING EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Dr. Calvin S. White, Secretary and State Health Officer.....	937.40
Dr. C. J. Smith, Member of State Board of Health.....	105.45
Dr. Andrew C. Smith, Member of State Board of Health.....	190.90
Dr. E. B. Pickel, Member of State Board of Health.....	177.60
Dr. Alfred Kinney, Member of State Board of Health.....	115.70
Dr. E. A. Pierce, Member of State Board of Health.....	27.85
Dr. Willis B. Morse, Member of State Board of Health.....	63.20
Dr. T. J. Higgins, Member of State Board of Health.....	60.08
Prof. E. F. Pernot, State Bacteriologist.....	74.60
Dr. B. L. Arms, State Bacteriologist.....	59.45
Mrs. K. J. Kelley, School Nurse.....	740.15
Miss Rosine Vreeland, School Nurse.....	456.21
Miss Emma M. Howe, Assistant Bacteriologist.....	94.60
Total.....	\$27,919.83

In conclusion, the Board begs to report that it has attempted to faithfully discharge the duties imposed upon it not only by the laws of this State but by the demands of the people of the State for the best protection of their health and physical welfare.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. B. PICKEL, M. D., President,
 E. A. PIERCE, M. D. Vice President,
 THOMAS J. HIGGINS, M. D.,
 ANDREW C. SMITH, M. D.,
 W. B. MORSE, M. D.,
 ALFRED KINNEY, M. D.,
 CALVIN S. WHITE, M. D.,
 Secretary and State Health Officer.