

al & Munl. (1895) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 2040 L.

DATED 25 Oct 1895.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Inspection Notes.

Communicating to the Taluk Board, Coimbatore, and the
Municipal Council, Coonoor, for attention, --- of the Sanitary
Commissioner on the Mettupalayam Union, Coimbatore district.

Local Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 2888
Local & Municipal DEPARTMENT.

From
S. G. King
SURGEON LIEUT. COL. J. A. LAING,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To
THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Local & Municipal

No. 1730
8

Dated 30
Despatched 5th October 1895.
Received 7 OCT. 95

ENCLOSURES. /

Subject.

Forwards Inspection Notes of the
Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, on
Mettupalaiyam Union Coimbatore
Dist.

Supp 20 Nov 95
25/10/95

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15/11/95

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P.S.

Order

Communicated to the
Taluk
District Board, Coimbatore,
and the Municipal Council Coonoor,
for attention.

14/10

Note for the District Board

The current draft order
will be put in type after the letter
is passed by the District Board.
Is it necessary to draw the attention
of the Coonoor Municipality to the
fact that the Sanitary Commissioner
has referred the plan for the opinion of the Sanitary Board?

To
The President, District Board,
Coimbatore
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Coonoor
" Collector of Coimbatore
" Sanitary Commissioner
Editor's Table.

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No. 2040
L., LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL, 25
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

No. 1730-S.

INSPECTION NOTES of the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras.
COIMBATORE DISTRICT.
METTUPALAIYAM UNION.

Inspected 27th August 1895.

Population as per census of 1891 8,832

This is a major union. It is of importance sanitarily, having regard to the fact that the route of troops and the general public to the Nilgiri Hills lies through it and there is a constant intercommunication by the trading public. If 55 per cent.—a liberal margin—be regarded as the percentage of deaths from cholera, the total number of cholera attacks that occurred during the last two years was 107 or 12.1 per mille upon the census population.

2. Conservancy.—(a) The conservancy staff and available appliances are as follows :—

15 Sweepers.	4 Toties to clean latrines.
5 Street toties.	5 Conservancy carts.

The provision is absolutely inadequate. The following staff and plant would be necessary :—

1 Sanitary Inspector.	6 Rubbish carts.
9 Sweepers.	13 Night soil carts.
35 Toties.	

(b) Certain new latrines were shown me. These are said to be on the "standard pattern." If so, the plan is not one approved by the Sanitary Board. The structure has been very badly executed and the design is so crude as to be wasteful. The taluk board would have been well advised, even if these did not cost the minimum of Rs. 200, to have referred the plan for the opinion of the Sanitary Board.

(c) The night-soil depôt is dangerously near the river and is within its catchment. Instead of trenches being employed, a pit five feet deep has been dug. Under such circumstances the desired change of the faecal matter would be very slow. This depôt should be removed from the vicinity of the river. The latrine, which is also close to it, should be covered to prevent washings from its surface reaching the river.

(d) There ought to be a good opportunity for this union to make poudrette profitably for the neighbouring planters. Directions for the carrying out of this process are enclosed.

(With order)

Im 20407

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(e) The conservancy of the following localities urgently requires improvement:—(1) A plot of ground to the west of the hospital is covered with prickly-pear interspersed with human excrement. (2) The Bandyptettah is not kept in a sufficiently cleanly state. The surface drainage at the side of this is much impeded by irregular cutting of the ground apparently for road material. This could easily be remedied. (3) The space between the rest-house and the town is also in a highly insanitary state. This, if not for other reasons, is undesirable with reference to the British troops, who are expected to stay there en route for the Hills. Indeed, the state of the town generally with respect to defecation showed me that practically no attention is paid by the police under the Towns Nuisances Act which is in force. (4) The Bandyptettah of Kali Goundan also requires urgent action. He has stored within his compound about 32,000 cubic feet of manure in the immediate proximity of dwellings. I understand various officials have desired him to remedy this evil state of affairs; but he has calmly continued to ignore either advice or threats. It is unreasonable that collection should be made in the neighbourhood of dwellings under any pretext, and I would advise that action be taken against him under section 268, Indian Penal Code, as section 101 of the Local Boards Act seems useless.

3. *Water-supply.*—(a) A well near Bandyptettah is much in use. Its parapet wall requires repairs; a platform and drain should be provided. It would be desirable to clean the well out thoroughly and then close it and provide a pump. A suitable pump would only cost about Rs. 52.

(b) The Bhōwani affords the chief supply of the town. It is a rapidly flowing stream at the part passing the town throughout the year. The whole of the drainage of this ill-conserved town passes, however, into it direct at the parts whence water is drawn. Persons bathe, take drinking-water and wash clothing at the same spots. The bank is also a great place of easement. The Chairman reports that steps to procure a special order for conserving the area has been applied for, so as to define the localities for these respective purposes. Such an order is most desirable; but so long as the town is undrained and badly conserved this fine stream of water cannot be otherwise than open to risk. Without indulging the hope that the district board could afford a complete water-scheme for this town, there should be no difficulty in arranging for a scheme that would at least secure that the water-supply is protected from obvious contamination. The cheapest method would probably be to run from a point above the bridge a stoneware, or preferably an iron, pipe either laid in a sufficiently deep trench in the bank or exposed in parts of its length on the bank, discharging into wells sunk within the bank protected by building shafts of a height that would guard against the rise of flood water from the river; these wells could be covered and supplied with pumps. If this were arranged along the whole length of the bank between the Ghât road and Coonoor railway bridges, sanitary requirements would be fairly subserved by a cheap measure. The Coonoor ghât stream enters the Bhōwani two miles above Méttupálaiyam. At Coonoor it receives the sewage of that town. Before reaching this, the water has doubtless great opportunities for purification; but in view of the fact that typhoid fever has been traced to infection of the Tees from a distance of twenty-two miles, the discharge of *untreated* sewage at Coonoor cannot be regarded as safe. It would be very desirable that the Coonoor Municipality be made to discharge its sewage after treatment on a sewage filter.

4. *Markets.*—Both the weekly market and the daily market are under the control of the taluk board. They are devoid of the slightest pretence to comfort of purchasers or sellers and of any attempt at sanitary arrangement; yet, the taluk board receives the sum of Rs. 440 from these sources. It would be but reasonable, beyond merely making a profit of this monopoly, the board should be prepared to spend a certain amount of the receipts for the sanitary comfort and convenience of the people. A plan for a cheap market can be obtained from the Sanitary Board.

5. *Burial-grounds.*—The graveyard of the London Church Mission is within a thickly-inhabited area. The site is unsuitable and another should be secured at an early date.

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5. *Burial-grounds.*—The graveyard of the London Church Mission is within a thickly-inhabited area. The site is unsuitable and another should be secured at an early date.

6. Vaccination.—Verification of the work of the Deputy Inspector was here conducted. Making allowance for the fact that much of the population is migratory, I believe he is conducting his work with care.

7. Registration.—The following table exhibits the result of registration :—

Years.	Births.	Deaths.	Rate per mille of population.	
			Births.	Deaths.
1894.	3	135	0.3	15.3
1895 up to September 1895	3	40	0.5	6.8

The above figures speak for themselves as to the untrustworthy manner in which registration is being carried on.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd October 1895.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgn.-Lieut.-Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

ENCLOSURES.

Poudrette—Manufacture of in Poona.

From the Secretary, City Municipality, Poona, to the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, dated Poona, 5th April 1894, No. 710.

With reference to your letter, No. 660-S., dated the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to enclose a memorandum of information required by you.

Method of Poudrette Manufacture.

Night-soil collected by the bhangies is carted away to a depôt about 4 miles to the south of the city. Here the filth is treated in open pans, 17 feet long, 12 feet broad and 1 foot in depth. These pans are constructed in rows of eleven pans each, there being twenty-one such rows. The pans are numbered in regular rotation, and 14 of them are used daily. On the first day, Nos. 1 to 14 are used, the next day Nos. 15 to 28, and so on. In this way the work is carried on systematically. Briefly described, the process of manufacture is as follows :—

The contents of four night-soil carts and three cart-loads of ashes are put into each pan. First, a layer of ashes is put down, the filth run over it and more ashes spread on the top. The mass is stirred daily by bhangies and more ashes mixed in until the poudrette is dry. The number of days taken up by this process varies according to the state of the weather. In fair weather the whole process is complete in from 8 to 10 days; during the monsoon it takes from 15 to 20 days. The poudrette is then taken out of the pit and heaped on one side for sale. One "heap" of this manure is made up of the contents of five pans.

From the above description it will be seen that the poudrette is manufactured by the "sun-drying process". During the monsoon the pans are covered with grass chappars to prevent any water getting into their contents. During this season of the year also all the night-soil is not treated in the pans, but half of it is buried into trenches and mixed with ordinary kutchra. These trenches are emptied after about six months, and the manurial properties and consequently the money value of the poudrette obtained from them are inferior to that obtained from the pans. The ashes that are used for mixing with the filth are obtained by burning kutchra. They act as a good deodorant, and during the monsoon their amount used is greater than that used in fair weather. Instead of three cart-loads of ashes we have to use five or six cart-loads of them for each pan during the rainy season.

2. The average time taken up by the contents of the pans to be fit for issue and be fairly odourless is eight days during fair weather. To be completely odourless the poudrette takes about a fortnight, and to be unrecognizable as a compost it takes nearly a month.

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3. In the year 1892-93 the cost of the establishment at the depôt was Rs. 14,097-5-5; and the amount realized by the sale of the poudrette in the same year was Rs. 46,103-8-0.

4. No objections were made by the ryots to use the manure at any time.

5. The price of the poudrette varies considerably with the demand. When the demand is great, each heap is sold for Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 on an average. If there is no demand, the heap goes for Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 at the most. A heap is equal to twenty cart-loads, so the price of one cart-load of poudrette varies from Rs. 1 to 3.

6. The demand has arisen mainly for "wet crops." Sugar-cane thrives best under the use of this manure. Bajree rice, wheat also, thrive well under the application of this manure.

7. It is said that mangoes, plantains, oranges and other fruits do not thrive under its use.

ORDER—No. 2040 L., Local and Municipal, dated 25th October 1895.

Communicated to the Taluk Board, Coimbatore, and the Municipal Council, Coonoor, for attention.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Taluk Board, Coimbatore,
through the President, District Board, Coimbatore.

" Chairman, Municipal Council, Coonoor.

" Collector of Coimbatore.

" Sanitary Commissioner.

Editors' Table.

Ballabhai Nilgiri S.

25/10/95

Sanitary Commissioner's Inspection
Notes of the Mettupalaiyam Union
Coimbatore District.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

No. 2040 L., 25TH OCTOBER 1895.

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LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

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COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

METTUPALAIYAM UNION.

Inspected 27th August 1895.

Population as per census of 1891 8,632

This is a major union. It is of importance sanitarily, having regard to the fact that the route of troops and the general public to the Nilgiri Hills lies through it and there is a constant intercommunication by the trading public. If 55 per cent.—a liberal margin—be regarded as the percentage of deaths from cholera, the total number of cholera attacks that occurred during the last two years was 107 or 12.1 per mille upon the census population.

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15 Sweepers.	4 Toties to clean latrines.
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The provision is absolutely inadequate. The following staff and plant would be necessary :—

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(b) Certain new latrines were shown me. These are said to be on the "standard pattern." If so, the plan is not one approved by the Sanitary Board. The structure has been very badly executed and the design is so crude as to be wasteful. The taluk board would have been well advised, even if these did not cost the minimum of Rs. 200, to have referred the plan for the opinion of the Sanitary Board.

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(d) There ought to be a good opportunity for this union to make poudrette profitably for the neighbouring planters. Directions for the carrying out of this process are enclosed.

Docket Approved

[with order within]

(e) The conservancy of the following localities urgently requires improvement:—(1) A plot of ground to the west of the hospital is covered with prickly-pear interspersed with human excrement. (2) The Bandypettah is not kept in a sufficiently cleanly state. The surface drainage at the side of this is much impeded by irregular cutting of the ground apparently for road material. This could easily be remedied. (3) The space between the rest-house and the town is also in a highly insanitary state. This, if not for other reasons, is undesirable with reference to the British troops, who are expected to stay there *en route* for the Hills. Indeed, the state of the town generally with respect to defecation showed me that practically no attention is paid by the police under the Towns Nuisances Act which is in force. (4) The Bandypett of Kali Goundan also requires urgent action. He has stored within his compound about 32,000 cubic feet of manure in the immediate proximity of dwellings. I understand various officials have desired him to remedy this evil state of affairs; but he has calmly continued to ignore either advice or threats. It is unreasonable that collection should be made in the neighbourhood of dwellings under any pretext, and I would advise that action be taken against him under section 268, Indian Penal Code, as section 101 of the Local Boards Act seems useless.

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Editors' Table.

Gobt. of {1895} Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., No. 2040 L., 25th October 1895.

OCTOBER.

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Communicating to the Taluk Board, Coimbatore,
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pálaiyam Union, Coimbatore district.

BACK PAGE, No.

OF 18

READ AGAIN ORL OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18 No.

FURTHER PAGE, No.

OF 18

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

2889 C/95

* already in type

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER, &C., OF GOVERNMENT—A. (already in type)

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