

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 2182 M

DATED 8-10-97

INDEXED. *er*

DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fishing in the Coorn

stating that Govt. does not consider that
a sufficient case has been made out for
authorizing the President Mr. Comm. Madras
to prohibit either temporarily or otherwise —
& that the matter will accordingly be allowed
to drop.

✓

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

[L.S.M.]
159-30-6-11.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. 905 M dated 14th April 1897.

Again G.O., No. 1716 M dated 4th Aug. 1897.

Current No. 3061 M of 1897, dated 20 Aug. 97, from the Dist. M.C. Madras.

" " " 189 " "

" " " 189 " "

mis

ORDER. No. 2182 M. mis. d. 8.10.97

(1) Has Su to H. H.

(2) Has to H. H.

Seen

7/10/97

H.H.

I am not sure whether
the H.C. wants a reference
for price's sake to the
San. Comm., or whether
the matter is to be dropped
without such reference

S.H. 4/10

The Draft is marked for H. H.
to H. H. as dissenting member

S.H.

To the Dist. M.C. Madras
" San. Comm.

Order 18/10/97

The Government does not
consider that a sufficient
strong case has been made
authorizing the resident to
sub for a temporary
prohibition either temporarily or otherwise
on any prohibition against
fishing in the Coom. The
matter will accordingly be
allowed to drop.

(From Orders)

Don't think it is
worth while H.H.

Fishing in the Cooum.

Agam 670 N^o 905 M, dated 14th April 1897.

" " N^o 1716 M, dated 4th August 1897.

Current N^o 3061 M of 1897, dated 20th August 1897, from the President M. C. Madras.

For Orders

I Please see the notes and orders in G.O. No. 1716 M, dated 4th August 1897 and the reference made thereon to the President.

2. With his letter read above, the President forwards a report by the Health Officer of the municipality, replying to the several questions asked in that reference. The Health Officer is of opinion that, although there is no conclusive evidence to show that the Cooum fish and even prawns are at all times and seasons sufficiently dangerous as articles of food to warrant the entire prohibition of fishing in the river, there is on general grounds good and sufficient reason to stop fishing as a temporary measure, say for one week, when the fish are found to be dying in shoals. As on such occasions there is no time to apply to Government for sanction, he considers that the power to order the suspension of all fishing in the river for a limited period may be vested in the President.

Section 330 of the city of Madras Municipal Act I of 1884, as amended by Act VII of 1884 and Act II of 1892,

however,

the President may with the
 however, says that "sanction of the Governor
 "in Council, prohibit fishing in the Cooum or
 "any river or estuary within municipal limits
 "whenever he considers that such fishing is
 "likely to be dangerous to the public health?"

1/9
 7/9/97

H.M.

H.M. + air

In all the cases it will
 I think be sufficient to if the
 Pt. exercises his powers to
 prohibit fishing for limited
 periods, from time to time,
 as occasion requires.
 When it is desirable to make
 an urgent order, the Pt. may
 apply to Pt. by telegraph.

Before final orders
 however are passed it seems
 desirable to refer to the
 Cosh's report to the San. Comm.
 as ~~there are no~~ ~~documentation~~
~~a fact~~ ~~that~~ he has
 already been consulted; & as
 he is the San. Adviser of Pt.
 we may hunt his answer paper

I don't mind a reference
 to the San. Comm. for formal
 sake, but I would not
 suggest temporary or any
 prohibition, for my feeling
 is that there is not a
 strong enough case for any
 prohibition - Theoretically
 no doubt people ought to
 get ill from eating fish
 found dead; but they don't.
 We had better let the matter
 drop.

H.M.
 10/9/97

In my opinion a case is
 made out. The Presd. of
 the Municipality, the
 San. Comm. the Municipal
 Council and the Public
 all think so. The San. Comm.
 has been consulted about this
 matter already. His last letter
 was written in May, & I
 don't think he need be consulted
 again. I had authorized temporary
 stoppages for a week by the
 President with the sanction
 of the

16.9.97
 I am in accord with the view expressed by the
 San. Comm. & the Municipality.
 H.M. 1.10.97

Sept 10/97

five pass him over.
 he might refer the
 Pt. or say that it seems
 best that temporary
 orders will suffice (if the
 suggestion is approved).

7/9/97

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Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3061 *M*

Order

From

THE PRESIDENT,
Municipal Commission,
Madras.

H. No. 688

Dated 20th August 1897

Received 25 AUG. 1897

Registered 25.8-1897

Enclosures One.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding with
reference to G.O. No 1716
hi. his. dated 4th August
1897 a report by the
Health Officer containing
replies to questions there-in
asked.

BACK PAPERS.

G. O.	No.	Department.	Date.
fo	1716	Lth	4-8-97
fo	905	Lth	14-4-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G. O.	No.	Department.	Date.

The President,

Sir,

With reference to G.O.No.1716 M.Mis., dated 4th August 1897 the following are my replies to the questions sent to you for report:-

1. On the occasions when I have seen dead fish in the Cooum they have been for the most part between Law's Bridge and Harris' Bridge. The occurrence has always been at about the same season of the year, sometime after the closing of the bar at the begining of the hot weather, when the heat causes fermentation of the organic matter in the bed of the river. I have never known the mortality last more than a few days and the fish that survive appear strong & healthy.

2. There are no such works, but this year at the time of the ---- occurrence one of the Main Sewers was blocked in Popham's Broadway and a large quantity of sewage was being discharged into the river by the over-flow.

3. A similar point has been raised in connection with the fish --- caught off the mouth of the Thames where all the fish sludge from the London sewage after precipitation and subsidence is poured into the sea from barges. The plentiful supply of fish there is attributed to this sewage, but only indirectly, as experts say that the fish thrive, not on the sewage, but on the minute algae which grow abundantly in consequence of the nutriment they obtain from the sewage. This may be the case with the Cooum fish. The 10 years' means for diarrhoea show a slight rise of mortality in December & January, though small compared with the rise in August & September, but I cannot say that this is due to the consumption of fish caught in the Cooum after the opening of the bar.

4. No.

5. There is no evidence that the consumption of the dead fish which people were taking out of the Cooum on the 18th March caused sickness. Several of the people who ate it were looked up afterwards and questioned, but they appeared to be in their usual health and denied that it had done them any harm. Our mortality returns for the week following the ---- occurrence show 8 deaths from diarrhoea which is low for Madras. I have consulted officers of the I.M.S. who have had considerable experience in

Madras,

End.
C. No. 306/100.

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Madras, but none of them could mention a case of sickness directly traced to the eating of Cooum fish. At the same time I am sure that there is not one of them that would not condemn the eating of fish which died from sewage poisoning or other cause as in the case referred to. When the mortality occurred amongst the fish in March I asked the Sanitary Inspector to bring some sick fish to the laboratory as I thought that there might be some disease amongst them due to an entozoon or microbe. But the fish he brought me were firm and lively showing no signs of disease. I killed two of them and made cultures from the blood & organs but with a negative result. The remainder I kept alive in an aquarium for some months. The mortality having ceased I was unable to pursue my investigations.

II. Although the evidence that Cooum fish and even prawns are at all times & seasons sufficiently dangerous as articles of food to warrant the entire prohibition of fishing is inconclusive, I am still of opinion that on general grounds there is good and sufficient reason to stop fishing as a temporary measure, say for a week, when the fish are found to be dying in shoals. There is ^{on} ~~no~~ such occasions no time to apply to Government for sanction, and so far as I can see it could only be done by the power being vested in you to order the suspension of all fishing for a limited period by beat of tom tom.

J. Shieldforth, D.P.H.

Health Officer,
Madras Municipality.

20th August 1897.

Health Dept.
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H. No. 688

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
Municipal Office,

Madras, 20th August 1897.

From

Lieut. Col. Sir George Moore, Kt., C.I.E.,
President, Municipal Commission,

To

The Secretary to Government,
Local and Municipal Department,
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

With reference to G.O. 1716 M.Mis., dated 4th

August 1897, I have the honor to forward a report by the Health Officer in which he replies to the questions asked therein.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

G. Moore Lt. Col.

President, Munl. Commn.

20/8/97
20-8-97

3001
20/8/97

When given for copying
When copied *Am 12/10/97* } 189.
When examined
When signed *12/10/97*

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

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

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

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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