

*Rece (Spl) kept*

Seott. 11-48-22,303-17-1-18.

*Homa (1918) Department.*  
*Miscellaneous*

*Ordinary* SERIES.

G.O. No. *664*  
DATED *14-9-18*

INDEXED

*(45)*

[Despatch Abstract.]

Emigration - Malaya.

Recording correspondence between the Reverend C.F. Andrews and this Government regarding the improvement of estate hospitals and certain other suggestions for the benefit of the emigrants proceeding to Malaya.



PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. \_\_\_\_\_

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

| Number. | Date. | Original (= O )<br>or spare copy<br>(= S.C.). | Remarks.<br>(In this column such of the<br>papers as have been removed<br>for copying, printing,<br>etc., should be marked with<br>a cross.) | Initials of Referencer with date in<br>token of return to Reference<br>department |
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Home (Mis.) Dept.

(Cl 1635)

Memo. No. 1635-3 dated 25/7/18

p 21. notes

It has been brought to the notice of Government that the emigrant steamer "S.S. Euryalus" which started from Madras on the 11th February 1918 and reached Penang on the 21st February touching Negapatam on the 15th idem was greatly over-crowded. It is also reported that a <sup>a</sup> Tamil woman on board that steamer was confined on the open deck during the voyage. ~~With no facilities for segregation were provided.~~ <sup>no facilities for segregation were provided.</sup> ~~and that there was no space whatever to segregate her.~~ The Commr. of Police, Madras is requested to be so good as to ascertain and report whether it is a fact that insufficient accommodation is provided for coolies on such emigrant steamers to Malaya and that ~~incidents as the above are possible, thereby subject to much inconvenience.~~

7/2  
20.6.18.

Recd  
22.6.18

To <sup>26/6</sup>  
The Commr. of Police, Madras.  
,, D.M. Tanjore.

First reminder to issue on 23-7-18.



H. m. (ms) 10

3,000-20-12-17.

Mr 2036

C.F.-29.

DEPARTMENT.



Received 191 . Registered 13/7/ 1918.

Subject.

Submitting report on the accommodation provided for coolies on emigrant steamers to Malaya.

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| ENCLOSURES.       |     |
| No.               | Nil |
| Spare copies Nil. |     |

R.C. No. 406 / 18.

Station Madras, Dated the 11th July 1918.

From (Name) F. Armitage Esq.

(Designation) Commissioner of Police, Madras

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Cotacamund.

Sir,

p i ante

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 1635-3 dated 25th June 1918 Home (Miscellaneous), I have the honour to report that it has been ascertained from Messrs. Binny & Co. that the S.S. Euryalus which left Negapatam on the 15th June carried 2041 passengers. The vessel has been surveyed to carry 2339 passengers in the fair season and 1818 in the stormy season. A confinement took place on board on the 20th but the medical officer cannot remember whether it took place on the open deck or whether a canvas screen had first been put round the woman or whether she had been segregated. It is reported that the vessel has no hospital accommodation and that confinements occur every now and then on these



3  
emigrant ships and that, if the medical officer is notified in time, he has a canvas screen put round the woman, or has her segregated. If, however, delivery takes place before he is informed that the woman is in labour the screen is only put round her afterwards, or she is removed to a screened place below the deck.

I do not know what accommodation there is for segregation.

It is said that the "Euryalus" carries only one medical officer. I have not gone thoroughly into this matter as I feel that such an enquiry is beyond my province, but prima facie it would appear that the medical arrangements are very inadequate, and it is evident that a confinement on the open deck is not only a possible occurrence but does occur at times.

As to overcrowding, the vessel was not carrying her full complement of passengers. I do not know for certain ~~her full~~ how much deck space is allowed for each passenger but I am told that it is about eight feet.

To a layman it would appear that such a complement of passengers as is allowed for this vessel must involve serious overcrowding.

The matter is, however, of a technical nature and I would suggest that further information be sought from an officer with technical knowledge.

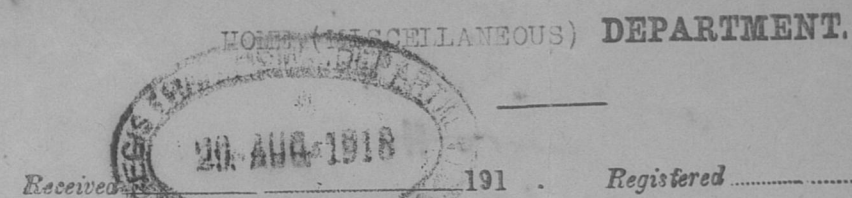
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

*M. S. S. S.*

Commissioner of Police.



Reporting about the insufficient accommodation in the steamer "EURYALUS".

|                    |
|--------------------|
| ENCLOSURES.        |
| No. _____          |
| _____              |
| _____              |
| Spare copies _____ |

D. Dis. No. 721/M. of 1918.

Station Tanjore, Dated the 17th August 1918

From (Name) R. Marayana Ayyar Esq., M.A., I.C.S., Bar-at-law,  
(Designation) District Magistrate, Tanjore.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,  
Home (Miscellaneous) Department,

OOTACAMUND

Sir,

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 1635-3, dated 25th June 1918, I have the honour to report that there were 2271 deck passengers shipped by the "S.S. Euryalus" on the 15th February 1918. The Deputy Port Conservator, Madras, states that the "S.S. Euryalus" is only certified to carry 1,818 adult passengers in her betwin decks during the fair season and 1,210 during the foul season. The Agent of the British India Steam Navigation Company at Negapatam says it is impossible that more passengers could be shipped than the ship is certified to carry. The Port Officer, Negapatam, states that the figure 2,271 is under her carrying capacity. The

discrepancy



discrepancy between the figures furnished by the Deputy Port Conservator, Madras, as the certified capacity and the actual number of passengers requires to be explained and the Presidency Port Officer might be called on to explain it.

2. As regards the confinement in the open deck the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Negapatam, inquired of the Agent of the Company who says that there is always a space partitioned off as hospital. It may be however that the woman was not near this place when she was confined. Tamil women of the cooly classes are sometimes confined at very short notice. No details are forthcoming as to the particular incident reported.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

*M. S. S. S. S.*  
District Magistrate.

9th Aug 1918.  
26/8

A.V.N./25-8-18.

DESTROYED

27 AUG 1918

27,577-25-1-18.



To

The District Magistrate,  
Tanjore

The undersigned ~~has the honour to invite~~  
is directed to invite

attention to the communication noted in the margin and to request that this reminder may be returned at once with information as to—

- (1) the stage at which the matter now is,
- (2) the date by which a reply may be expected and
- (3) the circumstances which have caused the delay

2. It is requested that the reply to this reminder may be sent not later than

*M. S. S. S. S.*  
26/8

Office Home Department

Station Cochin

Dated 26th August 1918

Signature,  
Under Secretary,  
Designation.

*W. S. S. S. S.*  
26/8

SUBJECT.

Insufficient accommodation  
for coolies on emigrant  
steamers proceeding to Malaya

Home Department.

Miscellaneous Branch.

REPLY.

*Encl. No. 1470 of 18*

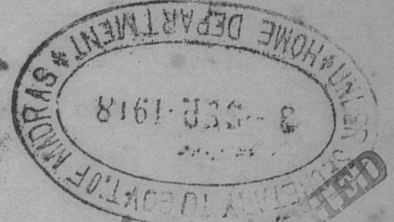
The Government

Home Department

(Misc) Branch.

The report was submitted in  
this office on 22/8/18  
despatched on 27.8.18

*W. S. S. S. S.*  
30/8/18  
For D. Magistrate



DESPATCHED  
31 AUG 1918



Previous page

Go. no. 471 Homeless) 8 30.5.18

148514 12.10.18

|      |   |   |          |
|------|---|---|----------|
| 461  | " | 8 | 28.5.18  |
| 323  | " | 8 | 29.3.18  |
| 1265 | " | 8 | 17.12.17 |
| 415  | " | 8 | 26.4.17  |
| 239  | " | 8 | 9.3.17   |
| 112  | " | 8 | 6.9.16   |



27.5.18  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
Madras,  
22nd May 1918.  
LOCAL MUNICIPAL DEPT.

My dear Marjoribanks,

I am to transfer to you  
for disposal the accompanying  
letter from Mr. C.F. Andrews.

Yours sincerely,

*Le Mohr*



N.E. Marjoribanks Esq., I.C.S.,

Secretary to Government,

Local & Municipal Dept

Stonehouse Hill.

Handwritten notes on left margin:  
Homeless  
3/3/57.5  
Yes. H.  
B.  
5/5

Handwritten notes on right margin:  
pp 2-5  
infra



150  
Bicht.  
May. 17. 1911

Dear Lord Pentland,

I submitted to Sir George Barnes a memorandum on Indian Hospitals in Malaya, which he is forwarding to your Government. I have had some very wide experience of Plantation Labour & I am convinced that the proposal, to have Central Government Hospitals in place of smaller estate hospitals, is a step in the wrong direction. The right direction lies in the improvement of the Estate Hospitals. This can be done by insisting on the Hospital Assistant being up to the grade of "Sub. Assistant Surgeon" and also by introducing from Madras

Not yet received



ing, as soon as possible, trained  
all women Nurses who may act as  
Midwives & stop the appalling infant  
mortality that now goes on. I spoke  
with the leading Planters about these  
two points & they were quite in accord  
with my views: but they were equally  
clear that the Tamil Coolies would not  
go, except in extremity, to central  
Hospitals many miles away, however  
well equipped: and here I fully agree  
with them.

I went very carefully into the con-  
ditions of Tamil labour in the F.M.S.  
comparing these with what I had seen in  
Natal & Fiji. You will be glad to  
hear that there really can be no com-  
parison, — the F.M.S. conditions are

so markedly better, — it is the  
difference between darkness & light!

All the same, as I pointed  
out to the Planters' Association,  
there are very grave dangers ahead unless  
they face clearly the sex problem & make  
conditions so much more domestic, that  
Tamil men will bring out their <sup>women</sup> ~~wives~~ of  
their own accord. The proportion of  
women is still as low as 30:100.

There are five ways of doing this:—

- (1) Much stricter regulation of the  
steamer passage over. [I have seen  
with my own eyes the present conditions,  
& gone, night & day, among them, on the smug-  
gling steamers, & no decent men will bring over  
his wife under these conditions. — On the S.S.  
Euryalus, Feb. 22. 1918, a woman was con-  
fined on the open deck, with men looking  
on, & there was no where any space to see.



- gregate has! ]

- (2) Medical attendance by women instead of men in the F.M.S. hospitals, - especially in child-birth.
- (3) Separate dwellings for married people, when desired, instead of barracks.
- (4) The reproduction of S. Indian village conditions as far as possible.
- (5) More adequate payment for women & children's labour in 'tapping'.

I have asked the leading Planters, that, just as they have so effectively reduced the death rate by anti-malarial measures, so they should now turn all their attention to the sex proportion & get that right also.

I find that the Telugus are more ready to bring out their families than the Tamils. This might be taken into consideration when giving permission for recruiting in new districts.

Pardon my writing direct to you, but I am very ignorant of Madras Presidency & felt that I might do so, & ask you, if you thought well, to pass this letter on to the Civil Servant who is responsible. Yours sincerely C. F. Andrews



For the U.S.

The recent G.O. regarding the provision of medical facilities on estates in the F.M.S. is in Madras Press. Its receipt may be awaited. Meanwhile an acknowledgment letter may issue. The following draft d.o. is submitted for approval.

D.O. No 1635-17 30.5.18

Dear Sir,  
I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your d.o. letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> instant addressed to H.E. The Governor regarding the Conditions of immigrants in Malaya and to state that your suggestions for <sup>improving</sup> improvement of their Conditions will receive the Consideration of Govt.

Yours faithfully

To  
The Rev A. C. F. Andrews  
Bolgund  
Bengal.

74  
29.5.18  
Fled  
29.5.18

Issue d.o.

But I don't see why the case need wait the other G.O. As far



as I remember the C.D. communicated  
the F.M.S. rates of pay & inducements  
to the S.C. for information & guidance  
& contained nothing of any  
importance. It has some bearing  
on A on the first page of  
Mr. Andrews letter sent out on  
his first suggestion, which can  
all be dealt with now.

30-5-17



For the U.S.

The suggestions made by Mr. Andrews are dealt with below:

2. Improvement of estate hospitals. Mr. Andrews states that the proposal to have central Govt. Hospitals in place of smaller estate hospitals is a step in the wrong direction, that the right direction lies in the improvement of estate hospitals, and that this can be done by insisting on the hospital assistant or 'dressers' being up to the grade of 'Sub Assistant Surgeon' and also by introducing from the Madras Presidency trained Tamil women nurses who may act as midwives. Submitted that the Govt. are not aware that there is any proposal to substitute smaller estate hospitals by central Govt. hospitals. On the recommendation of Messrs -- Marjoribanks and Marakkayar, the Govt. of the F.M.S. were asked in letter No.1565/16-5 Home (Mis.) dated the 6-4-17 to consider the desirability of introducing a scheme for the taking over of estate hospitals and dispensaries by the Govt., the cost being defrayed by a cess on the estates or their produce or their labour. The Colonial Govt. gave an -- assurance in para 5 of their letter No.4528/16 dated the 11th June 1917 that this suggestion would have their careful consideration. It is not known whether this scheme has matured and whether it has any bearing on the proposal alluded to above by Mr. Andrews. A communication may be expected from the Colonial Government if they have arrived at any decision as regards this scheme. Before addressing the Colonial Government, Mr. Andrews should perhaps be asked to state whether there is any foundation for his statement that there is a proposal to replace estate hospitals by Central Government

pp 2-3 anti

Paper IV, p 28 ~~1st~~  
G.O. 461 D  
28.5.18

G.O. 461 D  
p 3 of Paper

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



hospitals.

The question of the replacement of unqualified men by qualified men in estate hospitals has been the subject of correspondence with the Colonial Govt. since September 1916 and they have stated in para 5 of their letter No.4528/16, dated the 11-6-17 that an endeavour will be made to effect the change within two years as desired by this Government. This depends upon whether qualified men are available and <sup>whether</sup> it will be possible for the S.G. to spare qualified men from Madras.

As regards the introduction from Madras of trained Tamil women nurses to act as midwives in estate hospitals, it is submitted that the Colonial Govt. have themselves admitted that the supply of trained midwives in the F.M.S. is very limited. They have expressed the hope that it may be possible to obtain them from India. The whole correspondence is to be forwarded to the S.G. who, it is hoped, will take necessary action in the matter.

3. Mr. Andrews states that the proportion of women to men is still as low as 30 : 100 and that the conditions of emigration to Malaya should be made more domestic in order that Tamil men may bring out their wives of their own accord. With regard to this low proportion of women Messrs Marjoribanks and Marakkayar have stated that in spite of the low proportion there are no signs of any unwholesome moral conditions. Attention is in this connection invited to their remarks in para 53 of the report. One circumstance that accounts for the low proportion is that most of the single men that emigrate to the F.M.S. have no intention of remaining in the country for more than a year or two. However much this may account for the emigration

*This line says 'is' is  
affected by the war. we may  
see Mr. A. what has  
been done.  
Para 8, p 47 paper  
G.O. 461  
28-5-18  
D*

*Mr. Andrews may  
be told so.  
p 4 anti  
W.S.*

*Para 17 of the Confidential  
p 14 of Letter 239 (R)  
9.3.17*

*p 41-42 of the  
report*



*He may agree with him  
pp 4-5 ante*

*p 4 ante*

*pp 36 + 37 of the report*

*Para 4, paper  
W, p 78  
Letter no 112 (M)  
69.16*

emigration of single males unaccompanied by families, it may be hoped <sup>that</sup> by improving the conditions <sup>(as far as possible)</sup> in the manner suggested by Mr. Andrews the emigration of families would be encouraged. Mr. Andrews offers five suggestions for improving the conditions and these are examined below.

① 4. Much stricter regulation of steamer passage Mr. Andrews brings to notice a case in which a woman was confined in the open deck. It appears desirable that provision should be made in the steamer for the segregation of women in cases of confinement. At least a screen could have been put up in the case cited. For consideration whether the Govt. of the F.M.S. may be asked to ensure adequate provision made in steamers for such cases.

② 5. Medical attendance by women instead of men in hospitals - especially in child birth. With the gradual employment of <sup>qualified</sup> midwives in hospitals, it may be hoped that this reform will be carried out.

③ 6. Separate dwellings for married couples when desired instead of barracks. Please see paras 39 and 40 of Messrs Marjoribanks' and Marakkayar's report as regards the housing arrangements for labourers on estates in the F.M.S. Separate lines are already provided for labourers of different nationality or race. Please also see para 4 of letter No. 5521/1915 dated the 28-6-16 from the Colonial Govt. in which they stated that only in a few cases it was found that married couples were not provided with separate rooms. It will be too much to expect the provision of separate lines for married couples, when such lines exist for labourers of different nationality or race and when separate rooms are provided for married couples.

④ 7. The reproduction of South Indian Villages



conditions as far as possible. Submitted that in the absence of any specific and practicable suggestions in this regard it is for consideration whether it is worth while making any recommendation on this point to the Colonial Government.

8. More adequate payment for women and children's labour in 'tapping'. Para 32 of Messrs Marjoribanks and Marakkayar's report gives an account of the wages paid for women and children for tapping. It will be seen that they vary from 25 cents to 30 cents a day for women and from 10 to 15 cents for children. The wages are not bad compared to those earned by men for ~~tapping~~ <sup>tapping</sup> which range from 25 cents to 35 or 45 cents. In Ceylon too a woman is paid only 30 cents. It does not appear that any interference is called for from this Govt. in the matter of wages.

p 34 of the report.

Para 36, p 11 of the report.

The 4.6.18.

S.

Under 8.6.18.

Mr Andrews suggestions:-

① Such cases must surely be very rare; and after all Steamship Companies dealing with the emigration traffic can hardly be supposed to run floating maternity hospitals. The ordinary woman would take the risk of such a thing happening en voyage. Are any inquiries necessary?

② This will come in time ③ may be suggested to the Colonial Govt.



④. I do think something a good deal better than the typical S. Indian village - especially from the sanitary & architectural points of view - but, he aimed at this.

⑤. The existing ways seem good enough.

1008

So far as the improvement of the medical personnel is concerned, to the extent of importation from S. India, we are ourselves in want & nothing can be done till the war is over.

The letter may be sent to the Govt. of the I. M. S. for disposal.

May Mr. Marjorbanks be consulted w.o. if he considers any other action on our part necessary so far as the emigrants are concerned?

May 12/6/18

H.M.

Office

There is a further letter from Mr. Andrews but not very new. Good to file

1008



14  
bound up with it & I may be able to  
help you. There is a very pretty quarrel  
going on between Dr Watson & his group  
of private Doctors on the one side  
vs the Planter support, and the  
Medical Department from which Dr  
Watson retired on the other. In any  
recommendations which you receive

from the Medical Department (or  
the Immigration Dept. depending on to  
you the Medical Dept. recommendations)  
you must always remember this factor.

As the <sup>one</sup> up. country proverb says:

"When great kings go to war the  
brass gets trodden under foot"

15  
The grass in this case represents the  
Jamil coolie shoe interests, quite  
inconspicuously, may be made secondary  
to the bias of the contending parties.

As an entirely impartial out-  
sider, common sense tells me from

what I have seen of colonial 'things' in  
S. Africa & in Fiji that certainly

as far as the Klang District is con-  
cerned, under Dr Watson, it would  
be for the best to let well alone  
& improve things on the basis of

small estate hospitals with a Hospital  
Assistant not below the qualifications  
of a Sub. Ass. Surgeon and a trained







to have the hospital right on the spot instead of 16 miles away. Planters ought use this motor cars for carrying the Coolies, but a Doctor can easily with a motor car superintend effectively 4 or 5 estate hospitals, and 9/10 the of the cases can be treated by the <sup>Tamil</sup> Hospital Surgeon.

But I feel that the "death rate" to "malaria" problem is now well on its way to solution. What is far the most pressing question is the "sex problem".

I feel also that the Indian Government should themselves enter a protest against the Chinese (purely male) im-

migration for estate purposes into Malaya. The sodomy which goes on is terrible - I have it on first hand authority, & any Tamil women who may be induced for hire to sell their persons are inevitably lost in the lowest kind of vice with the certainty of gonorrhoeal <sup>other</sup> infection. When I

was in South Africa Boers & English alike ~~mine were also~~ told me this thankfulness that the Chinese labour had stopped. Eye witnesses told me that they had seen of open unnatural vice & other forms of moral evil, including bestiality. I have seen in Fiji how very near the Tamil coolie is to his level when cut off from the sanctions of home. He has not, thank God, reached that state yet in Malaya! It is as different as light from darkness morally compared with Fiji.



20

but I am terribly afraid of this increasing Chinese  
(mostly male) immigration corrupting the Tamils  
who are often next door to them on the Estates, &  
I feel that the Malaya Government's hands  
would be strong toward if the Madras Govern-  
ment sent a strong minute of warning on the  
subject. They should at once also set before the  
Planters the urgency of the Sex ratio being raised in  
simple / natural ways. Enclosed are entries I made from the Inspector's  
notes on the "S. S. "Euryalus". I went daily 3  
or 4 times each day among the immigrants on  
the S.S. "Tara". The sanitary arrangements were  
filthy beyond description. No decent husband  
would dream of taking over his wife, unless compelled,  
under these conditions. Should there not be a house  
keeper on these boats, just as there are women  
Ticket Collectors on the Railways?

I trust you will pardon my writing you.  
Officially <sup>in this way</sup> it must be so difficult for you  
to obtain direct personal evidence & I wanted  
to give it.  
Yours very truly C. F. Andrews.

17

wealth & can easily afford it. How you can  
make the same high standard observed in  
the Native States is a harder question - but  
it might be possible to threaten such a  
State, for instance, as Johore, <sup>that</sup> if it did  
not keep its Tamil death rates down, it  
would lose its more coolies.

I do not know if you received the  
Memorandum on the Hospital question  
from the Planners Association.

if not you should certainly see them  
to get this side of the case. I would  
not for a moment hold that the Planners  
were doing all they could with their  
Estate Hospitals. Some are probably  
a travesty of the name "Hospital"  
but I am sure the system is right,



21



BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION CO. LTD.



S.S. TARA.

S.S. Envy ~~started~~ started from  
 Madras Feb. 11 1918, Negapatam  
 Feb. 15, reached ~~Madras~~ Penang  
 Feb. 21. 1918, with 2300 immigrants  
 - its full complement for fair  
 weather. There were 40 bullocks  
 on board taking up the room of  
 400 coolies. The steamer was  
 therefore pretty overcrowded.  
 On the voyage, a Tamil woman  
 gave birth to a child in  
 Hatch no I, <sup>among the other coolies</sup> and there was  
 no place ~~stateroom~~ stateroom to put her



2nd/  
She remained the whole time  
of the voyage during the journey  
over among the other passengers  
with no segregation stated.

---

Such births often take place  
on board - eg. there has  
been one birth on this present  
visit, but on the Tard  
there is a cabin used as  
a sick ward.



13-22

Not yet received

Dec 126

Not  
received  
with  
the



For the u. s

14

pp 13-22 ante

The further communication from Mr. Andrews has been added. Neither the statement from the Hon Sir George Barnes nor the memorandum of the Planters Association referred to in the communication has been received in this office. For orders whether <sup>a copy of</sup> the memorandum of the Planters Association may be called for from the Colonial Govt. The statement that Chinese immigrants are living next door to Tamils is not correct, for Messrs. Karjoribanks and Karakkayad have stated in their report that separate lines are provided for labourers of different nationality or race. The other points brought to notice in the second communication do not seem to call for any remarks at this stage.

Perhaps this is not meant to be taken quite literally  
p 20 ante

para 39, p 36  
of their report

13.6.18  
Recd  
13.6.18

S  
Impressed before circulate  
for H.M. as ordered on p 12 ante

L. S.  
14.6.18



Box 10  
enc 15-6-18  
Lep 19-6-18

Scott. II 7 (a) - 160,004 - 16-1-17.

## NOTES.

Page 24

In his second letter, Mr. Andrews draws attention to the importance of maintaining the sex ratio.

2. It is not enough if the sex equilibrium is maintained amongst the Tamil immigrants alone as provision has to be made for the Chinese amongst whom only males emigrate.

3 Mr. Andrews refers to his charge of want of accommodation in the immigrant steamers.

4. The letters may be forwarded to the J. M. S. with a request that the Colonial Govt will intimate to us in due course the action taken.

15/6/18

HM

I have approved - at pp 5 to 10 of suggestions for better reply to be given Mr. Andrews on certain points.

About want of accommodation for immigrant steamers the opinion of the Protector of Immigrants (?) may be obtained on Mr. Andrews statement - he may be asked whether there is a case for adding the Straits Port

16/6/18



on any form which who will be the steamers



For the w.s.

A draft l.o reply to Mr Andrews is submitted for approval. Police officers at Madras and Negapatam inspect emigrant steamers leaving for Malaya from these ports and reports may therefore be called from the Commissioners of Police, Madras and the D.M. of Tanjore as regards insufficient accommodation in the steamers. A draft memo is submitted for approval.

Fe

20.6.18.

Pder  
22.6.18

S.  
Mar issue?

May 25/18

Cf pp 2-37

G.O. 471 (N)  
30.5.18



Two drafts for issue

Pp 13-22  
note

p 21 42

G.O. 112 (M)  
6.9.16

Para 5, p 37  
G.O. 461 (D)  
28.5.18

26

(CL 1625)

Home (Mis.) Dept.

D.O. No. 1635-2/5/25/6/18

Dear Sir,

I am to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with your D.O. letter dated the 5-6-18, on the subject of immigration to Malaya. The statement said to have been presented by you to the Hon. Sir George Barnes on the hospital question has not been received by the local Govt. Nor are they aware of the existence of a proposal in Malaya to have central Govt. hospitals in place of smaller estate hospitals. The Governor in Council will be glad to know the authority for your statement in this respect before proceeding to deal with <sup>your suggestion on</sup> ~~the merits or demerits~~ of the proposal.

2. As regards the question of the replacement of unqualified men by qualified men in estate hospitals, you will be glad to learn that this matter engaged the ~~the~~ attention of the Govt. in 1916 and that as a result of negotiations with the Colonial Govt, <sup>that Govt</sup> ~~they~~ agreed in June 1917 to make an endeavour to effect the change in the course of two years. ~~It has to be admitted however that~~ progress in this direction depends upon how far qualified men are available and whether any assistance <sup>can</sup> ~~could~~ be given to the Colonial Govt. in procuring them from India. You are doubtless aware that since the outbreak of war great depletion has occurred in the ranks of medical men both in Malaya and India. With the return of normal times it may be hoped that the Colonial Govt. will



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3. Turning to the question of the employment of trained Tamil women nurses to act as midwives in estate hospitals, I am to state that the Colonial Govt. have to face a similar difficulty, the supply of qualified nurses being very limited in Malaya. They have however expressed a hope <sup>that this may be recruited</sup> ~~to obtain the necessary~~ ~~supply~~ from India. The recent correspondence on the subject between the local and the Colonial Govts. has been forwarded to the S.G., Madras, who, ~~it is hoped~~, will take necessary action in the matter.

para 8  
p 4890 461 (D)  
28.5.18

4.0461 (D)  
28.5.18

4. The Governor in Council agrees that the amelioration of the conditions of the immigrants as far as possible on the lines suggested by you may tend to encourage the emigration of families to Malaya.

Yours sincerely

20.6.18.  
H. F. S.  
22.6.18

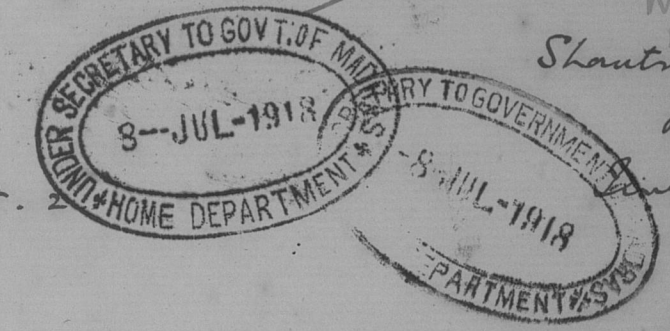
W. S.  
W. S.  
W. S.

To  
The Rev. Mr. C. F. Andrews  
Bolpur,  
Bengal.

1635

28

Shantiniketan  
Bolpur.  
June 20. 1918.



G. C. No. 1635.

Red 157  
J. H.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of June 26<sup>th</sup>. 1918.

I would venture to suggest that your Department communicated with Sir George Barnes. I saw him personally in Simla and he read through the Statement, <sup>which I had written,</sup> ~~I made~~, in my presence. He said that he could not enter into the subject in War time, but he would send it to the Madras Government & I thanked him for the promise.

There were two matters which were being discussed, when I was in Malaya, in Feb-March this year (1) the ~~proposal~~ to aim at getting Assistant Surgeons, & (2) to aim at Central hospitals, which would include many estates. The private doctors, working under the Rubber Companies, were against both these proposals. But they were strongly in favour of raising the standard required for a 'doctor', making it equivalent to that of "Sub-Assistant Surgeon". They also favoured a more thorough inspection of existing Hospitals, and better accommodation & equipment; & they were ready to spend money. I spoke to such typical men as Mr Zachariah of the Planters Assn at Kuala Lumpur.



and Mr Moriart <sup>29</sup> who is, I think, Vice President,  
d to Dr Watson who is, far and away, the ablest  
Doctor in the Peninsula ~~with regard~~ for Sanitation  
& Malaria Prevention. I also had very long talks  
with Mr Gillman of the Immigration Department  
in Penang (I think that was his name) To the best of my  
knowledge the two proposals came from the Malaya Government.  
I am very glad to learn that "Centralising of  
hospitals" has not yet become a definite proposal.

I think it would be a move in the wrong direction & I hope the Madras Government will not countenance it.

I am also strongly of the opinion that sub-  
assistant surgeons, or men equal to them in  
standing, are of most value in the Estate  
Hospitals. I should advise a certain number  
of those who have shown aptitude among the present  
messes being sent to Singapore for qualification.  
I can fully understand the shortage in Madras.

I would urge the same thing being done with  
a few superior women who have shown themselves  
good ordering midwives. They should get  
their training at Singapore & go back to the Estates.

But, if I might venture to urge it,  
from my own experience, I should suggest  
that the Government of Madras enter into  
immediate communication with the Malaya  
Government with regard to the sex question  
& the encouragement of families. I believe  
Government would find a



very ready response, not only from the Malayan Government, but also from the Companies who are now quite ready to spend money freely in order to obtain better conditions.

As the effects of sea disproportion in emigration of this kind are not yet fully known, I feel it may be best to state them, though the subject must naturally be one which is unpleasant to bring to light:—

[I would say, in parenthesis, that I gave, for my own experience, these facts, stated below, to Sir Reginald Craddock just after his visit to the Andamans & he corroborated them from what was happening there, also, on account of the shortage of women. I have also had them corroborated by one who had a far longer experience than I had in S. Africa. They are widely known in Fiji.]

(a) A tendency towards 'testuality'. I found distinct records of this under the indentive system in foreign lands where the ratio of women to men was successively low.

(b) The practice of unnatural vice. This was a terrible scourge among Chinese indentured coolies in the Transvaal where there were no women at all. It is very prevalent among the Chinese in Malaya.

(c) Cohabitation with little girls long before the age of puberty. As one of the

fact  
bull



31

31 (d) A state of morals bordering on promiscuity. This is the commonest sea prostitution, <sup>in fact i.e.</sup> the prostitution of most of the women. The Government of Fiji Report has these actual words as to the state of the 'lines'

"When one indentured Indian woman has  
to ~~serve~~ 'serve' these indentured men, as  
well as various outsiders ...."

(E) The incidence of syphilis, <sup>this</sup> becomes very heavy indeed; & anaemic & syphilitic children are born.

I went into the condition <sup>these same</sup> of <sup>a</sup> things in Malaya, with the greatest possible care, <sup>in immersion</sup> with those who could give me accurate information; and it is a very fresh relief to know that, up to the present, these things are not prevalent \* (though there are signs of them,) among Indians.

But I am afraid, from all that I have seen,  
~~that~~ there can be no doubt whatever, that, given  
this utterly unnatural & abnormal sex proportion  
(~~the~~ <sup>the women have</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup>, I believe, even yet reached 30%!)  
over another twenty years, <sup>then</sup> these same evils will  
spread like a plague in Malaya, as they have  
done in Fiji & elsewhere. I am enclosing a  
copy of the 15<sup>th</sup> section of my Report which  
will show in further detail what I mean.

I would see that the <sup>Madras</sup> Government  
Department take up this question thoroughly &  
take it all



32

and successfully the death-rate. I find, for instance, certain large estates in Malaya where the death rate was brought down in the space of two years by something equivalent to 200% per annum simply owing to Government pressure. I have seen one whole District made completely safe & healthy which was highly malarial before. Everywhere I found the Planters congratulating themselves on these results & quite ready to spend more money to improve things still further if they only knew how, and all this is most hopeful.

11  
Subject has a kind of history of malarial fever

But the sex question was almost a new subject to them. They had paid no attention to it. Yet I was much struck by the immediate keenness with which both they and the Department entered into its importance when it was once pointed out to them. I do not think there would be any serious opposition if the Madras Government insisted on certain elementary things being done.

I have already mentioned in this correspondence the kind of things which appear to me to be needed, and to be needed immediately. These <sup>subjects</sup> ~~things~~ were received with very careful attention by the Planters in Malaya and I had no objection raised to my suggestions. The underlying principle could be throughout not to rely on any artificial methods or regulation of sex proportion, but simply to make it natural and decent for men



to come over with their wives and families.

33/ Where Government can come in most effectively is in insisting that emigrant ships shall be decent; insisting that married quarters shall be always available; insisting that hospitals shall pay special regard to women; insisting on there being no contamination owing to the proximity <sup>of Tamils</sup> to Japanese & Chinese Labour under indenture; insisting on estates where the sex proportion is abnormally low (without any improvement over a long period) being brought to <sup>downed, & even punished,</sup> ~~look~~ <sup>just</sup> as estates were so ~~often~~ <sup>effectually</sup> brought to look about the abnormal death rates.

If the <sup>Rubber</sup> industry in Malaya were one in which women & children & elderly people could not find <sup>any</sup> light occupation, then it might be a difficulty to make the Companies come into line. But since <sup>the case is</sup> ~~it is~~ entirely otherwise, & women's work is exceptionally useful in rubber-tapping etc., there surely can be no excuse for the breaking up of families. The advantages of preventing this destruction of family life are not merely moral, they are also economical.

I wish to say one word in conclusion on the most difficult point of all for the Madras Government to face, a point which I have only touched on hitherto. — The Japanese

Whoever has been to the rubber estates in Malaya will find that the women are not only useful but also economical.



Any one  
 one  
 poor" would  
 it by now in the  
 provided out in the ... above  
 shipping affairs are all at sixes &  
 Sevens just now & we need not  
 harass the companies over this. Even  
 supposing the Euryalus was overcrowded,  
 it may only have been due to the  
 Circumstances of this one voyage - of  
 the carrying 40 bullocks. The  
 papers now be

Records ?

R. P. P.  
 12.9.8

after perusal by Hm

14m.

my  
 13/9/08

13 9 10

No 664 & 14-9-8 Reused

we  
 in end



34

Chinese labour is far lower in its sexual instinct than the Tamil. Especially in the matter of ~~sexual~~ unnatural vice, there is a grave possibility of the male Tamil population becoming infected and even habituated, & of this evil being brought back to the villages of India.

There seems, also, very little hope, unless the system of importing Chinese & Javanese is changed, that any improvement in morals is likely to take place - rather, the moral evil is bound to increase.

I think the question should be very seriously faced by the Madras Government whether they should not approach the Malayan Government

(1) To put an end altogether to the Javanese imported labour.

[It is very small now in number and it is under indictment & thoroughly unsatisfactory. I think there would be no very great objection to this.]

(2) To limit the area of Chinese labour so that it does not <sup>come</sup> in contact with the Tamils.

The Canton Chinese labourer is very low in morals, even at home, & here the workers on each estate live in one long barrack, & are all intermingled together with no one of the opposite sex at all.

If any questions were required to be asked by the Madras Government on any of the suggestions I have made, I could very gladly answer them. I feel that it is a comparatively new aspect of the immigration question which I have been dealing with & suggestions must be very tentative & experimental

Signed C. F. Andrews



Home (Mis.) Dept.

For the U.S.

Mr. Andrews suggests that the Hon'ble Sir George Barnes should be communicated with as regards the statement said to have been presented to him about the question of hospitals. It is for consideration whether this should be done.

2. Central hospitals.

For orders whether the Colonial Government should be asked what the proposals in respect of central hospitals are. Attention is invited in this connection to an article on estate hospitals in Malaya at pp.98-102 of the Indian Emigrant dated the February-March 1918. It would appear therefrom that the proposals for the taking over of estate hospitals by the Colonial Government have some bearing on the new scheme of central hospitals. It seems desirable to ask the Colonial Government for detailed information on this point.

3. Dressers employed now in estate hospitals to be sent to Singapore for qualification. This is a matter entirely for the consideration of the Colonial Government. If they thought that they would prove useful if trained at Singapore they would certainly have taken action. It is for consideration whether any suggestion on this point should be made to the Colonial Government.

4. Sex question and encouragement of families. Mr. Andrews suggests that the sex question should be taken up thoroughly. He himself states that unwholesome conditions of the nature that exist in Fiji are not prevalent in Malaya, but he apprehends that if the ratio continues to be so low as 30 women to 100 men evils will spread in Malaya.

It is for consideration whether his suggestions at p.33 ante of Mr. Andrews letter for encouraging

p 28 ante

pp 28-29 ante

Please inform us  
1/18/18

Subd below  
1/18/18

portion M p 29 ante

I hardly think we can  
interfere in a detail  
of this sort.  
portion K p 31 ante

p 31 ante



NOTES.

Page 36

the emigration of families may be forwarded to the Colonial Government for such action as is considered necessary. The views of Mr. Marjoribanks may perhaps be obtained U.O. before the Colonial Government are addressed. *Please see para 3 pp 7-10 ante.*

5. It does not appear that the Colonial Government will welcome the suggestion of Mr. Andrews that the Javanese imported labour should be put an end to. The only other suggestion is that the area of Chinese labour should be limited so that it does not come in contact with the Tamils. Mr. Marjoribanks may perhaps be asked U.O. whether it is desirable or practicable for the Colonial Government to adopt this suggestion.

6. As regards insufficient accommodation provided on steamers the report of the District Magistrate, Tanjore, is awaited.

*7th*  
*20.7.18* *S.*  
*I think we wd*  
*appear unduly officious if we*  
*tried to force these points on*  
*the F.M. S. Gov. I don't think*  
*the conditions of Tamil labourers*  
*in Malaya are made out to be*  
*sufficiently serious, even on Mr.*  
*Andrews own showing, to justify*  
*our making a representation*  
*to that Govt which wd. almost*  
*amount to an accusation of*  
*slavery or negligence. We*  
*can hardly ask them to ~~be~~ proceed*

*p 34 ante*

*bio*

*about*



Japanese or Chinese labour unless we show a much stronger array of resolute horrors than Mr Andrews produces. He apprehends rather than quotes these unfortunate results. Perhaps the best course w<sup>d</sup> be to review these papers just now & refer to their contents in our annual reviews.

Mr Majorbanks will know what the I. M. S. Govt's attitude was probably he & if thought necessary his opinion may be obtained w<sup>d</sup>.

8/28.

There are two main issues in this ~~book~~.

2. I Reduction in the number of estate hospitals. It was noticed that of the medical officers in charge of 171 hospitals only 8 were qualified & 163 unqualified. We pressed for the substitution of qualified medical men; also for taking the hospitals under Govt management. The result is that owing to want of funds and



Want of <sup>men</sup> funds the God of the 7ms are contemplating concentration of hospitals, necessarily involving reduction. Mr. Andrews says that this is a move in the wrong direction. The issue really is between hospitals badly equipped & badly manned but readily accessible versus hospitals better equipped & staffed but not accessible to all. The medical arrangements in our own plant districts are not perfect. At the present time the discussion is academic for want of medical men. I think that we may let the matter drop, watching meanwhile what the 7 M.S. does.

3 II The sex ratio about the Indian coolies. Here I think that Mr. Andrews is on surer ground. And knowing what has occurred elsewhere it will certainly be an act of caution not to permit this to get out of hand. In the case of Ceylon we have restricted (for other reasons) emigration to families. The rule is working without hitch. I would strongly advise



Page 46

5  
I think it is safe to suppose that  
arranging on transport ships were  
king of a Governor there, some  
other of the "masters of the  
house let us hear about  
Lep. Council  
Office







then mind of all sanitary, medical  
 questions & confidently leave it to  
 their medical expert to fight  
 out all such questions with the  
 authorities. For the system is  
 for men like Dr. Malcolm Watson  
 to run an estate, sanitary &  
 medical business on contract  
 so to speak, that is a big estate  
 when it is worth while. It may  
 be noted that under the Ceylon  
 system it is always open to an  
 estate to have its own hospital  
 or dispensary should it prefer  
 doing so: in such a case the  
 estate gets a rebate of the medical  
 charges proportionate to the efficiency  
 of the institution: it is uncertain.

Prima facie then seems  
 no doubt that the Ceylon system is the  
 better one: but general local  
 circumstances may be too strong  
 for the Govt authorities. I submit  
 the matter is one <sup>in</sup> which the  
 local Govt is in the best position  
 to judge of what is practicable.  
 They clearly favour Govt institutions  
 & are not likely to attach any value  
 to Mr Andrews views.

I agree  
 but  
 the Govt

I agree  
 but  
 the Govt



As regards the sex problem, the Chinaman is generally universally credited (or debited) with practising sodomy & bestiality. Everywhere in the South if one enquires about this unsavoury matter one will be told that the devil is in the Chinese life. Many people will never allow a duck to appear on their table owing to this idea, whether well founded or not I don't know. But there are most certainly no such ideas prevalent regarding the morality of the Indian labourer. Perhaps there may be no doubt but so far as my knowledge & experience goes a Tamil does not practise such vice ~~or~~ or take to them kindly. The west coast people is generally different & so also up country Muhammedans & the mill hands in Bombay & Calcutta. In India Mr. Andrew does not start with reforming them.

The Tamil goes to Malaya to earn money & return & not to settle. It is unhealthy & very much so notwithstanding all that is done to combat malaria. Surely the Tamil labourer is full right.

It is clear that we cannot force the pace in ~~improving~~ the matter ~~improving~~ the



has sampled + decides to like the place -

Mr Andrews would prohibit or restrict Chinese + Japanese labour so that the Indian might not be corrupted. I would contend that the corruption of the Chinese etc in this matter is not due to the accident of their being in Malaya but is habitual. As Mr Andrews himself says they are just as bad in Canton. Smiling the maplah is just as bad in Malabar. Mr Daniel Lalum is not going to change his sexual instincts because of

a Germanic superiority in the Straits. If we are going to object to Chinese being employed, we must not object to the place, no objection to Chinese in Malaya. I am not a 2 even so, the Straits. I could have seen that out of 20 2. The of the total. I state that from the whole of the labour in the Straits, the whole of the labour in the Straits is Chinese etc.

Wiley, same (his) / w.

Hm

Submitted  
14/8/18

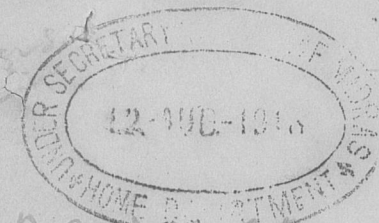
10.8

17/8/18

This is not a matter in which the Indian Govt. can intervene.  
10.8



25+  
1/2 27/1  
reput.



Cir. in L & M box 3  
14. 8. 18.



218 The suggestions of Mr. Andrews in regard to estate hospitals and the sex ratio of emigrants proceeding to D.M.S. have been held to be matters on which this Govt. need not take any action at present. The only other question in the file which has still to be considered is that relating to the want of accommodation on emigrant steamers. Please see H.M.'s note on page 24 ante in this connection. The Commr. of the Madras, has reported that a woman was confined ~~on the deck~~ <sup>in the open deck or not not known</sup> on the S.S. "Euryalus" ~~has stated by Mr. Andrews~~. The D.M. Tanjore has not yet replied to memo no. 1635-3 of 28.6.18. Subd. for orders whether his reply may be awaited. That there was over crowding <sup>in question</sup> on emigrant steamers seems to be pretty clear even from the Commr.'s report. But it is stated to be a layman's opinion.

p. 4 ante

p. 1 cf.

Reminded on 26.8.18

N. M. Tanjore

21.8.18

Pdd. 22.8.18



144 [24 34]

From the D<sup>t</sup> Master, Tanjore, No. 7210 17.8.18  
is

144-5 of

on 13 of

144 of

144 of

144 of

144 of

121 ante

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The report from the D<sup>t</sup> Master, Tanjore, lends support to the opinion of the Commissioner of Police that the ship in question was to some extent overcrowded. It is reported that the ship is certified to carry only 1818 deck passengers during the fair season and that as a matter of fact it carried 2041 deck passengers from the port of Madras which number increased to 2271 at Negapatam. The Commissioner's report that the vessel is surveyed to carry 2389 passengers <sup>in the fair season</sup> probably includes all passengers, deck passengers as well as ordinary passengers. On this subject of overcrowding there is the further allegation of Mr. Andrews that the ship carried 40 bullocks which are reported to have taken up the room of 400 coolies. All these considerations taken together force one to the ~~conclusion~~ Conclusion that the accommodation for the Emigrants on the voyage in question was insufficient. The D<sup>t</sup> Master, Tanjore, suggests that the P.O. may be asked to explain <sup>passengers</sup> how the vessel happened to carry in excess of her certified capacity. It is subd.



that a further reference hardly seems necessary. Owing to the war and the shortage of tonnage as a result of it, the conditions prevailing as to shipping facilities could not perhaps help being unsatisfactory; nor is it safe to generalize from particular instances. So far the Govt do not appear to have received complaints as to overcrowding on emigrant ships. It is for consideration whether the matter should be pursued further.

2. As to the allegation of the Confinement of a Cooly woman on the open deck, it is noticed from the reports, <sup>(practically)</sup> that while the fact of confinement is admitted, whether it was in the open deck, or in a screened place, or in a segregated place is not clearly established. The reports however tend to show that such confinements are not unusual amongst Cooly women. <sup>It is reported that there is no</sup> ~~The~~ provision for separate hospital accommodation and that it is usual to partition off a space for such emergencies. This is perhaps all that could be done.

hvj  
7-9-18  
Hdd  
11.9.18



163 ~~214~~  
87

DATED

RENT No.

to C. No.

GOVERNMENT

WITH LITTO.

ED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH

Copy in full.

ot to be copied.

Copy abstract only.

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