R

[L. & M. / 9,000-8-8-96.]

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1118 M

DATED 6th July 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Establishment.

Recording letter from the Sanitary Commissioner submitting certain correspondence regarding the employment of a special sanitary staff for cholera observation duty in the Salem Municipality.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

1748 M.

From

The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

No. 1218/S.

Dated 19th } June 1896.
Received 20th }

Enclosures 7.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for the information of Govt. certain correspondence regarding the prevalence of Cholera in the Salem Dist.

(With order)

Resubmitted to C.S. with ref. to Current No. sent up yesterday in which the San. Commr. reports that the staff has already been engaged. Submitted that this may be
Nos. 1748 & 1842 M.
Recorded G.O. No 1118 Municipal 6/7/96

WWD
2.7-96

Order :–

As it is not desirable that the ordinary Sanitary staff of the municipality should be drawn away for ~~cholera~~ cholera observation duty, the Chairman should immediately appoint the special ~~[illegible]~~ staff suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner.

For orders.

The rules have not yet actually come into force.

The question here is if it is now time to take precautions. The S. Commr. says that it is; the Coll. & Council think that it is not. When cholera once starts in Salem it is always a bad business – come it will to a certainty sooner or later. Dr. Kings

KR
25.6.96

Note from The observation staff will cost Salem (Rs 30 × 7 (circles)) + (Rs 58 × 2 divisions) = Rs (210 + 116) or Rs 326 a month. It is doubtful whether circumstances at present warrant this expenditure.

WWD
26.6-96

advice is my opinion sound and should be acted upon. Cholera may take some time working up or it may be imported from [illegible] – another bad place for cholera – in a few hours.
29/6/96

To
The Chairman, M.C. Salem.
Thro' the Collector
" Sanitary Commissioner

No. 1218/S

Camp Ootacamund
OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
~~Fort St. George~~, 19 June 1896.
Desp 20 "

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Local & Municipal Department

Enclosure. 57

SIR,

With reference to the prevalence of Cholera in the Salem District, I have the honor to forward the accompanying correspondence for the information of Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
W G King
Surgn Lt Col.
Sanitary Commissioner

gave the Chief official of the district and the Municipal Council of the Head Quarters timely warning of the necessity for adopting measures for the prevention of its introduction.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servant
Sd/ W. G. King M.B.
Surgn. Lt. Col.
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

True copy
W G King
Surgn. Lt Col.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

---

of immigrants take place before the disease becomes established in a town. For instance, in 1875 I had myself the pleasure of investigating an epidemic in Salem Town that was propagated by the arrival of a single man who contaminated a well. Granting then a single attack occurred, and that by a very common chain of circumstances a public water-supply be contaminated a very heavy sacrifice of life may occur. Both Vaniyambadi and Kallavi are on the line of rail. both are infected and I need not tell you that the chances of introduction from either of these places or Jalarpet+ is worthy of consideration. At any rate with the same tappal that brought your letter I found a report from the railway authorities stating that a death from Cholera had occurred in the railway station on the 11th instant the date of your letter. Supposing this patient had not exhibited extreme symptoms and been capable on arrival of walking,

would

+ Also infected. W.G.K.

would not Salem have undergone considerable risk of infection? At time of writing, you seem not to have been aware of this case. yet had an "observation staff" been employed as advised by me, it could not well have escaped notice.

4. My advice was offered not only in consideration of these simple facts but also holding in mind that Cholera is fast establishing a hold in neighbouring Districts, and that from your district 105 attacks have been reported from 1st to the 13th instant.

5. It may, however, be well to ask you to kindly remember that the Municipal Council of Salem was not asked to entertain the necessarily expensive preventive staff advised by the Committee during actual prevalence of the disease in the town, but simply that for "observation." The object of this staff is the quick gathering of intelligence of attacks, so as to effectually prevent the disease establishing itself by securing rapid and complete destruction of infective matter, before pollution

of

of water sources can occur—thus fulfilling the old adage "prevention is better than cure."

6. I may now explain, with reference to your first letter No. 547/M.R. dated 9th June 1896 that the fact that you are not yet authorized to compel Chairmen to adopt the system required in G.O. No. 1028 M. dated 26th June 1895, was the reason which prompted me to advise the Chairman direct, and send you a copy of my letter for your information and such action as you might think fit. At the same time, so far as I understand the intention of the Committee—of which I was a member—it is not desired whilst holding the Collector responsible locally, that the position of the Sanitary Commissioner as sanitary adviser to local authorities and to Government, should in any way be altered by the Rules suggested.

7. I am now in receipt of Resolution dated 11th June 1896 from the Municipal Council, Salem of which I presume a copy has been duly furnished to you, in

which

which they inform me that they have directed the ordinary staff of the Municipality to undertake the "duties of the observation staff in addition to their own." It of course does not require more than very average perception to ascertain that the Council is of opinion — with which, from the nature of your queries conveyed in your letter letter No. 575/M.R. dated 11th June 1896, I presume you coincide — that my advice to maintain an "observation staff" is precipitate and ill-considered. To this I can only say that to the best of my knowledge and belief the town of Salem is in danger of attack by Cholera, and that in the interests of human life, I consider in adopting the *laissez faire* policy indicated by the Council's Resolution, the Council incur a very heavy responsibility by failing to make efficient efforts to prevent loss of life.

8. The sequel may prove that Cholera may not establish itself in Salem, but if, unfortunately it does, I shall at least have the consolation of knowing that I gave

will however see that both in respect to distances and to incidence of attack, the actual facts considerably alter the nature of your enquiry.

3. It is desirable that in attempting to reply to your enquiry I should remind you that Cholera is not wind-borne but is chiefly transported from place to place by human beings. Consequently, you have before you the question as to what amount of traffic is likely to take place between the group of three villages situated 48 miles off and your Head Quarters, *plus* the seven mentioned by you at greater distances. With this, it is desirable that it be taken into calculation that the period of incubation of the disease is from a few hours to generally three days, whilst extreme cases have been reported up to 19 days. Consequently there would be no difficulty in a person starting in apparently good health from these villages and being attacked at Salem. Further, it is desirable to remember that it is not necessary that a multiple of attacks of

No. 1217/S

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Camp Ootacamund ~~Fort St. George~~, 17th June 1896.

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Collector of
Salem.

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honor, with reference to your letter No 575/M.R. dated 11th June 1896, to state that you are in error in regard to the proximity of cholera affected villages to Salem, unless it be your office has supplied me with incorrect reports. In the adjoining taluq of Uttankerai, Cholera prevails in Pudurpungani, Sunalampatti and Kallavi. Pudurpungani is within 48 miles of Salem; the remaining villages are immediately around Pudurpungani and within five miles radius of it.

2. You express doubt as to Cholera "imminently threatening" when within 84 miles of a central point of traffic of the character of the large town of Salem (population 67,710).

Ref No. 575/Mk.

Salem Collector's Office
11. 6. 96.

From,

C. H. Mounsey Esqr.
Collr & Dist: Magte of Salem.

To,

The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the copy of your letter No. 1123/S of the 9th June 1896 to the Municipal Chairman, Salem. As I understand the suggested rules given in G.O. dated 26th June 1895 No. 1028 M, it is when cholera imminently threatens a Municipality that the Collector has to warn the Chairman. From the returns I have, I do not see that cholera in this District is nearer Salem than at Vaniyambadi which is 84 miles from Salem. I quote the returns for the last seven days in the margin. I wish to ask if this is considered "imminently threatening." I fully agree with your last para and will do my best to see that "prevention" is carried out.

I have &c.
Sd/ C. H. Mounsey
Ag: Collector & Dist Magte

(True copy)

T. Balasundaram
Manager & Actt
to Sany Commissr.

Date	Villages in which the attacks took place.	attacks m	attacks f	Death m	Death f
31.5.96	Vaniembadi Fort.	1	1	.	1
1.6.96	Do do. Govindapuram. Girisamudram.	3	4	1	2
2.6.96	Jungalapuram.	1	.	1	.
3.6.96	Ambarpet Vaniembadi Fort	1	1	1	.

Date	Villages in which the attacks took place.	attacks m	attacks f	Death m	Death f	Remarks
5.6.96	Ambarpet. Vaniembadi Fort. Govindapuram Jungalapuram	2	3	1	2	All the villages in Col. 2 are at a distance of about 84 miles from Salem
8.6.96	Kaliapatti Alangayam. Govindapuram. Ambarpet, Girisamudram	8	4	1	3	
9.6.96	Ambarpet, Vaniembadi Fort Dassar-	3	.	2	.	

Salem Collector's Office.
9th June 1896.

Ref No. 547 / M.R.

From,

C. H. Mounsey Esqr.
Ag. Collector & Dist. Magistrate,
Salem.

To,

The Sanitary Commissioner,
for Madras, Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will let me know whether your letter No. 1066 dated 2d June 1896, addressed to the Municipal Chairman, Salem, a copy of which has been sent to me in your endorsement No. 1067 for my information, was intended for the Municipal Chairman, Vaniyambadi, where cholera is prevailing. The Chairman of the Salem Municipal Council writes to say that there is no cholera in Salem and that he is not aware why the letter referred to has been addressed to him.

I have &c.

Signature not [illegible]

for Ag. Dist Magtt.

(True copy)
T Balasundram
Manager & Asstt,
for Sanitary Commissioner.

Salem Municipal Office.

No 797 Dated 12th June 1896.

From,

M. R. Ry. A. Pushpanatha Pillai Avl. B.A.
Chairman, Municipal Council,
Salem.

To,

The Sanitary Commissioner,
for Madras.

Thro' The Collector of Salem.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 1123/S dated 9th June, I have the honor to inform you that your letter and connected papers were placed on the 11th Instant before a fully attended meeting consisting of 14 Members and a copy of the resolution of the Municipal Council is herewith forwarded for your information.

The Council has already sanctioned an allotment of Rs 300/- on account of cholera charges.

I have &c.

Sd/ A. Pushpanatha Pillai
12.6.96.
Chairman.

Forwarded.

Sd/ C. H. Mounsey Esq.

(True Copy)

T. Balasundram
Manager & asstt.
for Sany. Commissioner.

---

directed to attend to the duties of the observation staff in addition to their own, so that immediate action may be taken to check the spread of cholera in the town if it should occur.

(True extract)

Sd/ A. Pushpanatha Pillai
Chairman. 12.6.96.

(True Copy)

T. Balasundram
Manager & asstt
for Sany Commissr.

Extract from the Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Municipal Council of Salem held on the 11th June 1896.

Present.

Chairman -

M. R. R. A. Pushpanada Pillai Avl B.A.

Official Councillors

S. M. Woosmansahib Bahadur. B.A. B.L.
Surgn- Lt-Col A. M. Rodgers Harrison.

Non-Official Councillors.

Syed Kadersahib.
Revd. T. Foulkes.
Revd. M. Seegmuller.
M. R. R. N. Rajunatha Singh Avl.
" P. Soondaram " B.A.
" S. Ramasami Iyer " B.A. B.L.
" M. Venkatachellapathi Aya. avl.
A. Ahamed Sahib.
Muhammed Sahib.
M. R. R. K. Thammana Chettiar Avl.
" P. Soobramania Chettiar Avl.

× × ×

12. Read letter from the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, dated 9th June 1896. No $\frac{1123}{S}$ regarding the appointment of the observation Staff.

Resolved that the present staff of the Sanitary Inspectors, Prosecuting Inspector, and the Division Maistries be directed

2,000—6-2-96.

Epidemic urgent

No. 1123/5

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Fort St. George, 9th June 1896.

From

Surgeon Lieut.-Col. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

To

The Chairman,
Municipal Council,
Salem.

Enclosure.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 753 dated 5th June 1896, I have the honor to invite your attention to G.O. No 613 M, dated 12th May 1896, and to advise that if you do not consider yourself justified in sanctioning expenditure, you should call a meeting of the Council in regard to this point. I strongly advise in view of the proximity of cholera to your town that you should engage without delay the observation staff in full, as advised in the Rules accompanying G.O. No 1028 M, dated 26th June 1895. The Council will find "prevention" much cheaper and more humane than waiting till cholera is in their midst.

I have &c.
Sd/ W. G. King
Surgn-Lt-Col,
Sanitary Commissioner,

(True copy)
T Balasundram
Manager & asstt
for Sany Commr.

Salem Munl's office.

No. 753. Dated 5th June 1896.

From,

M. R. Ry. A. Pushpanatha Pillai Avl. B.A.,
Chairman, Municipal Council,
Salem.

To,

The Sanitary Commissioner,
for Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 1066/S dated 2nd Instant, I have the honor to inform you that the Government has not as yet passed final orders on the G. O. therein quoted. Under such circumstances, I am doubtful whether I will be justified in incurring any expenditure on account of the appointment of the observation staff therein referred to. At present there is no cholera at all in this Town.

I have &c.
Sd. A. Pushpanatha Pillai.
Chairman.

(True copy)

T. Balasundaram
Manager & Acctt,
for Sany Commissioner.

2,000—6-2-96.

Epidemic - urgent

No. 1066/S

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Fort St. George, 2d June 1896.

From

Surgeon Lieut.-Col. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

To

The
Chairman,
Municipal Council,
Salem.

Enclosure.

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 1028 M. dated 26th June 1895, I have the honor to advise that you at once appoint the necessary observation staff.

2. I would particularly advise your making special arrangements for prevention of contamination of the river by dhobies above the town.

I have &c.
Sd/ W. G. King
Surgn. Lt.-Col.
Sany. Commissioner.

(True copy)
T. Balasundram
Manager & Asstt.
for Sanitary Commr.

Local and Municipal Department.

Local & Municipal Dept.
From CURRENT No. 1842 M.

Surn.-Lt.-Col. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

To V.E.
~~The Chief Secretary~~
to Government
Local and Municipal

No. 1251/S

Dated 29th June 1896.
Despatched 29th June 1896.
Received 29 JUN. 96

Enclosures. Two.

Subject.

Forwards certain Correspondence with regard to the Prevalence of Cholera in Salem Municipality

[500—16-4-96.]

sA 29/6

29/6

No. 1251/S

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 29th June 1896.
Desp. 29 –

Local & Municipal Dept.
No.

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Local & Municipal Department,
Fort Saint George

Enclosure.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 1218 dated 19th June 1896, I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of letter from the Acting Collector of Salem, No. 3069, dated 22nd June 1896, and my reply thereto for the information of Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,
W G King
Surgeon Lieut Col
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

---

furnished to you with my endorsement No. 1124/S dated 9th June 1896) specially lays down that the Council shall hold a meeting within three days of notice.

3. I have since receipt of your letter No. 3069 dated 22nd June 1896 received a demand from the Municipal Council, Salem, for employment of a Special Sanitary Inspector, from which I argue that they have already abandoned their intention of making the present staff of Sanitary Inspectors, Prosecuting Inspector, and the Divisional Maistries to attend to the duties of the observation staff in addition to their own.

4. As I had before receipt of your letter No. 3069 dated 22nd June 1896, concluded that the attitude of the Salem Municipality was such as to demand that I should be relieved of responsibility as to subsequent history of a possible epidemic in that town, I forwarded the correspondence to Government on the 20th June 1896 for its information. I have to day, however sent a copy of your letter, and my response thereto showing that as soon as certain misapprehensions were removed, you have at once had the kindness to interest yourself in the matter.

I have etc.
(Sd) W. G. King
Surgeon Lieut Col.
Sanitary Commr.

(True Copy)
W G King
Surg. Lieut Col
Sanitary Commr for Madras

1842 M/96

2,000—6-2-96.

No. $\frac{1249}{S}$

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 29th June 1896.

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Collector of Salem.

Enclosure.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No 3069 dated 22nd June 1896, I have the honor to state that in view of the explanation afforded by you, I am now in a position to understand what I considered to have been an absence of support from you in this matter. In thanking you for your kind assurance that this is not the case, I have to express my regret that I should have misinterpreted your action.

2. I must, however, point out to you that possibly by some mistake in your office, you are in error in considering that you had not been informed "directly or indirectly" of the matter before the Council, as you were furnished with copies of both my letters to the Municipal Council, and your letter No $\frac{547}{M.R.}$ dated 9th June 1896 showed that the Chairman had referred the subject of my first letter to you. I may add that the terms of the G. O. referred to by me in my letter No. $\frac{1123}{S}$ dated 9.6.96 (furnished

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letter of yours - in a position to do so and I cannot regret that I raised the question and now have your great authority on the definite point of danger. In reference to the Cholera patient treated at Suramangalam on the 11th I was unaware of the case when I wrote - the man was a Malayali and was probably going to the west coast and the railway runs 3 miles from the Municipality. I may add that the resolution of the Council was passed when I was entirely ignorant of such a matter being before them and without any reference to me directly or indirectly.

I have &ca
(Sd) C. H. Mounsey
Acting Collector

(True Copy)

W G King
Surgn Lieut Col
Sanitary Commr for Madras

No 3069

Salem Collector's office
22d June 1896
Desp. 23d

From,

C. H. Mounsey Esq
Ag. Collector & District Magistrate of
Salem

To,

The Sanitary Commissioner for
Madras

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 1217/5 dated 17th instant, received on the 21st, I have the honor to express my regret that when writing my letter, No 575 M. H., dated 11th instant, the fact that cholera prevails in the Uttankarai Taluk escaped notice. I must, however, say that the through traffic between these villages and Salem is practically nil.

2 Referring to para 7 of your letter I certainly do not at all allow that your presumption that I considered your advice precipitate and ill-considered is correct. On the contrary I must cordially welcome it, as by having addressed you and got your reply I can with much more chance of effect use my influence with the Municipality to induce them to carry out your suggestion! I am now - thanks to this letter

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BACK PAPER, No. of 189

FURTHER PAPER, No. of 189

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
189 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—
A — Copy in full.
B — Not to be copied.
P — Copy abstract only.
Q — Copy heading only.

Copied by

Examined by

[7] INDEXED.

Miscellaneous.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPT.

G.O., DATED 6-7-96

No. 1118 M

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Establishment

Recording the letter from of the Sanitary Commissioner submitting certain Correspondence regarding the employment of a Special Sanitary Staff for Cholera observation duty in the Salem Municipality

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When given for copying 189
When copied
When examined
When signed

READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED 189 ,

CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO C. NO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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