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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Weekly report of conditions and transactions at Belize—Fruit port.

BELIZE, BRITISH HONDURAS, *June 2, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended May 31, 1902:

Population according to census of 1901, 9,113; present officially estimated population, 7,000 (about). Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 5. Causes of death: Convulsions, 1; malarial remittent fever, 1; diarrhea, 1; tetanus, 1; natural causes, 1. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: May 29, steamship *Condor*, crew, 16; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none. May 30, steamship *Anselm*, crew, 41; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, 8.

Respectfully,

R. H. PETERS,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

CANADA.

Inspection of immigrants at Quebec for the week ended June 7, 1902.

QUEBEC, CANADA, *June 9, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended June 7 there were inspected 1,021 immigrants; passed, 1,005; detained, 16.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

CHINA.

Report from Hongkong—Cholera, plague, and smallpox.

HONGKONG, CHINA, *May 5, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health issued at this station during the week ended May 3, 1902. Six vessels were inspected, 614 individuals were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 688 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected.

Among the bills of health issued was 1 to the steamship *Rubi*, this vessel having been held in quarantine five full days as mentioned

in my report for last week. The sanitary returns show that the following communicable diseases were reported as occurring in the colony during the week, viz. 37 cases of cholera and 32 deaths; 28 cases of plague and 26 deaths; 4 cases of smallpox and 3 deaths, and 1 case of enteric fever. The cholera cases come from all parts of the city—principally among the lower-class natives. One of the cases was an European from the British torpedo fleet and terminated fatally. Diarrhea is very prevalent in the city at present.

The total cases and deaths from plague thus far this year are 48 and 45, respectively, compared with 291 cases and 272 deaths for the same period last year.

Reports from Canton, China, state that during the past week the disease has been severe. For a few days after the first rains the disease showed signs of abating, but this lasted for a short time only. The disease has been especially severe in the surrounding villages. Fortunately but few cases of plague have occurred in that city thus far. At Shui Fung, south of Canton, plague has been very severe.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HONGKONG, CHINA, *May 13, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health issued at this station during the week ended May 10, 1902.

Nine steamers were inspected. 1,084 individuals were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 1,314 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam. There were 15 rejections during the week because of fever. It is rarely possible to follow the subsequent history of those rejected, especially Chinese, but 1 of the number this week is known to have developed a typical attack of bubonic plague.

The cholera situation in this city shows a slight improvement as compared with last week, 32 cases and 29 deaths having been reported. Two of this number were Europeans, 26 Chinese, and 4 other Asiatics. There have been heavy rains during the week, relieving the severe water famine, and it is hoped that the epidemic will rapidly decline. Local reports indicate that the disease is declining in Canton. Sporadic cases are reported in Amoy. Such statements, no doubt, fall far short of the actual truth.

There was a slight decline in the plague figures as compared with last week, 24 cases and 18 deaths having been reported. Of this number, 22 were Chinese, 1 Indian, and 1 Malay. The plague figures for the corresponding week last year were 128 cases and 117 deaths. Plague has appeared in epidemic form in Canton, Macao, and Pakhoi, and sporadic cases are reported at Amoy and other China coast cities.

Four cases of smallpox and 4 deaths (all Chinese) and 3 cases of diphtheria were also reported during the week.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.