

L. & M.
19-11-98.

INDEXED. *NHS*

Local & Munl. (189)) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 500 M.

DATED 12 / 1 / 37

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bombay Plague

Recording letter from the Sanitary Comm^{tee}. forwarding copy of his letter to the Collector of Kistna, regarding certain articles of merchandise which are likely to spread plague infection, if imported from Bombay.

BACK PAPERS.

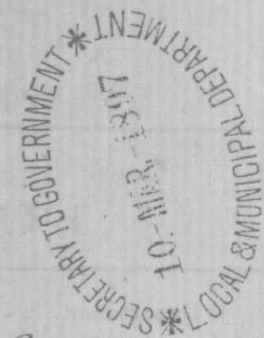
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1074



From

The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

No. 612
S.

Dated 9th March 1897.

Received 10-3-1897

Registered 10-3-1897

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for the information of Government Copy of his letter No 602 dated 8th March 1897 to the Collector of Kistna being a reply to his letter enquiring what articles are likely to spread plague infection if imported from Bombay.

Min

Order No 500 Munis. 12-3-97

Order

H.M.

12/3/97

(from orders)

We may circulate this to all S. K. B. S. who may republish it in their dist. S. K. B. S.

S. K. B. S. 1070/7

Hardly worth while, I think. We have already taken action with regard to second hand clothing, furniture, bags & waste paper. I don't think it will be practicable to do more. You can't expect to King's elaborate precautions with respect to other articles of merchandise to be carried out anywhere.

Are you to mention in G.O. 3/6/97 might go to India - 26.2.97

H.M.

4/3/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 612
S.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George 7th March 1897.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.

1074 M

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

*Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department,
Fort Saint George*

Enclosure.

SIR,

*I have the honor to forward herewith
for information of Government a copy of my letter
No 602 dated 8th March 1897 to the address of the
Collector of Kistna being a reply to his letter en-
quiring what articles, if imported from Bombay,
are likely to spread plague infection.*

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. G. King

*Surgeon Lieut. Col.
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras*

No. 602
5

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 8th March 1897.

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

Collector of
Kistna.

Enclosure.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No 46 M dated 22nd February 1897, I have the honor to state the infective agent is liable to attach itself to almost any articles of merchandise of an absorbent nature that are likely during manufacture or storage to be brought in direct contact with human beings, or be stored in infected houses. Under these circumstances the choice lies between (1) complete exclusion (2) disinfection of all articles (3) selecting certain articles particularly liable to infection for treatment by more or less drastic measures. The first and second proposal may be at once stated to be impracticable in attempting protection along a land frontier. In therefore electing the third method, it is obvious that rags and waste paper which may have been in dirty godowns and in contact with infective rubbish must be regarded as specially dangerous.

dangerous; the same may be said of second hand clothing which may actually include articles used by persons deceased of plague. As to second-hand gunny bags, it is known they may before being returned to a merchant be utilized for various domestic purposes, which may entail contact with infective matter. Fresh gunny bags or other forms of wrappings round packages may have been placed on earthen floorings infected with the plague bacillus; any package earth-stained must therefore be regarded with special suspicion. In the case of flour, butter and other food products imported you will find my views embodied in the accompanying circular*. You will see that whilst I recognize that these substances are not free of possibilities of risk in conveying infection - more especially with regard to any earth stained wrappings that may enclose them, I do not consider, in view of this being an infected country, it would be justifiable to attempt complete exclusion by legal pressure seeing that to do so would be to aim at effecting what must in reality be impracticable - in that to be effectual such efforts must embrace provision for exclusion of articles not only arriving by rail and sea but also by road throughout

* Vide G.O. No 316
dated 26th February
1897.

throughout an extensive frontier.

2. What then I think should be done is that the import of second hand clothing as merchandize, second hand gunny bags, waste paper and rags should be absolutely prohibited, and such articles should be destroyed whether there be proof of infection or not; but in the case of all other articles, including food, I would advise proof of special liability to infection before taking extreme measures. Nevertheless, in the case of all merchandize received from Bombay, it would be well to insist that before being opened any earth stained parts be painted over with a one to four mixture of milk of lime made from fresh slaked lime - taking care where the earth is visible to remove and burn it after soaking with the lime mixture; this done, the unopened packages should be exposed to the sun for two days continuously and enclosed articles should undergo a like exposure. All materials used in packing and dust should be very carefully collected and burnt.

I have &c.

sd/ W. G. King
Surgeon-Lt-Col,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

(True copy)

W. G. King
Surgeon-Lt-Col.

Open for copying
Dated
Examined
Signed

189

AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

PERMIT No.

CLOSURE TO C. No.

OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

IS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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

1/10/94
10/4/94
10/4/94