C.F. 73.

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			

[L. & M. / 2,000—4-5-97.]

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 2131 M

DATED 29. 9. 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague. Recording, with reference to G.O. No. 2106 M, d/ 27.9.97, letter from the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the debit of expenditure on account of. —.

NHS.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Confidential

Local & Munl. (189) Departm

CURRENT No. 293

Have not orders issued about the debit of such expense

S.H.

G.O. Sir. Please see G.O. 720 Fin. d 4-9-97 our G.O. No. 2106 M. d 27.9.97 on 720 Fin. is now in the press & will go in due course to the Sanit. Comr.
This current may be recorded.

29/9/97

From The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

Order.

No. 2131 M. mis. d 29.9.97.

No. 1669/S

Recorded with reference to G.O. No. 2106 M, d 27.9.97.

S.H. 29/9/97

Dated 24th July 1897.
Recd. on 16th August

Received 16 AUG 1897

Registered

Enclosures 8

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Advising that under the circumstances stated all expenditure for plague operations otherwise than in the town of Madras be met in the first place by Collectors from Provincial funds &c.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

2,250—1-4-97.

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 1669/S

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 24th July 1897.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT
CURRENT No. 2935 M
Recd 16th August

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,

In continuation of this office confidential letter No 1389 dated 10th July 1897, para 8, I have the honor to forward herewith copies of correspondence that has passed between this office and certain Collectors.

2. It will be seen that Mr Taylor — Collector of Ganjam, informs me that the "monsoon climate is unfavorable to the development of the plague germ" and, on the strength of this theory, declines to undertake the simple and reasonable proposals made by me as to effecting observation of Puri pilgrims — a matter that has been specially represented to the Madras Government by the Government of India, but action concerning which I forestalled by the advice given in the telegram dated 9th June 1897, which forms part of the correspondence submitted. I need hardly remind Government with regard to Mr Taylor's appeal as to what had been done in the hot weather a

a

a guide as to what should be done during the monsoon – especially such a monsoon as has fallen to the lot of Ganjam – is not an argument that is tenable, either with regard to the habits of the plague bacillus or to the circumstance that the great Puri festival is the new factor to be considered – involving, as it does, enormously increased traffic from infected localities in the Bombay Presidency.

3. It will also be noticed that this officer declines to take steps that would cause but little trouble to stay the progress of cholera on the ground that it has already overrun his district. In this connection, Government has already before it the statement of the District Sanitary Officer, Ganjam, (this office letter No 1361 dated 3rd July 1897) to the effect that he had appealed to the Collector and District Magistrate to take steps as to the incursion of intending emigrant coolies without avail.

× Transferred to Pub. Dept.

4. Mr Wynne has in his paras 2 to 6 a justification for not attending to the matter of the pump earlier, as I committed an error of carelessness in placing this subject in alliance with "train inspection." Nevertheless, as the Medical Officer on plague duty maintained officially that this was my intention, and it was not reasonable to conclude I referred to any well not under the control of the District Board, I conceive very little mental exertion was requisite

to

to ascertain what was really meant by me.

5. An understanding having been arrived at, however, Mr Wynne declines to effect my proposals involving very trivial expense but of proved necessity. He demands that a sense of proportion shall be observed – a procrustean adjustment of current sanitary principles to the very faulty conditions existing in his district; that is, he would make the existence of a gross sanitary error the reason for perpetrating another with his eyes fully open to the danger (Vide G.O. No 1436 M., dated 18th June 1897). He crowns his arguments with the statement that infection of wells depends upon want of discipline. This implies either very decided ignorance of the methods by which infection is liable to occur, or a facetious disregard of commonly observed facts; the doctrine at least does not fall within the plane of practical sanitation. As to Mr Wynne's final protest as to expense conveyed in his para 6, I need hardly say that I coincide with him in thinking the water supply of his district does require attention that should have been paid to it long before this, but in the matter of finance the investment for a pump at a cost of, say, Rs 24 plus cost of carriage cannot be conceived as likely to bankrupt the District Board – especially holding in mind that if, as he seems to conceive probable, no plague case ever will be admitted to the camp, there will be no difficulty in the District Board either re-selling the pump, or employing it at one of those cholera hospitals which, with

a

a lack of sanitary discretion, his District Board has so far failed to supply with one.

6. I respectfully invite the attention of Government to the letter quoted in my opening paragraph, in which I suggest that should plague invade this Presidency, disaster may follow owing to delay that may be expected at the hands of local authorities and Collectors. The functions of my office demand that patience and persuasion should be exercised when opposition is exhibited and with the support of Government to rely upon, so long as I can show my advice has been reasonable, I rarely ultimately fail to effect my purpose, but I feel that in dealing with plague no time ought to be wasted in discussion about petty details — promptitude of action being essential. I therefore advise (1) that all expenditure for plague operations otherwise than in the town of Madras be met in the first place by Collectors from Provincial funds, and that such expenditure be debited subsequently to District Boards and Municipalities of the district concerned in such proportions as Government may consider desirable, (2) that Collectors be reminded by Government confidentially or otherwise of the great interests at stake, and of the desirability of effecting plague preventive measures with the cordial co-operation of all departments, (3) that otherwise than where they have good reason to anticipate dangerous public — resentment or an expenditure in reality —

unreasonably

unreasonably heavy, advice given by the Sanitary department should be promptly adopted.

7. This office does not claim to be infallible, but on the whole the chances of mistakes are probably likely to be less and the total result be more in favor of preventing invasion under this system than when each petty detail has to be discussed with officials who, on the strength of strange sanitary theories excogitated by themselves or borrowed from the irresponsible chatter of lay newspapers, are prepared to contend every pie of expenditure and — thwart the most simple proposals.

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

Copy of Telegram sent on the 9th June 1897.

To,

The District Medical and
Sanitary Officer,
Ganjam,
Vizagapatam,
Godavari and
Kistna.

Puri pilgrims. I advise your instructing Revenue, Police authorities observe road, rail routes carefully regarding cholera, plague. Government Order No 111 L nineteenth January 97 should be strictly enforced Municipalities and elsewhere.

(True copy)

W. M. King
Surg Lt Col
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

8/2935 M 97

2,250—1-4-97.

No. 1345–1352

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 3rd July 1897.

From

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

To

THE
District Medical and
Sanitary Officer & Collector of
Ganjam, Vizagapatam & Kistna.

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honor with reference to this office telegram dated 9th June 1897 to request you will kindly inform me to what extent my suggestion as to the desirability of arranging as to observation of road and rail routes through your district to Puri has been carried out.

I have &c.
/Sd/ S. Balasundram
Manager & assistant
for Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

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

7
2935 M/97

2,250—1-4-97.

No. 1347 + 1351.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 3rd July 1897.

From

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

To

THE
District Medical and
Sanitary Officer & Collector of
Godavari.

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honor with reference to this office telegram dated 9th June 1897 to request you will kindly inform me to what extent my suggestion as to the desirability of arranging as to observation of road and rail routes through your district to Puri has been carried out.

I have &c
(Sd) S. Balasundaram
~~Manager~~ Assistant
for Sanitary Commr ~~for Madras~~

P.S.

When lately at Rajahmundry, the arrangements for inspection of new arrivals did not seem to me of a complete nature. I would suggest to you that it would be very desirable that an observation and isolation shed be placed on the shore opposite to Rajahmundry near the ferry, and that complete inspection be effected there.

(True copy)
WGKing
Surg Lt Col
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

6
2935 M/97

C. No 1174/Eng. dated 10. 6. 97.

Deferred - State.

To
Chatrapur
Collector of Ganjam

From
Madras, Mount Road
Sanitary Commissioner

dated 9th June 1897.

Puri pilgrims I advise your instructing revenue, police authorities observe road rail routes carefully regarding Cholera plague Government order 111 local nineteenth January 97 should be strictly enforced municipalities and elsewhere.

(True copy)

R. C. No 1174/Eng.

Copy forwarded to the District Surgeon for favour of his remarks. It might be possible to observe pilgrims arriving by rail, but I dont see how we can do it in the case of those arriving by road.

(sd) / Illegible /
Collector of Ganjam

Chatrapur.
12th June 97

/ True copy /

T. Balasundram
Manager & assistant
for Sanitary Commssr Madras

5/2935 Ml/97

R.C. No 3102. District Medical & Sanitary Office
Ganjam Berhampore 14th June 1897.

From,

Surgeon Major H. Thomson
Ag. District Medical and Sanitary Officer
Ganjam.

To,

The Collector
Ganjam.

Sir,

With reference to your foot note R.C. 1174/Engl/97 dated 12-6-97 on copy of Telegram C. No 1174/Gnl dated 10-6-97 I have the honour to suggest, if it is feasible, that the Hospital Assistant posted on the (Kalli Kotu) Bengal frontier road be directed to make his head quarters about Rambha which is in the direct road from Poori into Ganjam for Byragies, that a Police officer be stationed at the various Railway stations to watch the arrivals from North trains reporting any case of sickness after having taken the address of the person. Berhampore trains are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector (Municipal).

I would suggest your communicating with the East Coast Railway authorities and with Bengal to have a medical subordinate

posted

4/2935 M/97

posted at the Railway terminus for Poori (Bobinesular) for the detection of any suspicious cases among passengers.

I have etc.
(Sd) A. Thomson
Surgeon Major
Ag. Dt. Medl & San. Officer.

(True copy)

W Balasundram
Manager & assistant
for Sanitary Commissioner Madras

R.C. No 1174/Mag dated 23.6.97.

From,
H. D. Taylor Esquire
Acting Collector of Ganjam.
To,
The District Medical and Sanitary
Officer. Ganjam.

Camp Goppili Dated 23rd June 1897.

Sir,

With reference to your R.C. 3102 dated 14th instant I have the honour to state that I fail to grasp the use or object of your proposal or that of the Sanitary Commissioner

2. As no plague exists at Puri and as I understand that the monsoon climate is unfavourable to the development of the Plague germ I do not see why it is necessary at this season of the year to take precaution in regard to plague which were deemed unnecessary during the hot weather.

3. As for Cholera, I do not see that any advantage would be derived from checking arrivals from Poori in as much as Cholera is already ripe in almost every part of this district.

4. To place a Police constable on the Platform to

3/2935 M/97

to interrogate each passenger would cause useless annoyance to the travellers. It would be no use whatever checking arrivals by train unless similar restrictions were placed upon arrivals by road.

I have etc
(Sd) D. Srinivasa Rao.
For ag Collector.

R.C. No 3102.

To,
The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Forwarded for information and return with reference to copy of your No 1345/S dated 3.7.97 to the Collector, Ganjam. As a matter of fact I have ordered the Hospital assistant on Famine duty Humma Kallikote Bengal Frontier Road to attend to all cases of Cholera along his route.

(Sd) H. Thomson
Surg. Major
Ag. Dt. Medl. & San. Officer.
Ganjam.

Berhampore
12.7.97

True copy

T. Balasundram
Manager & assistant
for Sanitary Commissioner Madras

2,250—1.4.97.

No. 1376-77/S

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
Fort St. George, 6th July 1897.

From

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

To

THE Medical Officer on Plague duty
Arkonam.

Enclosure.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No 149 dated 15 June 1897 in which you inform me that the President District Board North Arcot was of opinion that in my inspection notes embodied in G.O. No 974 M dated 26 April 1897 I referred to the necessity of protecting the water-supply of the Railway and not of the isolation camp, I have the honor to state that I refer to the well within, as far as I can remember, the aloe hedge enclosure on which the camp stands, and which was pointed out to me by you as that from which the camp would derive its water-supply. Whether this well belongs to the Railway Company or not, I do not know; but so long as it is likely to be the source from which the supply for the isolation

2/2935 M/97

Camp

camp is derived, I am distinctly of opinion that the precaution of covering it and providing it with a pump should be required. If the President District Board, North Arcot, is of opinion that he has provided the camp with a water supply over which he has not full powers of control, you should at once urge upon him that such a source is inappropriate for the requirements of a plague camp and ask him to kindly make other arrangements in consultation with you.

I have &c
Sd/ W. G. King
Surgn Lieut: Col:
Sanitary Commr. for Madras.

P.S.

To prevent delay, I have sent a copy of this letter to the President District Board, North Arcot.

Intd. W. G. K.

No. 1377.

True copy to President District Board, North Arcot, for information.

Sd/ W. G. King
Sanitary Commr for Madras

(True copy)

Balasundram
[illegible]

North Arcot, Collector's Office
Chittoor, dated 16 July 1897.
Dis Eng No. 1482 of 1897.

From
S. H. Wynne Esqr
Collector & District Magistrate
North Arcot.

To,
The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your letter $\frac{1376}{S}$ dated 6 July 1897 to the Medical Officer on Plague duty, Arkonam, copy of which was sent to the President District Board of this District, I have the honor to refer you to your letter to Govt: $\frac{883}{S}$ dated 16 April 1897.

Arconam Para 1. You will see that according to your notes you referred to the supply at the Railway station. In paras 2 & Seq: which refer to the camp you said nothing about the water supply or about a pump. I now learn three months after your inspection that you intended to refer to the well at the Camp.

1 / 2935-M/97

2. After a full consideration of the matter I am of opinion that it would

not

not be right for me to impose this cost upon the Local Board for the following reasons.

3. There are six hospitals (Municipal and Local) in this District where cholera &c Cases may be received. In none of them is there a well provided with a pump. To arbitrarily compel the supply of a pump to the well of a temporary Camp hospital where no infectious case may ever be received, would show a lack of sense of proportion.

4. The well at the camp is for the inmates of the Camp only and the Camp is surrounded by a substantial fence. If the Camp staff allow it to become infected it will show a want of discipline and care which no pumps will remedy. Danger of infection to each other among the inmates of the Camp will be greater by other medium.

5. There never has been a case of plague at the Camp and judging from the returns which you send to me

the

the plague has almost disappeared from the Bombay Presidency. Passengers have to pass another inspection station before they reach Arconam.

6 Money cannot be spent and had also - The water supply of the district is getting into a precarious condition and the district Board has had to make allotments to Taluk Boards for the purpose of improving it, their own funds being insufficient. If the monsoon continues to hold off there is great danger of a water famine and the local resources will be taxed to the utmost to relieve it. It is necessary therefore to husband resources to meet a danger which is serious compared with the remote and infinitesimal risk which the pump is intended to avoid.

I have etc

(Sd) S. H. Wynne

~~for~~ Collector

/True copy/

T Balasundram

Personal Assistant

for Sanitary Commr for Madras

en given for copying ______
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en examined ______
en signed ______
} 189 .

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

URRENT 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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