

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1911.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 316, 26th May 1911.

Tuberculosis.

Recording letter from the Surgeon-General submitting report of the — Committee regarding the institution of an examination of teachers and pupils of schools for —.

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Recording letter from the Surgeon-General submitting report of the — Committee regarding the institution of an examination of teachers and pupils of schools for —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

I

G.O., No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Committee appointed to consider the question of establishing sanatoria for consumptives to consider whether it would be desirable to institute an examination for tuberculosis of pupils and teachers in schools.

II

Letter—from the Hon'ble Surgeon-General P. H. BENSON, M.B., V.H.S., I.M.S.,
Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—Madras, the 17th December 1910.
No.—100/753.

With reference to G.O., No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910, I have the honour to submit the accompanying report from the Tuberculosis Committee regarding the institution of an examination of pupils and teachers with a view to ascertaining whether they have tuberculosis.

2. I might say that if the scheme be approved, Medical officers examining all schools may be granted a fee as follows:—

District Medical and Sanitary Officers	RS.
Assistant Surgeons	15
	10

I may point out that under G.O., No. 876, Educational, dated 16th November 1891, fees are allowed for the inspection and grant of sanitary certificates to schools.

ENCLOSURE.

*Report of the Tuberculosis Committee on the question referred to in
G.O., No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910.*

With reference to G.O., No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910, regarding the medical examination of school boys and girls and school teachers with a view to ascertaining the prevalence of pulmonary tuberculosis amongst them and taking measures to prevent infection of those in health, we are of opinion that all school teachers should be certified to be free from pulmonary tubercle. There should be a medical examination at least once a year of all teachers and scholars (boys and girls) in high schools and in lower schools except the infant classes. Any teachers found suffering from pulmonary tubercle should not be allowed to teach until they are certified to be no longer a source of infection to others. Provision should be made for the separate accommodation in open sheds of boys and girls who are suffering from incipient pulmonary tubercle.

All hostels, boarding schools, etc., ought to be under regular medical supervision. No boy or girl should be admitted to such institutions without a medical certificate as to freedom from pulmonary tubercle. The Medical officer should carefully look into the diet provided as to quantity and quality and also carefully note the ventilation provided in the day schools and in sleeping apartments.

A regular register of the weight and height of the scholars with a note on their chest development should be kept.

(The Indian Medical Missionary Association has already strongly insisted on the necessity of having all mission boarding schools, etc., under regular medical supervision and of having every boy and girl medically examined before admission to school. At present very many mission boarding schools are under regular medical supervision.)

In the case of day schools the periodical medical examination of the school buildings, teachers and scholars may be carried out by the District Medical Officer aided by the Assistant Surgeon.

III

Endorsement No. 2514-1, Educational, dated 24th December 1910.

Referred to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks.

(By Order.)

C. A. INNES,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

IV

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., F.R.H.S., Acting Director of
Public Instruction, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Dated—the 23rd February 1911.

No.—R.C. 8500 of 1910.

In returning herewith the report of the Tuberculosis Committee received with your endorsement No. 2514-1, dated 24th December 1910, I have the honour to state that I am of opinion that it would be clearly impracticable to enforce the medical examination of all schools, particularly if it involved the payment of a fee of Rs. 15 per annum per school and the segregation of tuberculous pupils. Failing such a universal examination of teachers and pupils, it is for consideration whether it is worth while to institute a partial system for, e.g., Government schools. These are probably those in which it is least necessary.

2. I consider that a periodical medical inspection of hostels is desirable and not impracticable.

3. Almost all trained teachers must have been medically examined once as a condition of receiving a stipend; but this, of course, only slightly diminishes the probability of employment of tuberculous teachers. It might be possible to insist on every teacher on being newly entertained in a secondary school producing a medical certificate and so further to diminish the danger.

4. The only effectual way of dealing with the matter of school hygiene would seem to be the creation of a special staff of medical officers who should devote their whole time to inspection work.

5. I may also add that experience of similar action in England leads me to suppose that the institution of such an examination as is proposed would not be popular.

Order—No. 316, Educational, dated 26th May 1911.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.

„ Director of Public Instruction.

Copy to the Public Department with notes.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 316, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
26TH MAY 1911.

[SUBJECT.—*Proposals for the institution of an examination of pupils and teachers for ascertaining whether they have tuberculosis.*]

Previous paper :

G.O., No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910.

From the Surgeon-General, dated 17th December 1910, No. 100/753.

The proposals of the Tuberculosis Committee may, if submitted, be referred in the first instance to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks.

2. The draft is for approval.

T.K.—22-12-10.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—23-12-10.

C. A. INNES—23-12-10.

[Memorandum No. 2514-1, dated 24th December 1910.]

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 23rd February 1911, No. 8500.

At the conference of the South Indian Missionary Association held at Kodakanal in May 1910 a paper was read on "Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Mission schools and in the Christian community in South India." The attention of Government having been drawn to this paper, the Director of Public Instruction was requested in Memorandum No. 1219-1, Educational, dated 22nd June 1910, to state whether he considered the institution of an examination of pupils and teachers of schools for tuberculosis feasible or desirable and if he did, to report in detail—

Page 2 of G.O., No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910.

(1) in what manner he would propose to prescribe such an examination of the pupils and teachers in public and private schools ;

(2) how a rule to that effect, if made, was to be enforced ; and

(3) at what intervals such examination should be conducted.

2. At the suggestion of the Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Instruction requested that the question raised by Government of instituting an examination of pupils and teachers of schools for tuberculosis might be referred to the Committee which had been appointed to consider the question of establishing sanatoria for

consumptives. The question was accordingly referred to that committee in G.O. No. 514, Educational, dated 30th August 1910.

3. In their report, the committee express the opinion that all school teachers should be certified to be free from pulmonary tubercle, and in order to secure this, they make the following recommendations:—

(1) There should be a medical examination, at least once a year, of all teachers and scholars in high schools and in lower schools, except the infant classes;

(2) any teachers found to be suffering from pulmonary tubercle should not be allowed to teach until they are certified to be no longer a source of infection to others;

(3) provision should be made for the separate accommodation in open sheds of boys and girls who are suffering from incipient pulmonary tubercle;

(4) all hostels attached to boarding schools, etc., should be under regular medical supervision;

(5) no boy or girl should be admitted to boarding schools, etc., without a medical certificate as to freedom from pulmonary tubercle;

(6) in these institutions the medical officer should carefully look into the diet provided as to quantity and quality, and also carefully note the ventilation provided in the day schools and in sleeping apartments;

(7) a regular register of the weight and height of the scholars with a note on their chest development should be kept.

4. In forwarding the committee's report, the Surgeon-General states that if the committee's scheme is approved, medical officers examining all schools may be granted a fee as follows:—

Does this mean Rs. 15 per school or Rs. 15 per pupil? The latter would be exorbitant, the former in a school of say 400 pupils very small. The matter seems to want much more discussion?

M. H[AMMICK].

District Medical and Sanitary Officer	Rs.
Assistant-Surgeons	15
	10

5. The Director of Public Instruction, to whom the report of the committee was sent for remarks, states that the institution of an examination such as that proposed by the committee would not be popular. He considers that it would be clearly impracticable to enforce the medical examination of all schools, particularly if it involved the payment of a fee of Rs. 15 per annum per school and the segregation of tuberculous pupils. If a universal examination of teachers and pupils is not practicable, he questions whether it is worth while to institute a partial examination for Government schools, where such an examination is probably least necessary.

6. As regards boarding schools and hostels, the Director of Public Instruction considers that a periodical medical examination is desirable and not impracticable.

7. The Director, however, notes that at present almost all trained teachers must have been medically examined once as a condition of receiving a stipend but that this only slightly diminishes the probability of employment of tuberculous teachers. In order to further diminish the danger he considers that it might be possible to insist on every newly appointed teacher in a secondary school producing a medical certificate on appointment, but that the only effectual way of dealing with the matter of school hygiene would seem to be the creation of a special staff of medical officers who should devote their whole time to inspection work.

8. The institution of an examination of teachers and pupils in all schools for pulmonary tubercle, involving the payment of a fee of Rs. 15 for each school, would, as the Director of Public Instruction points out, be unpopular. If it does not involve the payment of any fees, managers of schools will not have much objection to subjecting their schools to the medical examination. If the managers are to pay no fees, the examination of schools for pulmonary tubercle should be made a part of

the duties of Government medical officers, or a separate staff should be appointed to carry out the examination. As regards boarding institutions, large institutions such as the Lawrence Asylum, Ootacamund, the Civil Orphan Asylum, Madras, and the Reformatory School, Chingleput, have each a medical officer attached to them and it may be made a part of the duties of these medical officers to examine the pupils and teachers of the institutions for pulmonary tuberculosis. There are however some hostels attached to schools and colleges, for example, the Victoria Students' hostel, the hostels attached to the Madras Christian College, to the Government Colleges at Kambakónam and Rajahmundry and the Teachers' College, Saidapet, to none of which a medical officer seems to be attached. In the case of all the hostels attached to Government institutions it may be possible to enforce a periodical examination of all the students for pulmonary tuberculosis; but it is not clear how such an examination can be enforced in hostels attached to other than Government institutions. There are in this Presidency 282 hostels and boarding houses connected with educational institutions, of which only 19 are under Government management—vide General table No. (8) on page 56 of Volume I of the Public Instruction report for 1909-1910.

T.K.—17-3-11.

First as regards pupils, article 16 of the Grant-in-aid Code which applies to all aided elementary schools provides that

Page 5 of the Code.

"Inspecting officers assembled in conference may also propose the reduction of the grant to a school by not more than 25 per cent. of the amount originally allotted, for defects in organization, discipline, instruction and accommodation, also on account of . . . the presence of

Page 7 of the Code.

"pupils unprotected from small-pox . . ."

Article 28 (ii) of the same Code which is applicable to aided secondary schools says that "in the case of institutions for boys and native christian girls, the manager shall not admit as a pupil any one who is not protected from small-pox by vaccination or otherwise".

2. The Educational rules also contain provision for guarding against the admission into recognized but unaided secondary and elementary schools of pupils unprotected from small-pox—vide Rules 12-A, 37-A, 85-A and 91-A of the Educational rules, Fifth edition. In the case of candidates for admission to the College of Engineering, and the training colleges and schools, a certificate of physical fitness is required and although

Pages 4, 8, 18 and 21 of the Educational rules.
Rule 40 of Engineering College rules.
Rule 114 (3) (a) of the Educational rules, page 31.

there is no special provision as regards tubercular diseases, the medical officer before whom the candidate appears for examination will not grant a certificate of physical fitness if the latter is suffering from tubercular diseases.

3. Provision may perhaps be inserted in the Grant-in-aid Code and the Educational rules, similar to those relating to protection from small-pox, regarding the admission of pupils suffering from tuberculosis. This will only prevent the admission of tuberculous pupils into schools; but it will still be necessary to conduct a periodical examination of the pupils in each school. This can probably be enforced by making it a condition of recognition and aid, that each school should have its pupils examined periodically for tuberculosis. The agency by which the examination is to be conducted and the question as to any and what fees should be paid is for consideration in the Public department.

4. As regards teachers, article 28 (i) of the Grant-in-aid Code lays down that

Page 7 of the Code.

"no teacher who is not protected from

"small-pox shall without the express and

"previous sanction of the Director be permanently employed in an aided institution." Perhaps a similar provision may be inserted laying down that no teacher who is not declared to be free from pulmonary tuberculosis by a competent medical authority should be employed in any recognized school and that teachers of such schools should be periodically examined for tuberculosis and the rule enforced by imposing the penalty of reduction or withdrawal of grants in case of non-compliance.

5. In the case of Government, board and municipal institutions, no teacher is employed without his producing a medical certificate. This will prevent the employment of any new teacher suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, but some arrangement will have to be made for the periodical examination of the teachers in these schools.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—18-3-11.

Honourable Member and His Excellency through the Public department.

The proposals of the committee do not seem to be practicable at all events for the present. Who is going to inspect all schools? The Surgeon-General seems to think no one below the rank of a District Medical and Sanitary Officer or an assistant surgeon, as he only suggests rates of pay for those officers. How can the District Medical and Sanitary Officer and the one or two assistant surgeons in a district inspect all the schools in a year? If, on the other hand, medical officers of lower rank were to carry out the inspection, way will be opened for all manner of corruption. Suppose the inspecting officer finds a teacher suffering from pulmonary disease; if the medical officer declares him infected, he will lose his post as a teacher for some time, if not altogether.

2. If again a rule is made that no pupil is to be admitted suffering from tuberculous disease, who is to enforce it? Tuberculous disease is not, I believe, very easy to detect. Any one can see whether a child has been vaccinated, but how can a schoolmaster tell whether a pupil applying for admittance has consumption?

Suppose again that a rule is made that all tuberculous pupils should be taught separately in an open shed. Is every school to have a tuberculous shed? Who is to look after the pupils in this shed?

Before proceeding to any such drastic measures which are sure to excite discontent and might even then probably not be effective, I think it would be necessary to take a census of the amount of tuberculosis at present in the schools. If Honourable Member thinks some such measures are necessary or that further enquiry should be made, an inspection might be made of all schools where there is a resident medical officer or of typical schools where there is a large number in the same place. Government would then have some idea of the extent and locality of the evil which they have to combat.

The Director of Public instruction's proposal that all boarding schools and hostels under public management may be inspected annually may be approved; but even here the result of the first inspection might be awaited before the rule is made absolute.

G. F. PADDISON—20-3-11.

To the Public department

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

This department may agree to the proposal that a preliminary inspection should at first be made of schools in selected localities. The inspection may perhaps be confined to schools situated at the head-quarters of districts and in stations where medical subordinates of the rank of assistant surgeon or civil apothecary are employed. A list of medical charges held by assistant surgeons or apothecaries is submitted—*vide* pages 6-9 of G.O., No. 404, Public, dated 30th May 1906.

2. As however pointed out above tuberculous disease is not very easy to detect and it is doubtful whether the proposed inspection will produce any useful results.

P.R.K.—25-3-11.

N.K.—30-3-11.

A census may, as suggested by the Educational department, be taken at all stations where there is an officer of the grade of District Medical and Sanitary Officer, or Civil Surgeon or Assistant Surgeon.

M. S. MASCARENHAS—30-3-11.

Public need not, I think, object to the proposal as to the agency by which the census if decided upon should be carried out. No question of fees will arise in connection with this preliminary census I think. Whether such a census will afford information of value beyond establishing the fact that tuberculosis is common in this country which I do not think has ever been disputed is doubtful. But it seems unnecessary at this stage to remark further in Public on this or on the practicability of the committee's proposals.

T. E. MOIR—30-3-11.

As there are some 25,000 scholastic institutions in the Presidency it would be quite impossible for one staff of District Medical and Sanitary Officers and assistant surgeons to examine each school annually.

2. For the examination of a school such officers are entitled to a fee and the rate proposed by the Surgeon-General is not excessive. I think the fee should be paid for the proposed experimental examination of schools. The work is the same as it would be if the full scheme were introduced.

H. A. STUART—2-4-11.

I have no objection to the payment of the fee for the preliminary census if that be decided on. It is for Educational principally to say whether such a census should be carried out, bearing in mind the contingency of its being found that tuberculosis is very widely distributed, and the problem of deciding what course should next be adopted.

I think the census is a reasonable suggestion, for we want trustworthy evidence as to the prevalence of tuberculosis in our scholastic institutions. There is no use adopting an ostrichlike attitude.

J. N. A[TKINSON]—6-4-11.

The case should now go to the Educational department.

H. A. STUART—6-4-11.

To the Educational department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Submitted to the Deputy Secretary.

T.K.—8-4-11.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—8-4-11.

G. F. PADDISON—10-4-11.

I am not in favour at present of making any special examination into this question as regards our schools. The measure will be extremely unpopular, and I believe such an examination in very many cases would be very superficial and faulty. Further when we have made the examination what are we going to do? It is very probable that the disease is much more common than we suppose; but if we find it so I do not see what measures we can take. We cannot turn the boys out of the school, and special classes for tuberculous children is an impossibility at present. We have no teachers for such classes and in most cases no places in which to hold them.

Luckily in most cases our schools are held in rooms well open to the air and the danger of infection in our schools is probably not half so great as the danger of infection in the homes from which the children come.

Any general examination of the kind proposed seems to me a vast undertaking; for which we have no proper staff and which can lead to no good result.

When we have our tuberculosis hospitals and wards scattered about the country we might find an examination of the kind proposed feasible and perhaps useful. At present I don't support the proposal. Of course if any medical missionary or any

No. 316, EDUCATIONAL, 26TH MAY 1911.

M. H[AMMICK]-18-4-11.

A. L[AWLEY]--18-5-11.

L. DAVIDSON-19-5-11.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

N.K.—19-5-11.

M. S. MASCARENHAS-20-5-11.

H. A. STUART--22-5-11.

J. N. A[TKINSON]—23-5-11.

To the Educational department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Print and record.

L. DAVIDSON—26-5-11.

A formal draft order is submitted.

S.K.—26-5-11.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—26-5-11.

M. S. MASCARENHAS--26-5-11.

[G.O., No. 316, Educational, dated 26th May 1911.]

” ” ” ” ” 191

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 2514, From the Surgeon-General, No. 100/2514, dated 17.12.1910

427, " " S.P.L. " 8570/10, " 23. 2. 1911.

” ” ” ” ” ” 191

ORDER.

No. 316, dated 26 5 1911

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Nov 26/57

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26.5.11

[Not to be placed on E. T.]

I

The Surgeon-General

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G.O., No. 316, dated 26-5-1901.

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reporting the institution for
examination with a view to

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ascertain whether they have

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Total	...	...	...	34	19

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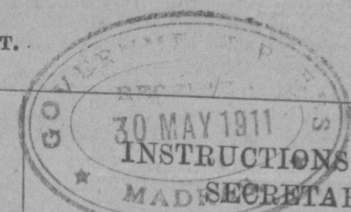
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