

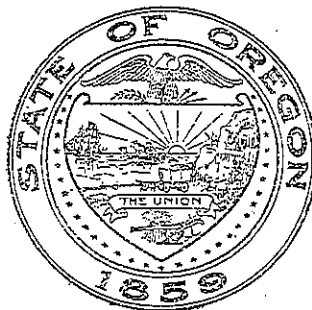
Eighth Biennial Report
of the
State Board of Health

to the
Governor of Oregon
and the
Thirtieth Legislative Assembly

Regular Session

1919

for the period
October 1, 1916 to September 30, 1918



SALEM, OREGON :
STATE PRINTING DEPARTMENT
1918

PERSONNEL OF BOARD

Dr. A. C. SeelyRoseburg
President

Dr. F. M. Brooks Portland
Vice President

Dr. Andrew C. Smith Portland

Dr. C. T. Bacon La Grande

Dr. R. J. Marsh Portland

Dr. W. H. Dale Harrisburg

Dr. A. C. Seely Portland
Acting Secretary and State Health Officer

Dr. W. B. Morse Salem
(Served to January, 1917)

Dr. H. E. Clay Salem
(Served to May, 1917)

Dr. M. B. MarcellusPortland
(Served to May, 1917)

REPORT

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

Gentlemen: Dr. Roberg and Dr. Holt who have acted as Secretary of the State Board of Health during the biennial period from October 1, 1916, to September 30, 1918, both being at present in the U. S. Army Medical Corps, little besides a statistical report is submitted for your consideration:

During the biennial period eight quarterly meetings were held, two of which were joint meetings of the State Board of Health and the State Board of Eugenics.

VITAL STATISTICS

In June, 1918, Oregon was admitted to the U. S. Registration Area for deaths. This is the area from which the Census Bureau collects and publishes vital statistics records. In order to be included in this area a state must have passed a vital statistics law meeting with the approval of the Census Bureau and must show that under that law at least ninety per cent of the births and deaths occurring within the state are of record in the bureau of vital statistics.

Despite the serious handicap of a decreased appropriation since 1917 making it impossible to employ a field worker or even sufficient clerical help to adequately take care of the routine work of the vital statistics department the State passed the test for admission with a percentage of 94.8. Special Agents of the Census Bureau were in the health office for three weeks conducting the test. Oregon is the twenty-eighth state to be admitted to the Registration Area for deaths and the ninth state west of the Mississippi. No application has yet been made for admission to the Registration Area for births but the test has been asked for and will take place sometime early in 1919. Only nineteen states have been admitted to the Area for births and only two of these, Utah and Washington, are west of the Mississippi. It is the confident expectation of the Board that Oregon will show as high percentage for birth records as for her death records.

The work of the Vital Statistics Department has been greatly hampered in the last year and a half by the resignation of over a hundred local registrars to enter the government service. Each month brought many changes in personnel and many districts were left without representatives for considerable periods of time owing to the difficulty of making suitable appointments by mail. This added greatly to the clerical work of the office.

From October 1, 1916, to September 30, 1918, there were 25,825 births reported. During the same period there was 15,060 deaths reported. For purposes of comparison we submit the list of births and deaths since the establishment of this Board.

	<i>Births</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
July 1, 1903, to September 30, 1904	5,358	3,696
October 1, 1904, to September 30, 1906	10,068	6,893
October 1, 1906, to September 30, 1908	19,161	13,139
October 1, 1908, to September 30, 1910	17,306	11,106
October 1, 1910, to September 30, 1912	19,062	11,706
October 1, 1912, to September 30, 1914	21,792	12,538
October 1, 1914, to September 30, 1916	24,520	13,458
October 1, 1916, to September 30, 1918	25,825	15,060

MARRIAGES

During the biennial period 12,124 returns of marriage were received, indexed and filed.

EUGENIC BOARD

Two meetings of the Eugenics Board were held during the period and forty-five cases were adjudged to come under the operation of the law. The Board has been greatly hampered in this work by uncertainty as to its right of procedure.

LABORATORY

The work of the Laboratory has been greatly increased during the last six months of the biennium by reason of the number of Wasserman tests for syphilis necessitated by the carrying out of the new venereal disease regulations. A full time laboratory assistant has had to be employed and additional special assistants from time to time. Following is the statistical report of the Laboratory:

Blood for malaria, blood counts, etc.	40
Diphtheria	236
Faeces	37
Heads of animals for rabies	141
Milk	164
Smears for gonococci	195
Sputum	907
Urinalysis	117
Wasserman examination for syphilis	744
Water as to its fitness for domestic use	1,638
Widals for typhoid	268
Miscellaneous	509
Total	4,996

Pasteur treatments to the number of twenty-six were given in the office of the Board during the biennium. Fifteen cases were for the year 1917 and only five for 1918.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the cases and deaths from the most important contagious diseases:

	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Tuberculosis	1,418	1,179
Typhoid	527	132
Diphtheria	335	34
Scarlet Fever	1,657	28
Measles	9,961	100
Smallpox	525
Other infectious diseases	3,079	255

In July, 1917, the Board adopted a new set of rules and regulations for the minimum control of communicable diseases. In December of the same year the measures for the control of venereal diseases were amended to meet the request of the War Department for stricter control. Funds for the carrying out of the amended regulations were provided by the State Emergency Board on April 9, 1918.

EXPENDITURES FROM FUND AUTHORIZED BY EMERGENCY BOARD
APRIL 9, 1918

Expense incurred in bringing patients to Detention Home in
Portland for treatment \$ 777.49

(This does not include the living expenses of the patients
while at Detention Home, which are to be paid from this
fund.)

Salary of Wilma Hemstock, Laboratory Assistant May 1, 1918,
to September 30, 1918 375.00
Salary of Runa E. Bacon, Office Assistant, June 17, 1918, to
August 31, 1918 185.00
Laboratory expense incurred in venereal disease work..... 97.85

\$1,435.34

EXPENDITURES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH DURING BIENNIAL
PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 1916, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1918

GENERAL EXPENDITURES

Automobile:

1 Reo car	\$735.00	
Upkeep and rental of garage	459.89	
		\$1,194.89

Office:

Stationery and office supplies	\$ 560.91	
Books and magazines	44.35	
Printing and binding	1,984.02	
Maps	105.50	
Furniture and office equipment	104.50	
Educational exhibits	29.75	
Postage	551.37	
Express	39.05	
Telegraph	109.90	
Telephone	397.07	
		\$3,926.42

Laboratory:

Laboratory supplies and upkeep	\$ 750.32	
Ice	129.60	
Laundry	82.53	
		\$ 962.45

Rental of Offices:

Rental of rooms 1012-20, Selling Building, October 1, 1916 to September 30, 1918.....	\$2,254.75
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Salaries:

Dr. David N. Roberg, Secretary and State Health Officer, October 1, 1916, to August 31, 1917.....	\$3,666.00
Dr. Robert E. L. Holt, Acting Secretary and State Health Officer, August 15, 1917 to September 30, 1918	3,916.66
Emma M. Howe, Bacteriologist, October 1, 1916, to September 30, 1918	3,600.00
Anna L. McBride, Assistant Secretary and State Registrar, October 1, 1916 to September 30, 1918..	2,400.00
Pearl Emken, Clerk, October 1, 1916, to Septem- ber 30, 1918	2,120.00
B. L. Morgan, Office Assistant (Part time), October 1, 1916 to September 7, 1917.....	343.00
Wilma Hemstock, Laboratory Assistant, December 15, 1917, to April 30, 1918.....	157.42
	\$16,203.08

TRAVELING EXPENSES OF MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

Dr. David N. Roberg	\$508.88
Dr. Robert E. L. Holt	334.96
Dr. A. C. Seely	485.67
Dr. E. B. Pickel	49.30
Dr. C. T. Bacon	90.10
Dr. W. H. Dale	68.22
Dr. A. C. Smith	29.66
Dr. F. M. Brooks	23.66
Dr. Harry E. Clay	4.50
Dr. M. B. Marcellus	3.50
Dr. E. A. Pierce	3.50
Dr. R. J. Marsh	3.50
	<u>\$ 1,604.95</u>

SPECIAL SERVICE

Dr. William House (Services as diagnostician during epidemic of poliomyelitis)	\$ 60.00
Dr. Jesse Edgington (Special service during epidemic of poliomyelitis)	23.00
Dr. R. F. Maddren (Special service in Laboratory)	150.00
Dr. D. H. Nickson (Special service in Laboratory)	17.50
Louis C. Kelsey (Consulting Sanitary Engineer)	13.25
	<u>\$ 263.75</u>
Grand total	<u>\$26,410.29</u>

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. SEELY, M. D., President
 F. M. BROOKS, M. D., Vice-President
 ANDREW C. SMITH, M. D.
 C. T. BACON, M. D.
 R. J. MARSH, M. D.
 W. H. DALE, M. D.
 A. C. SEELY, M. D.,
 Acting Secretary and State Health Officer

DR. ROBERG, Secretary and State Health Officer,
 October 1, 1916 to August 31, 1917.

DR. HOLT, Secretary and State Health Officer,
 August 15, 1917 to October 20, 1918.