

## APPENDIX H.

## PARAGUAY.

## (1) INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE DELEGATE FROM PARAGUAY.

Referring to the communication of the department of the interior, transmitting the favorable decision of the national board of health regarding the naming of a representative to the International Sanitary Conference of the American States, which conference will be held in the city of Washington on December 2 next, the Vice-President of the Republic, in exercise of the executive power, decrees:

ART. 1. Mr. John Stewart, consul-general of Paraguay at Washington, is appointed delegate ad honorem of the Republic to the said scientific gathering.

ART. 2. Let it be communicated and published in the official journal.

CARVALLO.

E. FLEYTAS.

ASUNCIÓN, *November 11, 1902.*

It is a copy of the original.

CLETO DE J. SANCHEZ,  
*Assistant Secretary.*

*Instructions for the guidance of the delegate of Paraguay at the International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics, to be held on October 15 of the present year, at Washington.*

The delegate shall give his support to all the regulations based on the universal scientific principles known, not only with respect to the sanitary relations of the different countries, but also with regard to the measures that each of them may adopt for their internal protection.

Protection against extraneous diseases shall be based on the broadest good faith of the sanitary relations of the different countries, so that each one of the countries shall be bound to denounce immediately the proved or reasonably suspicious cases of such diseases.

He shall assist in restricting quarantines, within such limits as may be possible, procuring that the sanitary detention and the disinfections in force be substituted in their place, in all cases where the distances and the time required for the communication will permit.

He shall support the principle that the vigorous sanitary defense of a country be always based on the measures adopted in the infected country, and shall serve to control and complement them. He shall support measures that shall reduce to a minimum the restrictions imposed on the transportation of merchandise by land or water, being guided in this respect by the positive data that science has acquired relative to the possibility of contagion by this means.

He shall endeavor to have each country observe all the activity and sanitary power at its command for the sanitation of the ports or of

the cities that may be found in the nearest proximity with its neighbors.

He shall cooperate in the sense that all the countries may have the largest possible facilities for the observation and study of the diseases developed in other countries, and of the measures put in operation to overcome them.

ASUNCIÓN, *September 1, 1902.*

I hereby certify that the foregoing instructions, intended to serve as a guide for the delegate of Paraguay to the International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics, to be held in Washington on October 15 of the present year, were discussed and approved by the national board of health at its session of August 31 last.

ANDRÉS BARBERO, *Secretary.*

Approved:

H. VELÁSQUEZ.

## (2) REPORT OF THE DELEGATE OF PARAGUAY.

ASUNCIÓN, *September 1, 1902.*

(a) The laws by which the quarantine service is enforced are included in the pamphlet of laws of the national board of health. In the same pamphlet are found the laws relating to sanitation in general, as well as the regulations in accordance with which the departmental boards of health and the sanitary boards are governed.

(b) Formerly the national board of health, duly authorized by the executive power, decided to establish a quarantine station at Villa Humaita, which station was removed on February 14, 1900, by a resolution of the national board of health, to Villa del Pilar. The operation of these stations was subjected entirely to the provisions of the laws contained in the pamphlet mentioned.

The object of this resolution was to favor international interchange carried on by river communication, and to prevent vessels clearing from the Argentine Republic and bound to any port of the territory situated below Asunción, arriving at the capital without complying with the reglamentary provisions, whenever the ports of the said Republic were declared infected or simply suspicious.

Afterwards Asunción was made the only sanitary station for cases of infectious or contagious diseases originating in the Argentine Republic, and which, on account of their grave character, might endanger the sanitary relations between the two countries.

Referring to the Brazilian province of Matto Grosso, the fluvial communication which it has with the ports of the River Plata or with those of Brazil situated on the Atlantic, in times of epidemics is carried on direct, without touching at Asunción; and in such cases the vessels are subject to the sanitary regulations then in force.

(c) There exist in the country the following infectious or contagious diseases:

Isolated cases of typhoid fever, malaria, measles, and smallpox. While tuberculosis bears an important part in the general mortality, it should be observed that some cases of said disease come from the neighboring countries, which, owing to the mildness of our climate, send us these patients during certain seasons of the year.

Leprosy does not figure, except in a minimum proportion, in the total mortality, notwithstanding the fact that isolated cases exist in the

majority of the villages of the Republic, the number of which it is not possible to determine at the present time.

Dysentery is usually encountered in isolated cases in nearly all of the departments of the Republic; nevertheless, during the past year it was epidemic in the country, an increased number of cases with a highly favorable termination having been recorded, the mortality being very small.

The first cases of bubonic plague were imported from the Argentine Republic, after which it developed into an epidemic in the capital, producing a relatively small number of cases, as will be seen from the table attached. Subsequently it broke out anew, but in a form as mild as it was small in extent, as shown in the table referred to.

To better illustrate this subject, a number of statistical tables are appended referring to the diseases already named, such as tuberculosis, bubonic plague, dysentery, malaria, typhoid fever, and smallpox.

With respect to yellow fever, it should be considered as not existing in the country, it having been imported from Brazil but once, namely, in 1870.

Cholera was imported in the year 1886-87, a very small number of cases having developed at that time, the disease disappearing entirely a few months afterwards, since which time it has not again appeared.

Beri-beri, cerebro-spinal meningitis, and spotted typhus (*tifus exantemático*), as well as diphtheria, do not enter into the records of mortality of the Republic.

(d) Paraguay runs the risk of an invasion of foreign diseases almost exclusively by fluvial communication, in which manner the principal commercial interchange with the Argentine Republic, Uruguay, and Brazil is carried on.

With the latter country (province of Matto Grosso), Paraguay carries on also an important commerce, but the means of sanitary protection which it has at the present time are more than sufficient to shield the Republic from any danger from that source.

The means of sanitary protection which Paraguay now possesses are being enriched and perfected from day to day, and at the present time are in excellent working condition. A disinfecting pontoon, which serves in case of necessity as a floating lazaretto, exists anchored at a considerable distance from the coast, at a point where there may be organized a strict observation service.

There is an isolated house, well kept, and containing material for disinfection, consisting of high-pressure stoves, pulverizers, etc.

(e) No important sanitary work at the capital has been done up to the present time, but plans are being considered for the construction of sewers and for the installation of a system of water supply which it is thought will be undertaken in a short time.

ASUNCIÓN, September 1, 1902.

I hereby certify that the foregoing reports, intended to serve as a guide to the delegate of Paraguay to the International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics, to be held in Washington on the 15th of October of the present year, have been discussed and approved by the national board of health at its session of August 31 last.

ANDRÉS BARBERO, *Secretary*.

Approved:

H. VELÁSQUEZ.

Tables showing the different infectious contagious diseases occurring in the country during the years 1900-1901, to August, 1902.

## CAPITAL.

Month.	Tubercu- losis.	Typhoid fever.	Bubonic plague.	Small- pox.
1900.				
January.....	5	1	6	.....
February.....	7	.....	4	.....
March.....	5	3	.....	.....
April.....	3	1	.....	.....
May.....	9	4	.....	.....
June.....	5	4	.....	.....
July.....	9	6	1	.....
August.....	4	7	1	1
September.....	7	9	.....	2
October.....	9	3	.....	1
November.....	4	.....	.....	2
December.....	7	2	.....	7
1901.				
January.....	3	1	.....	1
February.....	6	1	.....	3
March.....	11	.....	.....	3
April.....	10	2	.....	6
May.....	8	.....	.....	13
June.....	10	.....	4	7
July.....	5	.....	6	4
August.....	8	.....	.....	2
September.....	6	.....	.....	3
October.....	13	2	.....	3
November.....	5	8	.....	2
December.....	11	3	.....	.....
1902.				
January.....	4	2	.....	3
February.....	7	2	.....	.....
March.....	6	2	.....	.....
April.....	5	1	.....	.....
May.....	4	3	.....	.....
June.....	8	2	1	.....
July.....	7	1	1	.....
August.....	13	4	.....	.....

## DEPARTMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC.

Year.	Tubercu- losis.	Typhoid fever.	Bubonic plague.	Small- pox.
1901.....	40	3	5	49
1902.....	51	13	.....	40

NOTE.—The attached statistical data of diseases occurring in the country have been compiled from the respective registers, and must therefore be considered as official. The small number represented, as compared with the total population, is due to the fact that there has been considered only those cases that were diagnosed by doctors.

Number of cases of various diseases attended by the national board of health from October, 1900, to March, 1901.

Disease.	Favorable	Unfavor- able.
Dysentery.....	1,563	62
Measles.....	553	5
Malaria.....	15	.....
Smallpox.....	16	.....
Total.....	2,147	67

Grand total, 2,214.