L. & M.
—10-8-96.]

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1252 M

DATED 27th July 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Inspection Notes.

Recording, with remarks, Sanitary Commissioner's
------ on the Salem Municipality.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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G.O., DATED 27. 7. 96
No. 1252. M

First copy sent to Press. 27/7/96

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8/11 Copy returned

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Sanitary Commissioners
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Despatched 17/8/96

5

...hairman's Remarks.

...placed over the river to pre-
...ple from taking it from the

Inspection Notes.

Chairman's Remarks.

usual price and delivery of these is quoted below :—

—	Approximate number of gallons per hour at 30 strokes per minute.											
	100			180			320			440			550		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
(1) Price for 30 feet well	..			135	0	0	145	0	0	165	0	0	185	0	0
Extra per foot of depth	..			1	6	0	1	12	0	2	4	0	2	8	0
(2) Price for 30 feet well, but exclusive of delivery hose	60	0	0	65	0	0	70	0	0	78	0	0	85	0	0
Extra per foot, deeper	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	8	0	0	10	0	1	0	0
(3) Price for 30 feet well	155	0	0	165	0	0	185	0	0	195	0	0	220	0	0
Extra per foot, deeper	0	8	0	0	13	0	1	4	0	1	4	0	1	8	0
Extra for gearing	25	0	0	25	0	0	25	0	0	25	0	0	30	0	0

(*e*) A further source of considerable supply is the well of Kistna Doss. This is a private well, over which the owner has reserved certain rights. He would perform a most charitable act if he would place this in such order as to prevent its becoming contaminated with filth as at present. It is approached by a flight of steps. With but little alteration it should be possible to remove the steps and make a platform from which persons could draw water. This section of the town usually suffers heavily from cholera; hence this caution is desirable.

(*f*) The carrying out of the above suggestions would result in obtaining at least three well-protected sources of water-supply for the people, pending the execution of the suggested water-supply scheme. The river-water is absolutely untrustworthy. Irrespective of the sanitary survey, the Chemical Examiner has pronounced the water "bad" at the ghât near the bridge, where persons largely resort. Now, the river-water is largely used by dhobies above the town, and it need not be said that, in the presence of a cholera epidemic, it would be most dangerous to take water from this point. When Acting Zillah Surgeon here in 1876 during a cholera epidemic, I pressed upon the municipality the necessity for ceasing to permit dhobies to wash clothing above the town, as I had found that the inhabitants had sent their infected clothing to be washed by the dhobies there. Thereupon, a resolution was passed requiring from the Assistant Engineer a report as to means to enable the municipality to reserve the river entirely for drinking purposes. Since then District Sanitary Officers have come and gone and have religiously repeated the same suggestion, but the dhobies remain at their post to poison the people of Salem up to date. Even when the new water-supply scheme is brought to the town, this custom will prove a menace to the health of the town, as it will take many years to educate the masses out of the idea that the river water is safe. Of course, the river-water, in any case, must be regarded as unfit for drinking purposes, as it actually skirts the town seeing that it receives the sewage direct; but this is no reason why the portion above the town should be contaminated by dhobies. There are tanks in the neighbourhood that, even if the main body of water were not used, could be so arranged to supply a sufficient quantity of water for the purposes of dhobies. But, if this cannot be arranged, on introduction of the new supply "dhobie khanas" should be opened.

During the epidemic of cholera, people are prohibited from taking the river-water for any purpose whatever, and police guards are placed over the river to prevent the people from taking it from the river.

There is no sufficient supply of water at present for the introduction of dhobie khanas.

3. *Sewage removal.*—(*a*) This is necessarily, in the absence of a correct sewerage system, very indifferently conducted. The greater part of the sewage never leaves the town site. Pervious cesspools, badly-made and badly-proportioned drains leading with few exceptions to no definite outlet, are the sole representatives of efforts made up to date. In accordance with my advice on this point, I find that the Chairman has already forwarded to the Sanitary Board proposals for the better construction of the drains leading from the bazaar. Instead of dropping the untreated sewage into the river, as at present, it would be advisable to treat it upon properly-constructed sewage-filters which could easily be formed at this point.

An estimate for Rs. 1,082 for constructing a tiled drain in the Salem Bazaar street will shortly be submitted to the Sanitary Board for approval.

(*b*) At Karru street, the sewage simply soaks into the sides of the street. Cheap tile drains could be placed here, so as to run the sewage on to a plot of ground in the neighbourhood. On the principles involved in the disposal of sewage by temporary methods, I invite the attention of the council to the various modes mentioned in the accompanying circular on "Makeshifts as to sewage disposal in the absence of sewerage system."

4. *Conservancy*—(*a*) *Rubbish disposal.*—The municipality possesses a range of miniature mountains on one side of the town, due to the deposit for the last thirty

Inspection Notes.

years of rubbish, which has been practically undiminished by the removal effected by ryots. The area of ground covered is extensive, and this, of course, lies idle except in giving room for rubbish disposal. The municipality would do well to level this, and cultivate over it on their own account. Not only would they reap profit thereby, but they might induce the ryots to apply for the despised rubbish on the value of the crops produced on land of this character being demonstrated to them. There is a considerable amount of dry cultivable land in the immediate vicinity of the existing rubbish heap, and it would probably offer a solution of the difficulty if the municipality would purchase the adjoining fields and trench and crop them regularly. In the case of Salem, this would probably be a more profitable method than simple incineration, which is the only alternative in the absence of a demand from ryots.

Chairman's Remarks.

All the rubbish accumulated in the several depôts have been sold to a contractor for three years at Rs. 295 per annum.

(*b*) There are 295 dust-bins, of which 258 are of the movable, corrugated-iron pattern. The dust-bins are largely employed as mere marks for deposit of rubbish on the roads. In the more respectable streets, I would advise the introduction of the "separate receptacle system" for rubbish collection, which was duly explained to the Chairman.

(*c*) *Night-soil conservancy.*—The private latrines are of the same pattern as were probably used 100 years ago in Salem; that is, the excreta fall upon a pervious brick floor, whence it is removed by manual labour and parts either dribble, or are washed, into the drains. It is advisable that the floors be made impervious by plastering them with cement. On the floor should be a small receptacle containing dry-earth or ashes, into which the fœcal matter should be deposited, whilst the urine and washing should be led off by another route. Each latrine should have a correctly-formed door or screen that would prevent the contents being exposed to the public. The municipality should determine to adopt a certain standard pattern for private latrines, and under section 207 should require alterations in existing forms accordingly.

(*d*) Much more energy is required in the matter of private scavenging. Only 551 of a total of 1,195 houses are at present managed under this system.

The extension of the private scavenging system is already engaging the attention of the council.

Inspection Notes.

(*e*) There are only forty-nine latrines for an estimated population of 71,999. Seeing that only 551 private houses are worked under the private scavenging system, or, say, for the equivalent of 2,755 inhabitants, and that the latrines are in several instances small structures, the arrangements are quite inadequate. The municipality lately determined on my advice to make small latrines near houses; but I find that the pattern selected for this purpose is not suitable. When it is intended to place them near houses, they should be worked on a system that will effectually prevent them becoming a nuisance to surrounding dwellings. Thus, provision should be made for the *constant* attendance of a toty, who should be instructed to effect instant deodorization with dry-earth and removal of deposit. He should be provided with a comfortable hut for residence and a covered godown for the storage of dry-earth. It must be remembered that, however desirable the carting of dry-earth for purposes of conservancy is, it has been found in practice too expensive a system to adopt for the whole of a large town. But the importation of enough dry-earth to suit requirements of the whole of Salem is a different matter to merely transporting sufficient to provide for the special form of latrines near houses. This is clearly a necessity. The latrines adopted should provide for the complete separation of the urine and washings from the fœcal matter, and hence the form where both urine and fœcal matter are received into one bucket will not suit.

Chairman's Remarks.

(*f*) The following table shows the number of toties, latrines and night-soil carts employed, contrasted with what should be demanded if the total accumulation of 718·55 cubic feet of excreta, excluding urine, is to be removed from the town in two trips daily:—

—	Toties.	Latrines.	Night-soil carts.
Number now employed	56	49	15
Number that ought to be employed .	144	69	25

(*g*) I consider one of the most important duties the municipality has before it is the making of correct provision for the night-soil conservancy of the town.

Inspection Notes.

Without this endeavour faithfully and fully carried out, any further measures that may be taken in the way of drainage and water-supply will, in great part, be rendered abortive. I therefore hope that the council will not content itself with stating, in reply to this suggestion, that the "matter will receive the best attention of the council." I should like to know that the full requirements of the town have been carefully discussed and the question of latrines, staff, and means of transport for *each division* of the town has been carefully studied and brought into existence. A map of the town showing these details should be maintained in the office.

5. (*a*) *Salem Slaughter-house.*—There is only one thing to be said as to this place, namely, that it is absolutely unfit for its function, and that the municipality should with the least possible delay abandon it absolutely.

(*b*) *Ammapett.*—Here a new sheep slaughter-house is being erected. The Sanitary Board has lately issued certain modifications of the form advised for slaughter-houses, and the municipality would do well not to regard this new slaughter-house as complete till these are carried out. A plan can be obtained on application.

(*c*) The *cattle* slaughter-house requires alteration also with regard to the plans just mentioned. These modifications allow of arrangements for water-supply, and for the more cleanly and safe conduct of gutting.

6. *Markets.*— A Jubilee market has long been spoken of as about to be erected. A suitable site near the river was shown to me. The present market is a very poor structure and should be got rid of as quickly as possible. In the meantime, pending the building of the long-looked-for Jubilee market, it is essential, if the use of this be continued, that the floor of the butchers' stalls be cement-plastered as well as the walls up to at least five feet from the floor level, and that the platforms be provided with drains.

7. *Graveyards.*—The matter connected with graveyards has been dealt with in my report embodied in G.O., No. 1108 M., dated 13th July 1895.

8. *Vaccination.*—(*a*) Of sixteen cases examined haphazard on the streets, no less than four were found unprotected.

Chairman's Remarks.

Arrangements have been made for the construction of more latrines in the town.

This slaughter-house was built on the plan and estimate approved by the Sanitary Board.

Do. do. do.

This will be attended to.

Inspection Notes.

The following table shows the progress of vaccination during the last three years, as contrasted with the number of births :—

—	1893.	1894.	1895.
Number vaccinated	2,914	2,938	2,949
" " successfully	2,827	2,883	2,941
" " under one year of age	2,237	2,410	2,543
" verified by inspecting officer	896	1,159	849
Births	2,454	2,525	2,664

(*b*) The following table shows the result of compulsory infantile vaccination :—

Total births during preceding six months, *i.e.*, from 1st January up to 30th June 1895.	Number vaccinated successfully.	Number vaccinated unsuccessfully for the first time.	Number vaccinated a second time, because first operation proved unsuccessful.		Postponed on medical certificate at the end of six months.	Died.	Left the town.	Unaccounted for.	Ratio of successful vaccine operations to total births per cent.	Prosecutions for failure to accept vaccination during the year up to date.		
			Successful.	Unsuccessful.						Number of suits filed.	Number of cases disposed of by Magistrate.	Number of convictions.
1,301	817	..	..	..	79	220	165	5	62·8	191	179	..

(*c*) The shed in which the calves are placed during inoculation is not provided with a suitable flooring. Designs should be asked for from the Sanitary Board.

This depôt is maintained by the District Board, Salem.

9. *Registration.*—There are three registrars. Each maintains a separate register. It is desirable that the daily work of these men be exhibited compiled in one book. This would permit of easy reference in subsequent years.

Steps will be taken to maintain a consolidated register.

Years.	Ratio of births per mille of estimated population.	Ratio of deaths per mille of estimated population.	Percentage of deaths from						Ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age per mille to registered births in the preceding year.	Ratio of deaths of infants between one and five years of age to population of that age.
			Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Dysentery and Diarrhœa.	Injuries.	Other causes.		
1893	35·0	27·3	16·6	0·8	32·0	4·8	1·0	44·8	300·8	116·9
1894	35·5	23·2	7·5	0·2	35·2	4·0	0·4	52·7	215·6	94·6
1895	37·0	19·6	1·2	0·1	30·8	5·8	0·6	61·5	208·3	78·1

Death registration needs careful supervision.

This will be attended to.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th April* 1896.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgeon-Lt.-Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of a general meeting of the Municipal Council of Salem held on the 11th June 1896.

* * * * *

9. Read notes of inspection by the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the town of Salem, together with the remarks of the Chairman thereon.

Resolution.—The remarks of the Chairman are approved and may be submitted to Government.

ORDER—No. 1252 M., dated 27th July 1896.

Recorded, with the following remarks :—

(1) The action which the municipal council proposes to take on the suggestions of the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraphs 3 (*b*), 4 (*b*), (*c*) and (*e*), and 5 (*a*) of the inspection notes, has not been reported. This omission should be supplied without delay.

(2) Under section 156 (1) of the District Municipalities Act, the municipal council should call upon the owner of the well referred to in paragraph 2 (*e*) of the notes to carry out the improvements suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner.

(3) With reference to paragraph 2 (*f*), the council should take steps to prohibit dhobies from washing clothes in the river above the town.

(4) The delay of nearly five months in the submission of these notes by the Sanitary Commissioner is unsatisfactory and should have been explained.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary, P.W.D.,
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Salem. (with the plans)
„ Collector of Salem.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Sanitary Engineer.
Editors' Table.

Ed. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

D.S.

Proof for approval.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., No. 1252 M., 27th July 1896.

JULY.

Inspection Notes.

Recording, with remarks, Sanitary Commissioner's — on the Salem Municipality.

Mariadoss

1252 / 27

No. M., July 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper:—

From M.R.Ry. A. PUSHPANATHA PILLAI Avargal, B.A., Chairman, Municipal Council, Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 13th June 1896, No. 804.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the orders of Government, the inspection notes of the Sanitary Commissioner on the Salem Municipality, together with my remarks thereon.

2. A copy of the resolution of the council, passed with reference to the above at its meeting held on the 11th instant, is also submitted for the information of Government.

Enclosures.

Inspection Notes of the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras.

SALEM DISTRICT.

Salem Municipality.

Inspected 20th to 22nd November 1895.

Population as per census of 1891	Males ..	32,860
	Females ..	34,850
	Total ..	67,710

Inspection Notes.

Roads.—Certain of those newly made were in excellent order, and have evidently been made with care. The majority of the old roads, however, are in a very indifferent state. In a very considerable proportion of the town, roads do not exist.

2. *Water-supply.*—(*a*) Salem is one of the towns in this Presidency which has long been notorious for its evil conditions of water-supply. Endeavours are now being made to secure a sub-soil water scheme which was suggested by the late Acting Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Ellis. From examination of the surrounding country, I am of opinion that Mr. Ellis' scheme is

Chairman's Remarks.

Necessary provision has been made in the current year's budget for the repair of smaller streets and lanes.

feasible, if the sub-soil water be tapped in the area within which irrigation is conducted near the Namem mark at the Gurumulli hill, and, if the supply from this site be not sufficient, what with spring water and surface water finding a natural exit near the Kannimar temple, Salem ought to have a fair chance of a good water-supply. Luckily, the water from both of these places has secured the following excellent opinion from the Chemical Examiner:—

"Both waters are good and potable. Indeed it is very seldom that waters of this standard of purity are sent here for examination. The Namemalai well is better than the Kannimar spring."

This matter is now before the Sanitary Board, and as schemes are neither drawn up nor completed without considerable expenditure of time, it is not advisable that Salem in the meantime should neglect the care of such poor sources of water-supply as are available.

(*b*) Of fourteen sources of water-supply examined by the Chemical Examiner not one was pronounced wholesome—seven were classed as "usable," five as "bad" and two as "very bad"; so that Salem cannot be considered well off in respect to purity of its water, irrespective of the admitted scantiness of its supply. Hence, to make an effort to improve the sources of supply pending the introduction of the water scheme would seem but a prudent course. The following table shows that each time Salem has been attacked with cholera, it suffers severely. Protection of certain water-supplies at once, therefore, would probably result in the saving of many lives:—

Years.	Number of deaths from cholera.
1888	488
1889	463
1890	229
1891	428
1892	155
1893	318
1894	123
1895	17

(*c*) *Arsipollium tank*—is certainly one of the sources that thus demands care urgently. It yields a very considerable portion of the total drinking-water-supply of the town. Much more attention is requisite as to the cleanliness of its surroundings. Close to the tank runs the

overflow from an irrigation channel. On the banks of this, persons defœcate freely and evidently use the water for ablution. In this water, as a result of a curious perversion of sanitary precaution, those who draw water from the tank are in the habit of first washing their pots and their feet—thus securing fœcal contamination. The surroundings ought to be strictly conserved. The habit of walking into the water, and thus contaminating it with the filth of the feet and hands of several hundreds of people daily, can be best guarded against by arranging for elevation of the water to a cistern, and its delivery thence by pipes supplying taps in the immediate neighbourhood of the tank, as well as at the village of Arsipollium. Not only would this ensure the safety of the water-supply from gross contamination, but it would save the toil to which the women are subjected in carrying water from an unusual distance by road. In a test for five days, it was found that an average of 1,848 pots daily were drawn from this tank. This amount would be more than covered by 10,000 gallons per day. This is all probably drawn off during two hours in the morning and one hour in the evening; so that a cistern to contain one-third the amount required would probably suffice for requirements. A suitable elevated iron reservoir is in the possession of the Tanjore Municipality, for which they have at present no real use. The council might ascertain if the Tanjore Municipality is willing to part with it.

This will be attended to.

A Tangye's engine to accomplish this work would cost in England about £96. It is unlikely, therefore, the whole arrangement would exceed, say, Rs. 5,000. I consider this amount would be well spent in securing the protection of the water used for this part of the town.

As the investigation of the water-supply scheme is now in fast progress, I consider that this question may be postponed until the result of the investigation is known.

(*d*) *Ammapet Well.*—No drain is provided for the basement of this important well. This would be cheap, and is an essential addition. Here, also, it would be desirable to lift the water into an iron cistern by means of a hand-pump. The

This will be attended to.

usual price and delivery of these is quoted below :—

—	Approximate number of gallons per hour at 30 strokes per minute.				
	100	180	320	440	550
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
(1) Price for 30 feet well	..	135 0 0	145 0 0	165 0 0	185 0 0
Extra per foot of depth	..	1 6 0	1 12 0	2 4 0	2 8 0
(2) Price for 30 feet well, but exclusive of delivery hose	60 0 0	65 0 0	70 0 0	78 0 0	85 0 0
Extra per foot, deeper	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 8 0	0 10 0	1 0 0
(3) Price for 30 feet well	155 0 0	165 0 0	185 0 0	195 0 0	220 0 0
Extra per foot, deeper	0 8 0	0 13 0	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8 0
Extra for gearing	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	30 0 0

(*e*) A further source of considerable supply is the well of Kistna Doss. This is a private well, over which the owner has reserved certain rights. He would perform a most charitable act if he would place this in such order as to prevent its becoming contaminated with filth as at present. It is approached by a flight of steps. With but little alteration it should be possible to remove the steps and make a platform from which persons could draw water. This section of the town usually suffers heavily from cholera; hence this caution is desirable.

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Inspection Notes.

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Chairman's Remarks.

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There is no sufficient supply of water at present for the introduction of dhobie khanas.

3. *Sewage removal.*—(*a*) This is necessarily, in the absence of a correct sewerage system, very indifferently conducted. The greater part of the sewage never leaves the town site. Pervious cesspools, badly-made and badly-proportioned drains leading with few exceptions to no definite outlet, are the sole representatives of efforts made up to date. In accordance with my advice on this point, I find that the Chairman has already forwarded to the Sanitary Board proposals for the better construction of the drains leading from the bazaar. Instead of dropping the untreated sewage into the river, as at present, it would be advisable to treat it upon properly-constructed sewage-filters which could easily be formed at this point.

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4. *Conservancy*—(*a*) *Rubbish disposal.*—The municipality possesses a range of miniature mountains on one side of the town, due to the deposit for the last thirty years of rubbish, which has been practically undiminished by the removal effected by ryots. The area of ground covered is extensive, and this, of course, lies idle except in giving room for rubbish disposal. The municipality would do well to level this, and cultivate over it on their own account. Not only would they reap profit thereby, but they might induce the ryots to apply for the despised rubbish on the value of the crops produced on land of this character being demonstrated to them.

Inspection Notes.

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a

There is no sufficient supply of water at present for the introduction of dhobie khanas.

An estimate for Rs. 1,082 for constructing a tiled drain in the Salem Bazaar street will shortly be submitted to the Sanitary Board for approval.

Inspection Notes.

There is a considerable amount of dry cultivable land in the immediate vicinity of the existing rubbish heap, and it would probably offer a solution of the difficulty if the municipality would purchase the adjoining fields and trench and crop them regularly. In the case of Salem, this would probably be a more profitable method than simple incineration, which is the only alternative in the absence of a demand from ryots.

(*b*) There are 295 dust-bins, of which 258 are of the movable, corrugated-iron pattern. The dust-bins are largely employed as mere marks for deposit of rubbish on the roads. In the more respectable streets, I would advise the introduction of the "separate receptacle system" for rubbish collection, which was duly explained to the Chairman.

(*c*) *Night-soil conservancy.*—The private latrines are of the same pattern as were probably used 100 years ago in Salem; that is, the excreta fall upon a pervious brick floor, whence it is removed by manual labour and parts either dribble, or are washed, into the drains. It is advisable that the floors be made impervious by plastering them with cement. On the floor should be a small receptacle containing dry-earth or ashes, into which the fœcal matter should be deposited, whilst the urine and washing should be led off by another route. Each latrine should have a correctly-formed door or screen that would prevent the contents being exposed to the public. The municipality should determine to adopt a certain standard pattern for private latrines, and under section 207 should require alterations in existing forms accordingly.

(*d*) Much more energy is required in the matter of private scavenging. Only 551 of a total of 1,195 houses are at present managed under this system.

(*e*) There are only forty-nine latrines for an estimated population of 71,999. Seeing that only 551 private houses are worked under the private scavenging system, or, say, for the equivalent of 2,755 inhabitants, and that the latrines are in several instances small structures, the arrangements are quite inadequate. The municipality lately determined on my advice to make small latrines near houses; but I find that the pattern selected for this purpose is not suitable. When it is

Chairman's Remarks.

All the rubbish accumulated in the several depôts have been sold to a contractor for three years at Rs. 295 per annum.

The extension of the private scavenging system is already engaging the attention of the council.

intended to place them near houses, they should be worked on a system that will effectually prevent them becoming a nuisance to surrounding dwellings. Thus, provision should be made for the *constant* attendance of a toty, who should be instructed to effect instant deodorization with dry-earth and removal of deposit. He should be provided with a comfortable hut for residence and a covered godown for the storage of dry-earth. It must be remembered that, however desirable the carting of dry-earth for purposes of conservancy is, it has been found in practice too expensive a system to adopt for the whole of a large town. But the importation of enough dry-earth to suit requirements of the whole of Salem is a different matter to merely transporting sufficient to provide for the special form of latrines near houses. This is clearly a necessity. The latrines adopted should provide for the complete separation of the urine and washings from the fœcal matter, and hence the form where both urine and fœcal matter are received into one bucket will not suit.

(*f*) The following table shows the number of toties, latrines and night-soil carts employed, contrasted with what should be demanded if the total accumulation of 718·55 cubic feet of excreta, excluding urine, is to be removed from the town in two trips daily:—

—	Toties.	Latrines.	Night-soil carts.
Number now employed	53	49	15
Number that ought to be employed .	144	69	25

(*g*) I consider one of the most important duties the municipality has before it is the making of correct provision for the night-soil conservancy of the town. Without this endeavour faithfully and fully carried out, any further measures that may be taken in the way of drainage and water-supply will, in great part, be rendered abortive. I therefore hope that the council will not content itself with stating, in reply to this suggestion, that the "matter will receive the best attention of the council." I should like to know that the full requirements of the town have been carefully discussed and the question of latrines, staff, and means of transport

Inspection Notes.

for *each division* of the town has been carefully studied and brought into existence. A map of the town showing these details should be maintained in the office.

5. (*a*) *Salem Slaughter-house.*—There is only one thing to be said as to this place, namely, that it is absolutely unfit for its function, and that the municipality should with the least possible delay abandon it absolutely.

(*b*) *Ammapett.*—Here a new sheep slaughter-house is being erected. The Sanitary Board has lately issued certain modifications of the form advised for slaughter-houses, and the municipality would do well not to regard this new slaughter-house as complete till these are carried out. A plan can be obtained on application.

(*c*) The *cattle* slaughter-house requires alteration also with regard to the plans just mentioned. These modifications allow of arrangements for water-supply, and for the more cleanly and safe conduct of gutting.

6. *Markets.*— A Jubilee market has long been spoken of as about to be erected. A suitable site near the river was shown to me. The present market is a very poor structure and should be got rid of as quickly as possible. In the meantime, pending the building of the long-looked-for Jubilee market, it is essential, if the use of this be continued, that the floor of the butchers' stalls be cement-plastered as well as the walls up to at least five feet from the floor level, and that the platforms be provided with drains.

7. *Graveyards.*—The matter connected with graveyards has been dealt with in my report embodied in G.O., No. 1108 M., dated 13th July 1895.

8. *Vaccination.*—(*a*) Of sixteen cases examined haphazard on the streets, no less than four were found unprotected. The following table shows the progress of vaccination during the last three years, as contrasted with the number of births :—

Chairman's Remarks.

Arrangements have been made for the construction of more latrines in the town.

This slaughter-house was built on the plan and estimate approved by the Sanitary Board.

Do. do. do.

This will be attended to.

—	1893.	1894.	1895.
Number vaccinated	2,914	2,938	2,949
,, ,, successfully	2,827	2,883	2,941
,, ,, under one year of age	2,237	2,410	2,543
,, verified by inspecting officer	896	1,159	849
Births	2,454	2,525	2,664

Inspection Notes.

Chairman's Remarks.

(*b*) The following table shows the result of compulsory infantile vaccination:—

Total births during preceding six months, *i. e.*, from 1st January up to 30th June 1895.	Number vaccinated successfully.	Number vaccinated unsuccessfully for the first time.	Number vaccinated a second time, because first operation proved unsuccessful.		Postponed on medical certificate at the end of six months.	Died.	Left the town.	Unaccounted for.	Ratio of successful vaccine operations to total births per cent.	Prosecutions for failure to accept vaccination during the year up to date.		
			Successful.	Unsuccessful.						Number of suits filed.	Number of cases disposed of by Magistrate.	Number of convictions.
1,301	817	..	..	..	79	225	165	5	62·8	191	179	..

(*c*) The shed in which the calves are placed during inoculation is not provided with a suitable flooring. Designs should be asked for from the Sanitary Board.

This depôt is maintained by the District Board, Salem.

9. *Registration.*—There are three registrars. Each maintains a separate register. It is desirable that the daily work of these men be exhibited compiled in one book. This would permit of easy reference in subsequent years.

Steps will be taken to maintain a consolidated register.

Years.	Ratio of births per mille of estimated population.	Ratio of deaths per mille of estimated population.	Percentage of deaths from						Ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age per mille to registered births in the preceding year.	Ratio of deaths of infants between one and five years of age to population of that age.
			Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Dysentery and Diarrhœa.	Injuries.	Other causes.		
1893	35·0	27·3	16·6	0·8	32·0	4·8	1·0	44·8	300·8	116·9
1894	35·5	23·2	7·5	0·2	35·2	4·0	0·4	52·7	215·6	94·6
1895	37·0	19·6	1·2	0·1	30·8	5·8	0·6	61·5	208·3	78·1

Death registration needs careful supervision.

This will be attended to.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th April* 1896.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgeon-Lt.-Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of a general meeting of the Municipal Council of Salem held on the 11th June 1896.

* * * * *

9. Read notes of inspection by the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the town of Salem, together with the remarks of the Chairman thereon.

Resolution.—The remarks of the Chairman are approved and may be submitted to Government.

PR.

C: 1692m

N
P.S.

Salem Inspection Notes

Order No 1252 Md/27-7-96

Recorded with the following remarks:—

(1) The action which the municipal council proposes to take on the suggestions of the Sanitary Commissioner in paras. 3(b), 4(b), (c) and (e) and 5(a) of the Inspection notes has not been reported. This omission should be supplied without delay.

(2) Under Section 15b (1) of the District municipalities Act, the municipal council should call upon the owner of the well referred to in para. 2(e) of the notes, to carry out the improvements suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner.

(3) With reference to para. 2(f) the Council should take steps to prohibit persons from washing clothes in the river above the town.

(4) The delay of nearly five months in the submission of these notes by the Sanitary Commissioner is unsatisfactory and should have been explained.

V.R.
27/7/96

W.W.D
23.7.96

To The Chairman, M.C. Salem. (with plans)
" Collector of Salem
" Sanitary Commissioner
" Engineer
" Editors' Table

Desp. 17/8/96

(with order)

No. 804

Salem Municipal Office,
Dated 13th June 1896.

From

M. R. Ry,

A. PUSHPANATHA PILLAI AVERGAL, B. A.,
Chairman, Municipal Council,
SALEM.

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Department
Madras.

Jan No 1

Enclosure /

Sir,

I have the honor to submit herewith, for the orders of Government, the inspection Notes of the Sanitary Commissioner on the Salem Municipality together with my remarks thereon.

2. A copy of the resolution of the Council, passed with reference to the above, at its meeting held on the 11th instant, is also submitted for the information of Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your most obedient Servant

Chairman
13.6.96

x per book post

Compd. 23/7

CR

PR.

C: 1892m

N
P.S.

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(3) With reference to para. 2(f) the Council should take steps to prohibit the dhobies from washing clothes in the river above the town.

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V.R. 27/7/96

W.D. 23-7-96

Salem Inspection Notes

To The Chairman, M. C. Salem (4 with plans)
" Collector of Salem 1 do
" Sanitary Commissioner 1 do
" Engineer 1/3
" Editors' Table

Desp. 17/8/96

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Your most obedient Servant

A. Pushpanatha Pillai
13.6.96.
Chairman

* per book post

Compd: 23/6

CR

Inspection Notes of the Sanitary Commissioner Madras.

Salem District.

Salem Municipality

Inspected 20th & 22nd November 1895.

Population as per census of 1891:-

Males	32,860
Females	34,850
Total	67,710

Necessary provision has been made in the current year's budget for the repair of smaller streets and lanes.

Roads. Certain of these newly made were in excellent order, and have evidently been made with care. The majority of the old roads however are in a very indifferent state. In a very considerable proportion of the town, roads do not exist.

2. Water supply (a) Salem is one of the towns in this Presidency which has long been notorious for its evil conditions of water supply. Endeavours are now being made to secure a subsoil water

scheme

scheme, which was suggested by the late Acting Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Ellis. From examination of the surrounding country, I am of opinion that Mr. Ellis' scheme is — feasible if the sub soil water be tapped in the area within which irrigation is conducted near the Nanem mark at the Gurunnelli hill, and, if the supply from this site be not sufficient what with spring water and surface water finding a natural exit near the Kannimar temple, Salem ought to have a fair chance of a good water supply. — Luckily, the water from both of these places has secured the following excellent opinion from the Chemical Examiner:-

"Both waters are good and portable. Indeed

"Indeed it is very seldom "that waters of this — "standard of purity "are sent here for ex- "amination. The — "Nanemalai well is "better than the Kannimar "spring."

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"Indeed it is very seldom "that waters of this — "standard of purity "are sent here for ex- "amination. The — "Nanemalai well is "better than the Kanniman "spring."

This matter is now before the Sanitary Board, and as schemes are neither drawn up nor completed without considerable expenditure of time, it is not advisable that Salem in the meantime should neglect the care of such poor sources of water supplies as are available. Of 14 sources of water supply examined by the Chemical Examiner not one was pronounced wholesome - seven were classed as "usable", five as "bad" and two as "very bad", so that Salem cannot be considered well off in respect to purity of its water, irrespective of the admitted uncertainties of its supply. Hence, to make an effort to improve the sources of supply pending the introduction of the water scheme would seem but a prudent course. The following table shows that each time Salem has been attacked with cholera it suffers severely. Protection of certain water supplies at once therefore would probably result in the saving of many lives.

years	No of deaths from cholera
1888	488
1889	463
1890	229
1891	428
1892	155
1893	318
1894	123
1895	17

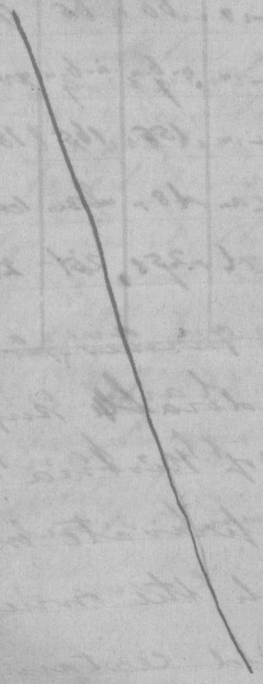
(c) Arcisfollium tank is certainly one of the sources that thus demands care urgently. It yields a very considerable portion of the total drinking-water supply of the town. Much more attention is requisite as to the cleanliness of its surroundings. Close to the tank runs the overflow from an irrigation channel. On the banks of this, persons defaecate freely and evidently use the water for ablution. In this water, as a result of a curious perversion of sanitary precaution, those who draw water from the tank are in the habit of first washing their pots and their feet - thus securing faecal contamination. The surroundings ought to be strictly conserved. The habit of walking into

This will be attended to.

As the investigation of this water supply scheme is now in fast progress, I consider that this question may be postponed, until the result of the investigation is known.

into the water, and thus contaminating it with the filth of the feet and hands of several hundred of people daily can be best guarded against by arranging for elevation of the water to a cistern, and its delivery thence by pipes supplying taps in the immediate neighbourhood of the tank, as well as at the village of Arcisfollium. Not only would this ensure the safety of the water supply from gross contamination, but it would save the toil to which the women are subjected in carrying water from an immense distance by road. In a test for five days, it was found that an average of 1848 pots daily were drawn from this tank. This amount would be more than covered by 10,000 gallons

(c) Arcipollium t
certainly on [illegible]
that th[illegible] day the
re[illegible]ably drawn
off during the hours in
the morning and one
hour in the evening, so
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one third the amount
required would pro-
-bably suffice for require-
-ments. A suitable
elevated iron reservoir
is in the possession
of the Tangier Munici-
-cipality, for which they
have at present no real
use. The Commit might
ascertain if the Tangier
Municipality is willing
to part with it.



A Tangye's engine to accomplish this work would cost in England about £96. It is unlikely therefore the whole ar-rangement would ex-ceed, say, Rs 5000. I con-sider this amount would be well spent in securing the protection of the work need for this part of the town.

(d) Ammapet well. No drain is provided for the basement of this important well.

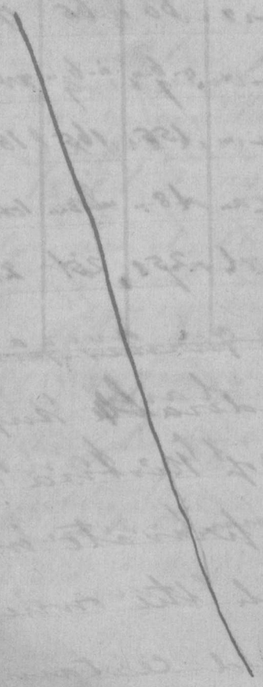
This will be attended to.

Approximate No of Gallons per hour at 30 strokes per minute		100	180	320	440	550
(1) Price for 30 feet well	Rs	.	135	145	165	185
Extra per foot of depth	"	.	1-6-"	1-12-"	2-4-"	2-8-"
(2) Price for 30 feet well, but exclusive of Delivery Hose	"	60	65	70	78	85
Extra per foot, deeper	"	-6-"	-6-"	-8-"	-10-"	1-"-"
(3) Price for 30 feet well	"	155	165	185	195	220
Extra per foot, deeper	"	-8-"	-13-"	1-4-"	1-4-"	1-8-"
Extra for Gearing	"	25	25	25	25	30

(e) A [illegible] supply of considerable supply is the well of Kistna does. This is a private well, over which the owner has re-served certain rights.

The

gallons per day. This is all probably drawn off during two hours in the morning and one hour in the evening; so that a cistern to contain one third the amount required would probably suffice for requirements. A suitable elevated iron reservoir is in the possession of the Tanjore Municipality, for which they have at present no real use. The Council might ascertain if the Tanjore Municipality is willing to part with it.



A Tangye's engine to accomplish this work would cost in England about £96. It is unlikely therefore the whole arrangement would exceed, say, Rs 5000. I consider this amount would be well spent in securing the protection of the work need for this part of the town.

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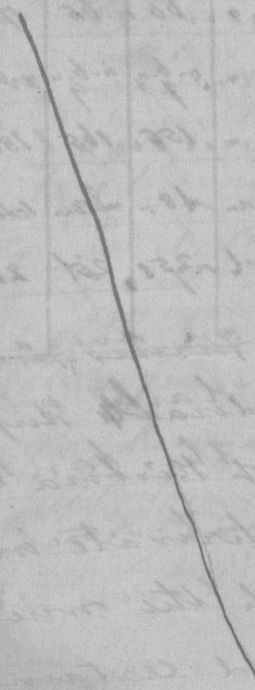
This will be attended to.

Approximate No of Gallons per hour at 30 strokes per minute	100	180	320	440	550
(1) Price for 30 feet well ____ Rs	.	135	145	165	185
Extra per foot of depth ____ "	.	1-6-"	1-12-"	2-4-"	2-8-"
(2) Price for 30 feet well, but exclusive of Delivery Hose ____ "	60	65	70	78	85
Extra per foot, deeper ____ "	-6-"	-6-"	-8-"	-10-"	1-"-"
(3) Price for 30 feet well ____ "	155	165	185	195	220
Extra per foot, deeper ____ "	-8-"	-13-"	1-4-"	1-4-"	1-8-"
Extra for Gearing ____ "	25	25	25	25	30

(f) [illegible] provide a considerable supply is the well of Kistna Does. This is a private well, over which the owner has reserved certain rights.

the

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This will be attended to.

A Tangye's engine to accomplish this work would cost in England about £96. It is unlikely therefore the whole arrangement would exceed, say, Rs 5000. I consider this amount would be well spent in securing the protection of the water used for this part of the town.

(d) Ammapet well. No drain is provided for the basement of this important well.

Approximate No. of gallons per hour at 30 strokes per minute		100	180	320	440	550
(1) Price for 30 feet well	Rs	.	135	145	165	185
Extra per foot of depth	"	.	1-6-"	1-12-"	2-4-"	2-8-"
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Extra for Gearing	"	25	25	25	25	30

(f) [illegible] considerable supply is the well of Kistna does. This is a private well, over which the owner has reserved certain rights.

He

he would perform a most charitable act, if he would place this in such order as to prevent its becoming contaminated with filth as at present. It is approached by a flight of steps with but little alteration, it should be possible to remove the steps and make a platform from which persons could draw water. This section of the town usually suffers — heavily from cholera, hence this caution is desirable.

(f) The carrying out of the above suggestions would result in obtaining at least three well protected sources of water supply for the people, pending the execution of the suggested water supply scheme. The river water is absolutely untrustworthy. Irrespective of the sanitary survey, the Chemical Examiner has pronounced the water bad

"bad" at the ghat near the bridge, where persons largely resort. Now, the river water is largely used by dhobies above the town, and it need not be said that, in the presence of a cholera epidemic, it would be most dangerous to take water from this point. When acting Gillah Surgeon here in 1876 during a cholera epidemic, I pressed upon the Municipality the necessity for ceasing to permit dhobies to wash clothing above the town, as I had found that the inhabitants had sent their infected clothing to be washed by the dhobies there. Thereupon, a Resolution was passed requiring from the Assistant Engineer a report as to means to enable the Municipality to preserve the river —

entirely

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entire

entirely for drinking purposes. Since then — District Sanitary Officers have come and gone and have religeniusly repeated the same suggestion, but the dhobies remain at their post to poison the people of Salem up to date. Even when the new water supply scheme is brought to the town, this custom will prove a menace to the health of the town, as it will take many years to educate the masses out of the idea that the river water is not safe. Of course, the river water, in any case, must be regarded as unfit for drinking purposes, as it actually skirts the town seeing that it receives the sewage direct; but this is no reason why the portion above the [illegible] should be contaminated by dhobies. There are tanks in the neighbourhood that, even if the main body of tanks were not used, could be so arranged to supply a sufficient quantity of water for the purposes of dhobies. But, if this cannot be arranged, on introduction of the new supply "dhobie khanas" should be opened.

3. Sewage removal (a) This is necessarily, in the absence of a correct sewerage system very indifferently conducted. The greater part of the sewage never leaves the limepits. Pervious cesspools, badly made and badly proportioned drains leading with few exceptions to no definite outlet, are the sole representatives of efforts made up to date. In accordance with my advice on this point,

During the epidemic of Cholera, — people are prohibited from taking the river water for any purpose whatever, and Police guards are placed over the river to prevent the people from taking it from the river.

There is no sufficient supply of water at present for the introduction of dhobie khanas.

the urine and washing should be led off by another route. Each latrine should have a correctly formed door or screen, that would prevent the contents being exposed to the public. The Municipality should determine to adopt a certain standard pattern for private latrines, and under Section 207 should require alterations in existing forms accordingly.

The extension of the private scavenging system is already engaging the attention of the Council.

(d) Much more energy is required in the matter of private scavenging. Only 551 of a total of 1195 houses are at present managed under this system.

(e) There are only 49 latrines for an estimated population of 71,999. Seeing that only 551 private houses are worked under the private scavenging system

system, or say, for the equivalent of 2,755 inhabitants, and that the latrines are in several instances small cloacines, the arrangements are quite inadequate. The Municipality lately determined on my advice to make small latrines near houses; but I find that the pattern selected for this purpose is not suitable. When it is intended to place them near houses, they should be worked on a system that will effectually prevent them becoming a nuisance to surrounding dwellings. Thus provision should be made for the constant attendance of a lady, who should be instructed to effect instant deodorization with dry earth and removal of deposit. She should

should be provided with a comfortable hut for residence, and a covered godown for the storage of dry earth. It must be remembered that however desirable the carting of dry earth for purposes of conservancy is, it has been found in practice too expensive a system to adopt. (for the whole of a large town) But the importation of enough dry earth to suit requirements of the whole of Salem is a different matter to merely transporting sufficient to provide for the special form of latrines near houses. This is clearly a necessity. The latrines adopted should provide for the complete separation of the urine and washings from the fæcal matter, and hence the form where both urine and

and fæcal matter are received into one bucket will not suit.

(4) The following table shows the number of toties, latrines and night soil carts employed, contrasted with what should be demanded if the total accumulation of 718·55 cubic feet of excreta, excluding urine, is to be removed from the town in two trips daily.

	Jotties	Latrines	Night-soil Carts
No. now employed	56	49	15
No. that ought to be employed	144	69	25

should be provided with a comfortable hut for residence, and a covered godown for the storage of dry earth. It must be remembered that however desirable the carting of dry earth for purposes of conservancy is, it has been found in practice too expensive a system to adopt for the whole of a large town. But the importation of enough dry earth to suit requirements of the whole of Salem is a different matter to merely transporting sufficient to provide for the special form of latrines near houses. This is clearly a necessity. The latrines adopted should provide for the complete separation of the urine and washings from the fæcal matter, and hence the form where both urine and fæcal matter are received into one bucket will not suit.

(f) The following table shows the number of tubs, latrines and night soil carts employed, contrasted with what should be demanded if the total accumulation of 718·55 cubic feet of excreta, excluding urine, is to be removed from the town in two trips daily

	Tubs	Latrines	Night-soil Carts
No. now employed	56	49	15
No. that ought to be employed	144	69	25

should be provided with a comfortable hut for residence, and a covered godown for the storage of dry earth. It must be remembered that however desirable the carting of dry earth for purposes of conservancy is, it has been found in practice too expensive a system to adopt for the whole of a large town. But the importation of enough dry earth to suit requirements of the whole of Salem is a different matter to merely transporting sufficient to provide for the special form of latrines near houses. This is clearly a necessity. The latrines adopted should provide for the complete separation of the urine and washings from the fæcal matter, and hence the form where both urine and

fæcal matter are received into one bucket will not suit.

(4) The following table shows the number of latrines, latrines and night soil carts employed, contrasted with what should be demanded if the total accumulation of 718·55 cubic feet of excreta, excluding urine, is to be removed from the town in two trips daily

	Latrines	Latrines	Night-soil Carts
No. now employed	56	49	15
No. that ought to be employed	144	69	25

(g) I consider one of the most important duties the Municipality has before it is the making of correct provision for the right and Conservancy of the town. Without this endeavour faithfully and fully carried out, any further measures that may be taken in the way of drainage and water supply will, in great part, be rendered abortive. I therefore hope that the Council will not content itself with stating, in reply to this suggestion, that the "matter will receive the best attention of the Council." I should like to know that the full requirements of the town have been carefully discussed and the question of latrines, staff, and means of transport for each division of the town has been carefully studied and brought into existence. A map of the town showing these details should be maintained for the year.

Arrangements have been made for the construction of more latrines in the town.

(h) Salem Slaughter house. There is only one thing to be said as to this place, namely, that it is absolutely unfit for its function, and that the Municipality should with the least possible delay abandon it absolutely.

(h) Ammapett. Here a new sheep slaughter house is being erected. The Sanitary Board has lately issued certain instructions of the form advised for slaughter houses, and the Municipality would do well not to regard this new slaughter house as complete till these are carried out. A plan can

This slaughter house was built on the plan and estimate approved by the Sanitary Board.

can be obtained on application.

(c) The cattle slaughter house requires alteration also with regard to the plans just mentioned. These modifications allow of arrangements for water supply, and for the more cleanly and safe conduct of getting.

6. Markets. A Jubilee market has long been spoken of as about to be erected. A suitable site near the river was shown to me. The present market is a very poor structure, and should be got rid of as quickly as possible. In the meantime, pending the building of the long-looked for Jubilee Market, it is essential if the use of this be continued that the floor of the butchers stalls be

—Do:—

This will be attended to.

be cement plastered as well as the walls up to at least 5 feet from the floor level, and that the platforms be provided with drains.

7. Graveyards. The matter connected with graveyards has been dealt with in my report enbodied in H.O. No. 1108/m dated 13th July 1895.

8 Vaccination (a) Of 16 cases examined hap-hazard on the streets, no less than 4 were found unprotected. The following table shows the progress of vaccination during the last 3 years, as contrasted with the number of births:—

	1893	1894	1895
No. vaccinated	2,914	2938	2949
" " successfully	2,827	2883	2941
" " under 1 year of age	2,237	2410	2543
No. verified by Inspecting officer	896	1159	849
Births	2,454	2,525	2,664

(b) The following table shows the result of compulsory infantile vaccination.

	Total births during preceding 6 months, i.e. from 1st January 1895 to 30th June 1895.	No. vaccinations successfully performed.	No. vaccinations unsuccessfully performed for the 1st time.	No. vaccinations performed a 2nd time because 1st operation unsuccessful	Unsuccessful vaccinations repeated successfully.	Population as increased or decreased at the end of six months.	Dead	Left the town	Un accounted for	Ratio of unsuccessful vaccinations to total births per cent.	No. of deaths from variola	No. of cases discovered by the vaccinators	No. of Cases - Remarks
	1,301	817	"	"	"	79	220	165	5	62·8	191	179	"

(c) The shed in which the calves are placed during inoculation is not provided with a suitable flooring. Designs should be asked for from the Sanitary Board.

9 Registration. There are 3 registrars. Each maintains a separate register. It is desirable that the daily work of these men be exhibited compiled

333 4 4 4 4

This depôt is maintained by the District Board, Salem.

Steps will be taken to maintain a consolidated registers.

compiled in one book. This would permit of easy reference in subsequent years.

Years.	Ratio of births per mille of estimated population.	Ratio of deaths per mille of estimated population.	Mortality from							
			Cholera	Small pox	Fevers	Bowel complaints & diarrhœa	Injuries	Other causes	Ratio of deaths from small pox per mille of population to those registered in the preceding year	Ratio of deaths of infants between one and 5 years of age to population of that age.
1893	35·0	27·3	16·6	0·8	32·0	4·8	1·0	44·8	366·8	116·9
1894	35·5	23·2	7·5	0·2	35·2	4·0	0·4	52·7	215·6	94·6
1895	37·0	19·6	1·2	0·1	30·8	5·8	0·6	61·5	208·3	78·1

This depôt is maintained by the District Board, Salem.

Steps will be taken to maintain a consolidated registers.

This will be attended to.

Death registration needs careful supervision.

W Wood
Surgeon Lt Col,
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

Fort St George
10th April 1896

Kushpan allowed
13.6.96.
Chairman

CR

Enclosure to Letter
No 804
dy. 13th June 96

15 JUN

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

PRESENT.

Chairman

M.R.Ry. A. Pushpamatha Pillai Avl. B.A.

Official Councillors.

S.M. Woosman Sahib Bahadur B.A, B.L.
Surgeon-Lieut. Colonel A.N. Rogers Harrison

Non-Official Councillors.

Syed Khadir Sahib
Revd. J. Foulkes
Revd. M. Seegmuller
M.R.Ry. N. Raghunatha Singh Avl.
" P. Sundram Avergal B.A.
" S. Ramasami Ayyar Avl. B.A, B.L.
" M. Venkatachellapathi Aya Avl.
A. Ahmad Sahib
Muhammad Sahib
M.R.Ry. K. Thammama chettiar Avl.
" P. Subramania chettiar Avl.

× × ×

9. Read notes of inspection by the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the town of Salem, together with the

the remarks of the Chairman thereon.

The remarks of the Chairman are approved and may be submitted to Government.

(True Extract)

Chairman

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

DOCKET No. 1252 M.

From

THE CHAIRMAN,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,
SALEM.

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department
Madras

Dated, 13th June 96
15 JUN. 96
No. 804

ENCLOSURE 1

SUBJECT.

Submitting for the orders of Government the inspection notes of the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the Salem Municipality.

Note

I do request that the H.E. will send this down to madras so soon as the draft review on the Admn Report is passed by him, as it will have to be printed & reviewed in the Council

Press

Please settle into type

KS 25/6/96

No. 1252 M., 27TH JULY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From M.R.Ry. A. PUSHPANATHA PILLAI Avargal, B.A., Chairman, Municipal Council, Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 13th June 1896, No. 804.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the orders of Government, the inspection notes of the Sanitary Commissioner on the Salem Municipality, together with my remarks thereon.

2. A copy of the resolution of the council, passed with reference to the above at its meeting held on the 11th instant, is also submitted for the information of Government.

ENCLOSURES.

INSPECTION NOTES of the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras.

SALEM DISTRICT.

SALEM MUNICIPALITY.

Inspected 20th to 22nd November 1895.

Population as per census of 1891	Males ..	32,860
	Females ..	34,850
	Total ..	67,710

Inspection Notes.

Roads.—Certain of those newly made were in excellent order, and have evidently been made with care. The majority of the old roads, however, are in a very indifferent state. In a very considerable proportion of the town, roads do not exist.

2. *Water-supply.*—(*a*) Salem is one of the towns in this Presidency which has

Chairman's Remarks.

Necessary provision has been made in the current year's budget for the repair of smaller streets and lanes.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

APPEAL No.

From

THE CHAIRMAN,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,
SALEM.

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department
Madras

Dated, 13th June 96
15 JUN. 96

No. 804

ENCLOSURE 1

SUBJECT.

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Note

Please submit type

25/6/96

No. 1252 M., 27TH JULY 1896.

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Inspection Notes.

long been notorious for its evil conditions of water-supply. Endeavours are now being made to secure a sub-soil water scheme which was suggested by the late Acting Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Ellis. From examination of the surrounding country, I am of opinion that Mr. Ellis' scheme is feasible, if the sub-soil water be tapped in the area within which irrigation is conducted near the Namem mark at the Gurumalai hill, and, if the supply from this site be not sufficient, what with spring water and surface water finding a natural exit near the Kannimar temple, Salem ought to have a fair chance of a good water-supply. Luckily, the water from both of these places has secured the following excellent opinion from the Chemical Examiner:—

"Both waters are good and potable. Indeed it is very seldom that waters of this standard of purity are sent here for examination. The Namemalai well is better than the Kannimar spring."

This matter is now before the Sanitary Board, and as schemes are neither drawn up nor completed without considerable expenditure of time, it is not advisable that Salem in the meantime should neglect the care of such poor sources of water-supply as are available.

(*b*) Of fourteen sources of water-supply examined by the Chemical Examiner not one was pronounced wholesome—seven were classed as "usable," five as "bad" and two as "very bad"; so that Salem cannot be considered well off in respect to purity of its water, irrespective of the admitted scantiness of its supply. Hence, to make an effort to improve the sources of supply pending the introduction of the water scheme would seem but a prudent course. The following table shows that each time Salem has been attacked with cholera, it suffers severely. Protection of certain water-supplies at once, therefore, would probably result in the saving of many lives:—

Years.	Number of deaths from cholera.
1888	488
1889	463
1890	229
1891	428
1892	155
1893	318
1894	123
1895	17

Chairman's Remarks.

Inspection Notes.

(*c*) *Arsipalaiyam tank*—is certainly one of the sources that thus demands care urgently. It yields a very considerable portion of the total drinking-water supply of the town. Much more attention is requisite as to the cleanliness of its surroundings. Close to the tank runs the overflow from an irrigation channel. On the banks of this, persons defœcate freely and evidently use the water for ablution. In this water, as a result of a curious perversion of sanitary precaution, those who draw water from the tank are in the habit of first washing their pots and their feet—thus securing fœcal contamination. The surroundings ought to be strictly conserved. The habit of walking into the water, and thus contaminating it with the filth of the feet and hands of several hundreds of people daily, can be best guarded against by arranging for elevation of the water to a cistern, and its delivery thence by pipes supplying taps in the immediate neighbourhood of the tank, as well as at the village of Arsipalaiyam. Not only would this ensure the safety of the water-supply from gross contamination, but it would save the toil to which the women are subjected in carrying water from an unusual distance by road. In a test for five days, it was found that an average of 1,848 pots daily were drawn from this tank. This amount would be more than covered by 10,000 gallons per day. This is all probably drawn off during two hours in the morning and one hour in the evening; so that a cistern to contain one-third the amount required would probably suffice for requirements. A suitable elevated iron reservoir is in the possession of the Tanjore Municipality, for which they have at present no real use. The council might ascertain if the Tanjore Municipality is willing to part with it.

A Tangye's engine to accomplish this work would cost in England about £96. It is unlikely, therefore, the whole arrangement would exceed, say, Rs. 5,000. I consider this amount would be well spent in securing the protection of the water used for this part of the town.

(*d*) *Ammapet Well.*—No drain is provided for the basement of this important well. This would be cheap, and is an essential addition. Here, also, it would be desirable to lift the water into an iron cistern by means of a hand-pump. The

Chairman's Remarks.

This will be attended to.

As the investigation of the water-supply scheme is now in fast progress, I consider that this question may be postponed until the result of the investigation is known.

This will be attended to.

Inspection Notes.

Chairman's Remarks.

usual price and delivery of these is quoted below :—

—	Approximate number of gallons per hour at 30 strokes per minute.									
	100		180		320		440		550	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
(1) Price for 30 feet well	..		135	0 0	145	0 0	165	0 0	185	0 0
Extra per foot of depth	..		1	6 0	1	12 0	2	4 0	2	8 0
(2) Price for 30 feet well, but exclusive of delivery hose	60	0 0	65	0 0	70	0 0	78	0 0	85	0 0
Extra per foot, deeper	0	6 0	0	6 0	0	8 0	0	10 0	1	0 0
(3) Price for 30 feet well	155	0 0	165	0 0	185	0 0	195	0 0	220	0 0
Extra per foot, deeper	0	8 0	0	13 0	1	4 0	1	4 0	1	8 0
Extra for gearing	25	0 0	25	0 0	25	0 0	25	0 0	30	0 0

(*e*) A further source of considerable supply is the well of Kistna Doss. This is a private well, over which the owner has reserved certain rights. He would perform a most charitable act if he would place this in such order as to prevent its becoming contaminated with filth as at present. It is approached by a flight of steps. With but little alteration it should be possible to remove the steps and make a platform from which persons could draw water. This section of the town usually suffers heavily from cholera; hence this caution is desirable.

(*f*) The carrying out of the above suggestions would result in obtaining at least three well-protected sources of water-supply for the people, pending the execution of the suggested water-supply scheme. The river-water is absolutely untrustworthy. Irrespective of the sanitary survey, the Chemical Examiner has pronounced the water "bad" at the ghât near the bridge, where persons largely resort. Now, the river-water is largely used by dhobies above the town, and it need not be said that, in the presence of a cholera epidemic, it would be most dangerous to take water from this point. When Acting Zillah Surgeon here in 1876 during a cholera epidemic, I pressed upon the municipality the necessity for ceasing to permit dhobies to wash clothing above the town, as I had found that the inhabitants had sent their infected clothing to be washed by the dhobies there. Thereupon, a resolution was passed requiring from the Assistant Engineer a report as to means to enable the municipality to reserve the river entirely for drinking purposes. Since then District Sanitary Officers have come and gone and have

During the epidemic of cholera, people are prohibited from taking the river-water for any purpose whatever, and police

Inspection Notes.

Chairman's Remarks.

religiously repeated the same suggestion, but the dhobies remain at their post to poison the people of Salem up to date. Even when the new water-supply scheme is brought to the town, this custom will prove a menace to the health of the town, as it will take many years to educate the masses out of the idea that the river water is safe. Of course, the river-water, in any case, must be regarded as unfit for drinking purposes, as it actually skirts the town seeing that it receives the sewage direct; but this is no reason why the portion above the town should be contaminated by dhobies. There are tanks in the neighbourhood that, even if the main body of water were not used, could be so arranged to supply a sufficient quantity of water for the purposes of dhobies. But, if this cannot be arranged, on introduction of the new supply "dhobie khanas" should be opened.

guards are placed over the river to prevent the people from taking it from the river.

There is no sufficient supply of water at present for the introduction of dhobie khanas.

3. *Sewage removal.*—(*a*) This is necessarily, in the absence of a correct sewerage system, very indifferently conducted. The greater part of the sewage never leaves the town site. Pervious cesspools, badly-made and badly-proportioned drains leading with few exceptions to no definite outlet, are the sole representatives of efforts made up to date. In accordance with my advice on this point, I find that the Chairman has already forwarded to the Sanitary Board proposals for the better construction of the drains leading from the bazaar. Instead of dropping the untreated sewage into the river, as at present, it would be advisable to treat it upon properly-constructed sewage-filters which could easily be formed at this point.

An estimate for Rs. 1,082 for constructing a tiled drain in the Salem Bazaar street will shortly be submitted to the Sanitary Board for approval.

(*b*) At Karru street, the sewage simply soaks into the sides of the street. Cheap tile drains could be placed here, so as to run the sewage on to a plot of ground in the neighbourhood. On the principles involved in the disposal of sewage by temporary methods, I invite the attention of the council to the various modes mentioned in the accompanying circular on "Makeshifts as to sewage disposal in the absence of sewerage system."

4. *Conservancy*—(*a*) *Rubbish disposal.*—The municipality possesses a range of miniature mountains on one side of the town, due to the deposit for the last thirty

Inspection Notes.

years of rubbish, which has been practically undiminished by the removal effected by ryots. The area of ground covered is extensive, and this, of course, lies idle except in giving room for rubbish disposal. The municipality would do well to level this, and cultivate over it on their own account. Not only would they reap profit thereby, but they might induce the ryots to apply for the despised rubbish on the value of the crops produced on land of this character being demonstrated to them. There is a considerable amount of dry cultivable land in the immediate vicinity of the existing rubbish heap, and it would probably offer a solution of the difficulty if the municipality would purchase the adjoining fields and trench and crop them regularly. In the case of Salem, this would probably be a more profitable method than simple incineration, which is the only alternative in the absence of a demand from ryots.

Chairman's Remarks.

All the rubbish accumulated in the several depôts have been sold to a contractor for three years at Rs. 295 per annum.

(*b*) There are 295 dust-bins, of which 258 are of the movable, corrugated-iron pattern. The dust-bins are largely employed as mere marks for deposit of rubbish on the roads. In the more respectable streets, I would advise the introduction of the "separate receptacle system" for rubbish collection, which was duly explained to the Chairman.

(*c*) *Night-soil conservancy.*—The private latrines are of the same pattern as were probably used 100 years ago in Salem; that is, the excreta fall upon a pervious brick floor, whence it is removed by manual labour and parts either dribble, or are washed, into the drains. It is advisable that the floors be made impervious by plastering them with cement. On the floor should be a small receptacle containing dry-earth or ashes, into which the fœcal matter should be deposited, whilst the urine and washing should be led off by another route. Each latrine should have a correctly-formed door or screen that would prevent the contents being exposed to the public. The municipality should determine to adopt a certain standard pattern for private latrines, and under section 207 should require alterations in existing forms accordingly.

(*d*) Much more energy is required in the matter of private scavenging. Only 551 of a total of 1,195 houses are at present managed under this system.

The extension of the private scavenging system is already engaging the attention of the council.

Inspection Notes.

(*e*) There are only forty-nine latrines for an estimated population of 71,999. Seeing that only 551 private houses are worked under the private scavenging system, or, say, for the equivalent of 2,755 inhabitants, and that the latrines are in several instances small structures, the arrangements are quite inadequate. The municipality lately determined on my advice to make small latrines near houses; but I find that the pattern selected for this purpose is not suitable. When it is intended to place them near houses, they should be worked on a system that will effectually prevent them becoming a nuisance to surrounding dwellings. Thus, provision should be made for the *constant* attendance of a toty, who should be instructed to effect instant deodorization with dry-earth and removal of deposit. He should be provided with a comfortable hut for residence and a covered godown for the storage of dry-earth. It must be remembered that, however desirable the carting of dry-earth for purposes of conservancy is, it has been found in practice too expensive a system to adopt for the whole of a large town. But the importation of enough dry-earth to suit requirements of the whole of Salem is a different matter to merely transporting sufficient to provide for the special form of latrines near houses. This is clearly a necessity. The latrines adopted should provide for the complete separation of the urine and washings from the fœcal matter, and hence the form where both urine and fœcal matter are received into one bucket will not suit.

Chairman's Remarks.

(*f*) The following table shows the number of toties, latrines and night-soil carts employed, contrasted with what should be demanded if the total accumulation of 718·55 cubic feet of excreta, excluding urine, is to be removed from the town in two trips daily:—

—	Toties.	Latrines.	Night-soil carts.
Number now employed	56	49	15
Number that ought to be employed .	144	69	25

(*g*) I consider one of the most important duties the municipality has before it is the making of correct provision for the night-soil conservancy of the town.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of a general meeting of the Municipal Council of Salem held on the 11th June 1896.

* * * * *

9. Read notes of inspection by the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the town of Salem, together with the remarks of the Chairman thereon.

Resolution.—The remarks of the Chairman are approved and may be submitted to Government.

ORDER—No. 1252 M., dated 27th July 1896.

Recorded, with the following remarks :—

(1) The action which the municipal council proposes to take on the suggestions of the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraphs 3 (*b*), 4 (*b*), (*c*) and (*e*), and 5 (*a*) of the inspection notes, has not been reported. This omission should be supplied without delay.

(2) Under section 156 (1) of the District Municipalities Act, the municipal council should call upon the owner of the well referred to in paragraph 2 (*e*) of the notes to carry out the improvements suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner.

(3) With reference to paragraph 2 (*f*), the council should take steps to prohibit dhobies from washing clothes in the river above the town.

(4) The delay of nearly five months in the submission of these notes by the Sanitary Commissioner is unsatisfactory and should have been explained.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Salem (with plans).
" Collector of Salem.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Sanitary Engineer.
Editors' Table.

Ezd. A. Raitt

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 1252 M., 27th July 1896.

JULY.

Inspection Notes.

Recording, with remarks, Sanitary Commissioner's — on the Salem Municipality.

py sent to Press.

d for signature.

shed in print.

Number of copies required. { Order complete. / Letter only. / Order complete with Letter.

his G.O., No. 189 , dated

No.

ERS TO G. No.

OF GOVERNMENT

OF GOVERNMENT

MENT WITH DITTO.

BE NOT FILED UP BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.

7.4.06

DEPARTMENT.

Ref. 4

13,000-24-3-05.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / ~~Miscellaneous~~ / ~~Routine~~ No. 1252, dated 27 7 06 190 .

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
7.4.06	RE	1382	06	[illegible]	20/7/06	[illegible]