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Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1503 M

DATED 24-8-98.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Medical Institutions in the Town of Madras.

Recording Ld. Public Dept., reviewing annual report on the working of the — for the year 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

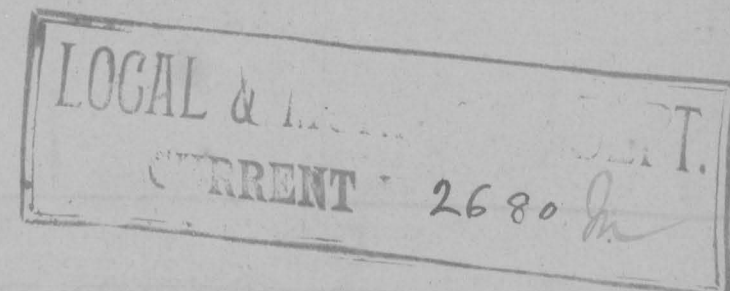
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G.O., &c., Nos. 1000, 1001, 6th August 1898.

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24/8/98

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AUGUST. 19/8/98

22/8/98

Copy to the President, M. Madras.
19/8/98

Medical Institutions in the Town of Madras.

Reviewing annual report on the working of the — for the year 1897. Copy to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Surgeon-General, dated 23rd May 1898, No. 130 T.

ORDER—No. 1000, Public, dated 6th August 1898.

The Surgeon-General's note on the working of the medical institutions in the town of Madras for the year 1897 has been prepared with commendable despatch and has been submitted considerably before the due date. The report has been materially reduced in bulk by the omission of the professional reports, in accordance with the instructions issued in G.O., No. 1086, Public, dated 19th August 1897.

2. The number of hospitals and dispensaries remained the same as in the previous year, viz., fourteen. Several minor improvements to the buildings were carried out during the year. The medical work performed in these institutions during the last three years is compared in the following table:—

Year.	Number of patients treated.			Average daily attendance.			Percent- age of mortality among in- patients.	Number of surgical operations.	Cost of diet.	Total gross ex- penditure.
	In.	Out.	Total.	In.	Out.	Total.				
1895	17,345	176,182	193,527	1,042.87	1,108.49	2,151.36	5.66	27,715	Rs. 98,046	Rs. 4,26,175
1896	17,605	186,249	203,854	974.91	1,220.47	2,195.38	4.92	27,903	96,449	4,22,314
1897	18,908	198,809	217,717	1,025.34	1,304.14	2,329.48	6.05	31,794	1,01,071	4,15,255

The figures in paragraph 3 of the report show that, judging from the total mortality in the city, the year was a healthy one. The steady increase in the number of patients treated in the hospitals may, therefore, be taken as an indication of the growing popularity of European, as opposed to native, methods of medical treatment. The mortality among in-patients rose from 4.92 to 6.05 per cent. The death-rate at the Native Infirmary is particularly high, having risen from 9.39 in 1896 to 10.79 in 1897. The Surgeon-General suggests that this increase is in part due to the large number of patients admitted moribund, but it is observed that the rate per cent. of deaths in this institution, excluding patients admitted moribund, has risen from 6.7 in 1896 to 9.2 in the year under review, and the Surgeon-General's explanation is therefore inapplicable. The number of deaths from septic disease acquired in hospital exhibits a considerable decrease.

3. The total number of operations performed during the year amounted to 31,794 against 27,903 in 1896, the Maternity Hospital contributing 2,436 towards this increase. The good work done in operative surgery by the marginally-noted officers is noted with much satisfaction.

4. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,21,226-12-9, which was met from the following sources:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Government	3,21,509	4	6
Municipality	42,133	11	11
Port Funds	2,981	0	4
Public subscriptions	4,064	13	9
Paying patients	21,266	11	10
Micellaneous sources	525	9	1
Interest on investments	6,428	15	11
Monegar (houltry funds)	13,513	5	1
Sale of securities or withdrawal from deposits	2,300	0	0
Other sources	7,503	4	4

Total ... 4,21,226 12 9

The expenditure under *Establishment* increased owing to the entertainment during the year of the enlarged staff for the General Hospital. The cost of diets also rose with the increased number of patients treated. On the other hand, there was a considerable diminution in the sum spent on European medicines.

5. The fees collected from "paying patients" showed a decrease of Rs. 3,630-9-2 owing to the smaller number of patients who availed themselves of the special accommodation, and to the fact that no beds were available at the General Hospital for native special paying patients for the first ten months of the year.

The receipts from public subscriptions fell from Rs. 11,000 to Rs. 4,000. It is explained by the Surgeon-General that no special appeal for subscriptions was made during the year. Among the public subscriptions is noticed the liberal donation made by Rai Bahadur Dhanakoti Mudaliar to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital.

6. The average cost per head of patients treated, calculated on all charges, fell from As. 13-8 to As. 11. The cost of diets varied little from that shown in the report for 1896. Considering the rise in the prices of almost all articles of food which took place during the year, this is very satisfactory.

The increase in the expenditure on diets in the Government Maternity Hospital is explained by the Surgeon-General as partly due to the sum spent on batta to pregnant women. The Government is not in possession of the information necessary for a comparison of the expenditure under this head in 1896 and 1897. G.O., No. 1633, dated 10th December 1897, however, sanctioned the extension of this system on condition that it should be worked at lower rates. It is presumed that this direction has been borne in mind.

7. The importation into Madras during the year of a case of plague is referred to by the Surgeon-General in the last paragraph of his report. The Medical authorities are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts to prevent the spread of the disease.

8. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to record his appreciation of the services of the officers noted in the margin, whom the Surgeon-General has selected for special mention in connection with the medical institutions of the town. A fuller examination of the work done by the medical officers of all ranks in the Presidency town must be deferred until next

4

Nos. 1000, 1001, PUBLIC, 6TH AUGUST 1898.

year when a triennial report will be due, but the Government has no reason to believe that in the year under review there has been any falling off from the high standard of efficiency which is recognized by outside observers as existing in the Presidency hospitals at Madras.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
for Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Financial Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Accountant-General.

ENDORSEMENT— No. 1001, Public, dated 6th August 1898.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

Ead. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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189

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