

59TH CONGRESS : : 1ST SESSION

DECEMBER 4, 1905-JUNE 30, 1906

HOUSE DOCUMENTS

VOL. 3

WASHINGTON : : GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : : 1906

59TH CONGRESS, } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. } DOCUMENT
1st Session. } No. 2.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

WAR DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1905.

VOLUME II.

ARMAMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND SUPPLY.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1905.

completion of a water-softening plant. The working of this plant is entirely satisfactory and permits of the use of the water of the artesian wells on the reservation, as formerly water for drinking and culinary purposes was obtained from the Missouri River.

Fort Missoula, Mont.—Important changes in the sanitary conditions at this post were the installation of plumbing in the houses and barracks and the completion of a sewerage system for the removal of excreta and kitchen wastes.

Fort Snelling, Minn.—The general sanitary condition of the post has been good and no important changes have been made or recommended.

Fort Yellowstone, Wyo.—The sanitary condition of this post in general has been excellent and no important changes have occurred during the year. There are no closets for servants in any of the quarters at this post; the use of the closets in rear of the quarters is therefore absolutely necessary for the present.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

Fort Apache, Ariz.—Much complaint of the quality of the water supply at this post has been made during the entire year and a prevalence of diarrhea has been quite constant. A surface system of drainage had been in use previous to 1904, by which sewage was carried a short distance from the buildings and discharged on the surface of the ground, a very unsatisfactory and dangerous method. During the year 1904 a very complete modern system of underground sewers has been completed and is in satisfactory operation; the discharge is in a canyon some distance from the post and the location is considered satisfactory and safe. It is understood that a complete plan for a new water supply for the post has been elaborated and is now in the hands of the authorities in Washington. This water is to be brought from a spring about 3 miles from the post by gravity to a proposed new reservoir. The location of the spring is such that it can be entirely protected from contamination by Indian camps or otherwise, and the quantity is said to be amply sufficient for all present and prospective wants without using water from the present suspicious source of supply. Six Forbes sterilizers have been supplied for the use of the post during the year.

Attention is invited to the new sewer system as being a highly important sanitary improvement during the year. All water consumed at the post is ordered to be boiled, but the supply from the present source is so small and dangerous in character that the new source of supply alluded to should be thoroughly investigated and developed if this post is to be kept up. It is understood that at present the plan has been disapproved, owing to the prospective decrease in the size of the garrison.

Fort Douglas, Utah.—The improvements during the year have consisted in the building of new quarters and other buildings of stone to replace the old ones of wood, in pursuance of a definite plan adopted by the military authorities to gradually rebuild the post, making it one of the finest in the United States and of a capacity to accommodate a full regiment of infantry. The old crowded and insanitary wooden buildings will be done away with entirely as soon as the new stone buildings are completed to take their places, and eventually this post will be one of the most satisfactory and desirable in the United States.

Fort Du Chesne, Utah.—Tonsillitis was reported as arising from foul air and lack of ventilation in barracks, which condition was amended by the authorities. The post has recently been supplied with a new system of underground sewers constructed of 6 and 8 inch vitrified sewer pipe, with proper manholes and self-flushing attachments at frequent intervals. Ten buildings are attached and others will be in the future.

Fort Grant, Ariz.—This post has been practically abandoned for the past two years, it now being considered a substation of Fort Huachuca, and is garrisoned by one troop of cavalry from that post, which is supposed to be changed frequently. The cause of the abandonment of this post is the gradual exhaustion of the water supply, which has been going on for the past ten years. If no attempt is made to obtain underground water for this post, it is believed that it should be totally abandoned and the small garrison of one troop of cavalry removed.

Fort Huachuca, Ariz.—This post has been for many years considered one of the most salubrious in the department, but during the last year has shown a remarkable number of cases on sick report diagnosed as "diarrhea acute." These cases are found in the cold as well as the hot months. It is difficult to understand what is the cause of this disease. The water supply is derived from flowing driven wells and springs on the reservation, which are so located as to be free of contamination from human habitation or other sources, and which has been habitually considered and reported as good in quality. The continuance of the disease during cold weather after the fruit season would seem to eliminate this cause and leaves the actual origin a matter of uncertainty.

al filter for this
Quartermaster's
pose of clearing
d of officers has
general recon-
insanitary con-

y were received
al., and recom-
ling 20,000 gal-
al and officers'
ly for domestic
racks occupied

d corrected by
formerly used
ty-second com-
ves of the uri-

McDowell, and
port was made
d in barracks

ange at Point
ners with their
ements for the
endation was
orless excava-
of San Fran-
approved and

ensive improve-
system is being
this will replace
tem of disposing

condition at this
The prevailing
ve been due to

g the year have
ing the first six
and influenza,
these in winter
rning soft coal,
t of repair, and

ted at this post
accommodations
oom, especially
the respiratory
wever, another
ergeant (first
lly relieved the

the post was the