N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

34900

1. PLACE OF DEATH
County Pulaski — Registration District No. 711 — File No. 10
Township Union — Primary Registration District No. 5940 — Registered No. 34
City ..... (No. ..... St. ..... Ward)

2. FULL NAME Rial M. Messersmith
(a) Residence. No. ..... St., ... Ward. .....
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and State)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 25 yrs. — mos. — ds. How long in U.S., if of foreign birth? — yrs. — mos. — ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX: Male
4. COLOR OR RACE: White
5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (write the word): Married

5A. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED HUSBAND OF (OR) WIFE OF Matilda Messersmith

6. DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH, DAY AND YEAR)

7. AGE: Years 87 — Months 9 — Days 28 — If LESS than 1 day, ... hrs. or ..... min.

8. OCCUPATION OF DECEASED
(a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work: Retired Farmer
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer): —
(c) Name of employer: —

9. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN) (STATE OR COUNTRY): Missouri

PARENTS
10. NAME OF FATHER: Rufus Messersmith
11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (CITY OR TOWN) (STATE OR COUNTRY): Dont Know
12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER: Lina Edgmond
13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (CITY OR TOWN) (STATE OR COUNTRY): Dont Know

14. INFORMANT: J. L. Akley
(Address) Waynesville

15. FILED 12-15, 1920 M. T. Palms REGISTRAR

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, DAY AND YEAR) Nov 6th 1920

17. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from June 2, 1920, to Nov 6, 1920, that I last saw him alive on Nov 1, 1920, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 3 a. m.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH* WAS AS FOLLOWS:

184

23 [illegible]

(duration) ..... yrs. 4 mos. 21 ds.

CONTRIBUTORY (SECONDARY): Unknown

(duration) ..... yrs. ..... mos. ..... ds.

18. WHERE WAS DISEASE CONTRACTED IF NOT AT PLACE OF DEATH? Place of Death
DID AN OPERATION PRECEDE DEATH? No DATE OF —
WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? No
WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? Physical Diagnosis
(Signed) N. J. Hill, M. D
11/6, 1920 (Address) Crocker Mo

*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL. (See reverse side for additional space.)

19. PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL: Messersmith Cemetery — DATE OF BURIAL: Nov 7 1920

20. UNDERTAKER: Ina Riddle — ADDRESS: Dixon Mo

Revised United States Standard Certificate of Death

[Approved by U. S. Census and American Public Health Association.]

Statement of Occupation.—Precise statement of occupation is very important, so that the relative healthfulness of various pursuits can be known. The question applies to each and every person, irrespective of age. For many occupations a single word or term on the first line will be sufficient, e. g., *Farmer* or *Planter, Physician, Compositor, Architect, Locomotive engineer, Civil engineer, Stationary fireman*, etc. But in many cases, especially in industrial employments, it is necessary to know (*a*) the kind of work and also (*b*) the nature of the business or industry, and therefore an additional line is provided for the latter statement; it should be used only when needed. As examples: (*a*) *Spinner*, (*b*) *Cotton mill;* (*a*) *Salesman*, (*b*) *Gracery;* (*a*) *Foreman*, (*b*) *Automobile factory.* The material worked on may form part of the second statement. Never return "Laborer," "Foreman," "Manager," "Dealer," etc., without more precise specification, as *Day laborer, Farm laborer, Laborer—Coal mine*, etc. Women at home, who are engaged in the duties of the household only (not paid *Housekeepers* who receive a definite salary), may be entered as *Housewife, Housework* or *At home*, and children, not gainfully employed, as *At school* or *At home.* Care should be taken to report specifically the occupations of persons engaged in domestic service for wages, as *Servant; Cook, Housemaid*, etc. If the occupation has been changed or given up on account of the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, state occupation at beginning of illness. If retired from business, that fact may be indicated thus: *Farmer (retired, 6 yrs.)* For persons who have no occupation whatever, write *None.*

Statement of cause of Death.—Name, first, the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH (the primary affection with respect to time and causation), using always the same accepted term for the same disease. Examples: *Cerebrospinal fever* (the only definite synonym is "Epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis"); *Diphtheria* (avoid use of "Croup"); *Typhoid fever* (never report "Typhoid pneumonia"); *Lobar pneumonia; Bronchopneumonia* ("Pneumonia," unqualified, is indefinite); *Tuberculosis of lungs, meninges, peritoneum*, etc., *Carcinoma, Sarcoma*, etc., of ..... (name origin; "Cancer" is less definite; avoid use of "Tumor" for malignant neoplasms); *Measles; Whooping cough; Chronic valvular heart disease; Chronic interstitial nephritis*, etc. The contributory (secondary or intercurrent) affection need not be stated unless important. Example: *Measles* (disease causing death), *29 ds.; Bronchopneumonia* (secondary), *10 ds.* Never report mere symptoms or terminal conditions, such as "Asthenia," "Anemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.), "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Hemorrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uremia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from childbirth or miscarriage, as "PUERPERAL *septicemia*," "PUERPERAL *peritonitis*," etc. State cause for which surgical operation was undertaken. For VIOLENT DEATHS state MEANS OF INJURY and qualify as ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL, or as *probably* such, if impossible to determine definitely. Examples: *Accidental drowning; struck by railway train—accident; Revolver wound of head—homicide; Poisoned by carbolic acid—probably suicide.* The nature of the injury, as fracture of skull, and consequences (e. g., *sepsis, tetanus*) may be stated under the head of "Contributory." (Recommendations on statement of cause of death approved by Committee on Nomenclature of the American Medical Association.)

NOTE.—Individual offices may add to above list of undesirable terms and refuse to accept certificates containing them. Thus the form in use in New York City states: "Certificates will be returned for additional information which give any of the following diseases, without explanation, as the sole cause of death: Abortion, cellulitis, childbirth, convulsions, hemorrhage, gangrene, gastritis, erysipelas, meningitis; miscarriage, necrosis, peritonitis, phlebitis, pyemia, septicemia, tetanus." But general adoption of the minimum list suggested will work vast improvement, and its scope can be extended at a later date.

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR FURTHER STATEMENTS BY PHYSICIAN.