[L. & M. 3,000—1-3-98.]

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 381 P

DATED 25-4-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague Recording letter from the Government of Bengal forwarding Copies of a notification issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act—

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. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1780

From

The Secy. to the Government of Bengal

Order No. 381 P. mis. dt. 25.4.98

Recorded W 1 5398

No. 1049 Medl.

Dated 24th Feby. '98

Received 3rd March '98

Registered 4th March '98

Enclosures Six

Spare copies. 10 of the current & 2 of each of the Enclosures.

To The Sanitary Comr.s
" Presidency, Municipal Commrs. Madras
} P. Cmdts.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for information a copy of Govt. circular No. 8 Medl. dt. 8.2.98 and enclosures, dealing with precautions against the importation and spread of plague into villages and towns in Bengal.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

Cir. No. 8Medl.

CALCUTTA, THE 8TH FEBRUARY 1898.

FROM H. H. RISLEY, ESQ., C.I.E.,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

TO ALL COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward, for your information and the necessary action, copies of the Resolution No. 659Medl. of to-day's date, and Plague Regulations Nos. 10 to 13, dealing with precautions against the importation of plague into villages and towns and prevention of its spread should any case unhappily occur. You will observe that the main object of the Resolution and of the Regulations annexed to it is to enlist the co-operation of the people in detecting the first cases, and all your efforts should be directed to securing this end. If District Magistrates explain personally to the Committees of Observation and the Medical Committees the policy of Government as stated in the Resolution, the Lieutenant-Governor believes that they will readily be induced to watch all persons arriving from infected areas and to report suspicious forms of illness, which may show themselves among such persons or among those who have been staying in the same house. The Government of India will be asked to inform this Government regularly what areas should be deemed to be infected, and this information will be communicated direct to District Magistrates.

2. For the reasons stated in the Resolution, all mention of the police has been omitted from the new Regulations. But the arrangements which have been in force since the end of November under Regulation No. 9 will be maintained, subject to certain modifications which will appear from the following instructions:—

I.—INSTRUCTIONS TO POLICE OFFICERS IN RESPECT OF THE REPORTING OF ARRIVALS FROM INFECTED AREAS AND CASES OF PLAGUE IN VILLAGES AND NON-MUNICIPAL TOWNS.

1. *Duties of Station and Outpost Officers, Rural Police and Chaukidari Panchayats.*—Every rural policeman (chaukidar) shall forthwith report to his police-station or outpost the name of every person who has arrived in his village from any area infected with bubonic plague, together with the name of the householder with whom he resides, and shall also report fresh arrivals as they occur. Members of chaukidari panchayats are required to see that the above duty is faithfully performed. The names so reported, with dates, will be entered in a *Special List* to be kept at police-stations and outposts. The Station Officer shall also enter in the *Special List* the names and addresses of travellers from infected areas which are reported to him by the Railway Police under rule 9. He shall also for the space of ten days next following after the persons shown in the *Special List* arrived in his jurisdisdiction, cause the state of health of such persons to be specially reported to him.

2. Every rural policeman shall report any excessive mortality among rats or monkeys that may occur.

3. Every rural policeman shall be liable, on the requisition of the police-station or outpost officer, to do 24 hours' duty at any railway station situated within the police-station or outpost jurisdiction, and to perform there such duties as shall hereafter be prescribed by circular departmental orders.

4. *Rural Policemen to be present at railway stations.*—The District Superintendent of Police will arrange that two or, if necessary, more than two chaukidars shall be present throughout the 24 hours at such railway stations in his district as the Inspector-General of Police may consider necessary. This arrangement will be made under the District

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Superintendent's orders by the police-station or outpost officer, who will be held responsible that each pair or batch of chaukidars is regularly relieved after 24 hours' duty, and that each man receives subsistence allowance at the rate of two annas a day. This subsistence allowance will be paid from District Board or other District Funds under arrangements to be made by the Magistrate.

5. *Death of person entered in Special List to be reported.*—On receiving intimation of the illness or death of any person entered in the *Special List* referred to in rule 4 or of any person residing in the same household, the station or outpost officer shall inform the Subdivisional Health Officer, or, if the village or town is situated in the Sadar subdivision of the district, the Civil Surgeon.

6. *Increased mortality in villages to be inquired into.*—Whenever the deaths reported from any village are more numerous than usual, and specially sudden deaths due to fever, the station or outpost officer shall, when forwarding "The weekly statement of deaths to the Civil Surgeon," prescribed by Bengal Police Circular No. 2 of March 1897, call the Health Officer's or Civil Surgeon's attention to the increased rate of mortality.

7. *Magistrates and Superior Police Officers required to supervise.*—Magistrates and the superior police officers should, whenever practicable, attend the weekly muster parades at which all the rural policemen are assembled, so as to be able by interrogation and by enquiry to satisfy themselves that the rules laid down in this Regulation are being duly carried out.

8. *District and Rural Police to assist Plague authorities.*—The District and Rural Police shall give to the Plague authorities any assistance they may require to enable them to carry out the duties they have to perform under the Plague Regulations.

9. *Duties of Railway Police.*—Assistant Inspectors-General of the Railway Police are required to work in cordial co-operation with the District Police. It is their duty to arrange, on the arrival of trains, that the Railway Police prepare lists containing the names and residences of travellers from infected areas; these lists, after being checked from the tickets collected, will bo forwarded to the station police. When there is reason to suspect that a traveller has given either a wrong name or wrong residence, one of the chaukidars referred to in rule 4 will be sent with him to verify the information given. A small itinerant staff will be sanctioned for each Assistant Inspector-General to ensure that the rules prescribed for observance at railway stations are being strictly carried out, and that travellers are not evading examination and observation by alighting at intermediate stations and taking fresh tickets.

10. *Breaking railway journey.*—In the event of a traveller from an infected area alighting at an intermediate station with the object of obtaining a fresh ticket, so as to conceal the fact that he comes from an infected area, the Railway Police will take down his name and the number of the fresh ticket issued, and will send information down the line so that he may, on alighting, be placed under observation.

II.—Instructions to Police Officers in respect of the reporting of arrivals from infected areas and cases of plague in municipal Towns and Cantonments.

1. *Duties of Town Police at railway stations.*—When a railway station is situated within or close to municipal boundaries, the Railway Police, in co-operation with the Town Police, will arrange to meet trains on arrival and to prepare lists containing the names and residences of travellers from infected areas who may alight. These lists, after being checked against the tickets collected, will then be sent to the town police-stations. When a traveller is suspected of giving a wrong name or wrong residence, one of the town policemen present will be sent with him to verify the information given.

2. *Town Police to report arrivals from infected parts and to keep them under observation.*—The Town Police are required to report at once to the police-station the name of every person arriving from any area infected with the bubonic plague who takes up his temporary or permanent residence within the limits of their beats. The names so obtained, together with those referred to in the preceding rule, with dates of entry, will be entered in the *Special List* to be kept at town police-stations. A copy of this *Special List* will be sent to the District or Cantonment Magistrate and to the Health Officer, all new names being notified to them without delay. The District Magistrate will send extracts to the Circle registering officers concerned.

3. *Duties of Railway Police when travellers from infected areas break their journey and take fresh tickets.*—In the event of a traveller from an infected area alighting at an intermediate station with the object of obtaining a fresh ticket so as to conceal the fact that he is a traveller from an infected area, the Railway Police will take down his name and the number of the fresh ticket issued, and will send information down the line, so that he may, on alighting, be brought under observation.

4. *Town Police to report illness or death from bubonic plague.*—On receiving information of illness or death from bubonic plague, the officer in charge of a town police-station shall forthwith report the matter to the District or Cantonment Magistrate, and shall also make an entry in red ink in the station diary for the information of the District Superintendent and Magistrate. But the Police are on no account to interfere with the Committees of Observation or obstruct them in the performance of their duties.

5. *Magistrates and superior police officers required to supervise.*—Magistrates and superior officers of police are required to satisfy themselves by frequent personal inspection that the above rules prescribing the duties of the people are strictly carried out.

6. *Police required to assist Plague authorities.*—All police officers shall give to the Plague authorities any assistance they may require to enable them to carry out the duties they have to perform under the Plague Regulations.

3. In order to supplement and check the system of separate reporting by Committees and by police officers now introduced, power has been given in Regulations 10 and 12 to cause burial and burning-grounds to be registered. This power should be exercised in all Municipalities where section 254 of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, is not in force or has not been fully carried out, and in the larger non-municipal towns. The District Magistrate should also at once appoint special registering officers at all burial and burning-grounds, and direct them to register all corpses brought for interment or cremation in the following form:—

Number.	Date of death.	Name.	Sex.	Age.	Caste or profession.	Reported cause of death.	Residence at time of death.	Residence previous to last illness.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

An extract from the form should be sent at the close of every day to the Civil Surgeon for his information, and in order that enquiry may be made into the cause of any abnormal mortality in any particular locality.

It must be distinctly understood that no corpse is to be uncovered or examined, and that cremation or burial is not to be delayed or interfered with in any way. The information required must be procured by interrogation of the mourners.

In municipal towns the registering officers may be appointed under rule 3 of Regulation 10, and will be paid, under the Magistrate's orders, from Municipal Funds. In non-municipal towns they will be paid from the District Fund or District Road Fund, as the case may be.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. H. RISLEY,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

T. N. R.—Reg. No. 7661C—909—8-2-98.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

CALCUTTA, THE 8TH FEBRUARY 1898.

RESOLUTION—No. 659Medl.

THE promulgation of Plague Notification No. 9 of the 10th November in the districts of Bihar gave rise to considerable misapprehension on the part of the people as to the effect of some of the provisions of the Regulation, and misunderstanding as to the steps which it was proposed to take at present as contrasted with the more stringent measures that might have to be brought into force should plague unfortunately actually invade the Province. Much was done, through the judicious action of the Commissioner and District Officers, to allay the mis-apprehension, but the Lieutenant-Governor thought it desirable that he should himself visit Bihar, confer with the local officers, and explain to the leading members of the Native community the true scope of the Government policy in connection with the prevention, detection, and treatment of plague. It appeared also to His Honour that it was possible so to recast the Regulation as to mitigate its stringency and allay the fears of the people without sacrificing any of the essential principles prescribed by the Government of India.

2. Sir Alexander Mackenzie has returned from a rapid tour in Bihar, in the course of which he has received deputations of Native notables from the districts of Muzaffarpur, Champaran, Darbhanga, Arrah, Patna, Saran and Gaya. He was glad to find that the modifications which he proposed in the Regulation met with universal acceptance, and the Regulations appended to this Resolution will take the place of Regulation 9 in the case of all mufassal municipalities, cantonments, and villages.

3. To each deputation in turn the Lieutenant-Governor pointed out that there certainly is no need for panic or alarm at the present time, inasmuch as the plague has not yet come anywhere near Bengal, while the Governments of Bombay, the Punjab, the North-Western Provinces and the Central Provinces, each in its own jurisdiction, are taking effective steps for preventing its spread. It was also remarked that the disease is not one which spreads rapidly, and that if it ever extended to the neighbourhood of the Bengal frontier ample notice would be secured in advance. Nor is it a disease that springs up of itself in tracts where it has hitherto been unknown. The essential thing at present, therefore, is to guard against importation and to detect and deal with the first imported cases.

4. His Honour agreed with the objections taken in most of the memorials to the employment of the police in house-to-house investigation at the present stage of the operations. He was prepared to make over in large measure the duty of reporting suspected cases to the people themselves on a plan which he proceeded to outline. In the first place, however, he thought it quite unnecessary to report to any authority ordinary cases of "sudden fever," "pain in the chest with cough and feeling of oppression," and similar ordinary diseases of the country. It would be sufficient to watch arrivals from infected tracts, and to report cases of illness among them or among the residents of houses in which such persons might be staying or have resided.

5. The supervision of such arrivals and the reporting of illness among them would, he thought, best be effected by dividing each town into convenient circles of 300 or 400 or more houses, as local conditions might dictate, and appointing for each of these circles a Committee of Observation consisting of one Hindu and one Muhammadan gentleman approved by the District Magistrate, and to give them a Muharrir as Registering Officer, to be paid a small salary by the Municipality or Government. The Committee would report daily on the health of the circle through the Muharrir to the Civil Surgeon. If there was a case that appeared to them suspicious, the Civil Surgeon would judge, on the facts reported, whether there was ground for suspicion or not. If not, nothing more would be required. If he thought the case suspicious he would make further enquiry with the aid of a Medical Committee of which at present it would suffice to have one for each town. It should consist of the Civil

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Surgeon himself as President, of one Hindu medical practitioner, one Muhammadan medical practitioner, and one female doctor. The Native members need not necessarily be men of European medical training, but should be men of respectability, approved by the District Magistrate. The Medical Committee would visit the spot, and in concert, if possible, with the Committee of Observation enquire into the case. This enquiry in the case of *purda* women would be conducted through the agency of the female member of the Committee. If the case was not one of plague, nothing more would be done. If it turned out to be a case of plague, it would have to be treated in the manner described below.

6. At the outset it was necessary to make clear the fact that what was called "home segregation" could under no circumstances be allowed. One fact which was clearly demonstrated by experience was this, that in the case of plague, the house itself, its walls and floors, become poisoned in such a way that evacuation of the house, and of all neighbouring buildings to which infection might be reasonably supposed to extend, was essential at the outset. The home treatment of cholera and small-pox was no precedent for the treatment of plague. Cholera was rarely, if ever, directly dangerous to those in attendance, if the evacuations were promptly treated with disinfectants and properly disposed of. In small-pox the risk came from direct contact with the patient, and to properly vaccinated attendants was practically nil. Not only was the plague more dangerous than either of these diseases, but its mode of infection was, it appeared, more subtle. The dust of the floors, the plaster of the walls, every garment of the patient, became a source of danger; and though, as was shown in the experience of hospital attendants and the like in Bombay, under proper precautions and a thorough system of personal and floor disinfection, the danger could be minimised, there was no doubt whatever that flight from the infected house until it had been thoroughly disinfected and left unoccupied for some time was, in the present state of our knowledge, the only satisfactory measure to check its propagation. This is in accordance also with the experience of the North-Western Provinces. In the case of Kankhal, a town of 7,000 inhabitants, the whole town was evacuated and the sick placed in garden-houses attended by their friends or relatives who also were kept in strict segregation. The other inhabitants were placed in a series of camps consisting of huts constructed with due regard to female privacy and the custom of the country. There was a separate camp for each different class of people. In spite of all precautions an ordinary house in the crowded part of a town in which a case of plague has occurred cannot be made safe without evacuation not only of the house itself, but of the houses in its vicinity. The narrower the circle of adjacent houses evacuated, the less chance there is of controlling the disease. The affected house or quarter would therefore have to be promptly cleared of the inmates. How were these persons to be provided for?

7. *Raises* and men of means having adequate compounds or gardens will, as already provided in the existing Regulation, be allowed to maintain a private hospital for the sick and a private set of segregation huts in their own compounds or gardens wherever there is space sufficient for the complete segregation of the family from all risk of infection arising from the originally inhabited house or from infected houses in the neighbourhood. There the sick would be looked after by their own families, persons brought into direct contact with the sick being kept apart from those who were only open to suspicion merely as coming from the same house. The treatment will be that preferred by the family; no attempt to force any particular system of treatment on the sick or their friends would ever be tolerated. The Civil Surgeon will, however, have to be satisfied beforehand with the adequacy of the arrangements proposed for segregation and disinfection, and must be permitted from time to time to see that those arrangements are being duly kept up. The owners of such private hospitals and camps will also be required to meet the cost of such external guards as the District Magistrate deemed necessary. Of course in all such private establishments the arrangements for *purda* women would be made by the owners themselves.

8. In the case of respectable people of smaller means the system of associated family, caste, or class hospitals and camps is the only resource. The sooner arrangements for such refuges are completed, the better. In all such association-camps suitable arrangements for *purda* women should be made. Families should not be broken up, but kept together. The treatment may be that desired by each family. Generally, in short, the arrangements

already suggested for private camps will be reproduced with any necessary modifications approved by the Civil Surgeon.

9. For the poorest classes of all, of course public hospitals and segregation camps must be provided under the District Magistrate's orders. But here also every effort will be made to respect *purda* requirements. Both the management and treatment will be in the hands of the Civil Surgeon. But families will not be separated. Those who wish to attend on their sick will be separately housed in the hospital compound, and they will have free access to their sick both by night and by day.

10. At present it is quite unnecessary for private persons to go to any expense in building even temporary accommodation; all that is required is that a complete scheme for each town should be drawn up and approved by the District Magistrate and submitted for examination to the Plague Commission.

11. When a quarter of a town or a group of houses has to be vacated, the owners will be allowed to make arrangements for the watch and ward of their property, and the Magistrate will give every assistance in his power to guard such property from theft.

12. The Lieutenant-Governor pointed out that he was entrusting the the first line of defence to the people themselves. If it were found that cases of suspected plague were concealed and not reported, then it would be necessary to institute search parties. The police and possibly the troops would have to be called in, and much trouble would be inflicted on the townsmen generally. But they would have brought this on themselves by failing to fulfil the obligation now laid upon them.

13. For the rest the Lieutenant-Governor hopes Municipal Commissioners and District Magistrates will devote special attention to flushing and cleaning drains and privies and to closing absolutely all well-privies, proper provision for the wants of the poorer classes being made. It seems to him waste of time and money to whitewash the outside of houses, as has been done generally in Bihar, and whitewashing the inside at this season is more dangerous to health than leaving things alone. Their duty is to get rid of "real filth," so that the plague, if it came, might be combated under the most favourable conditions.

14. In the case of Patna the Lieutenant-Governor thought it necessary to give a warning. There is no doubt that much of the agitation there was factious—got up by evil-designing persons to embarrass the Government. His Honour warned such persons that they were well known to the authorities, and that any repetition of such tactics would lead to their being very summarily and severely dealt with.

15. In the matter of the village rules certain modifications have been made after consultation with the local officers, which appear in the Regulations appended. It is deemed unnecessary to include in the Regulations matters that are more properly dealt with by executive orders. To do so only confuses the mind of the less intelligent members of the public.

16. It will be necessary, however, as a check upon reporting, to provide that no interments or cremations shall take place in other than duly registered and licensed cemeteries and burning ghâts. This is already part of the ordinary municipal law, though not brought universally into force. No interference with corpses or funeral ceremonies, is, however, at present anywhere called for.

17. The orders explained in this Resolution render it unnecessary to deal separately with the following memorials that have been received by Government, viz.—

Memorial without date, from the residents of the district of Muzaffarpur.
Ditto ditto, from the citizens of Darbhanga.
Ditto dated 24th January 1898, from the Hindus and Muhammadans of Patna.
Ditto without date, from the residents of Arrah.
Ditto ditto ditto of Gaya.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. H. RISLEY,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

H. P.—Reg. No. 7537C—909—9-2-98.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE IMPORTATION OF PLAGUE INTO MUNICIPAL TOWNS AND CANTONMENTS.

PLAGUE REGULATION—No. 10.

Calcutta, the 8th February 1898.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, in the Home Department, No. 302, dated 4th February 1897, and in supersession of the rules contained in Parts III and IV of Regulation No. 9, dated the 10th November 1897, except in so far as those rules relate to the town of Calcutta, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to prescribe the following regulation for preventing the importation of the bubonic plague into municipal towns and cantonments.

1. *Date of taking effect.*—This regulation shall come into force at once.

2. *Health Officer defined.*—The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of the district, and include a Civil Medical Officer, a Military Medical Officer in charge of a cantonment, an Assistant Surgeon in medical charge of a district or subdivision or a municipal dispensary, and any medical practitioner appointed by the District Magistrate under Rule 3.

3. *Appointment of Health Officers.*—In every municipality or cantonment where the Commissioner considers it necessary, the District Magistrate shall appoint a Health Officer, either by name or by virtue of office, to devise and carry out, under the District Magistrate's general directions, all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the plague, and shall fix his pay, or where he is already a salaried officer of Government may with the approval of Government fix a reasonable deputation allowance to be paid to him for this extra duty. He may also, subject to the general instructions of the Commissioner, appoint such subordinate staff to assist the Health Officer in carrying out his duties as he may consider necessary, and may fix their pay. For the purposes of this rule, the District Magistrate may group municipalities and cantonments and may appoint a Health Officer and staff for the combined area. For every municipality or cantonment in which a Health Officer is appointed, the District Magistrate shall prepare a scheme showing in detail the arrangements for public, family, and caste hospitals and camps, medical staff, medicines, disinfectants, and the like, which would have to come into force in the event of plague breaking out, and shall submit the scheme for examination to the Secretary to the Plague Commission.

4. *Appointment of Committee of Observation.*—Every municipality or cantonment where the Commissioner may consider such action to be necessary shall be divided by the District Magistrate into circles, each containing three hundred houses, more or less, as may be convenient. For each such circle the District Magistrate shall appoint a Committee of Observation consisting of one Hindu, one Muhammadan, and one salaried registering officer.

5. *Appointment of Medical Committee.*—The District Magistrate shall also appoint for the whole of such municipality or cantonment a Medical Committee consisting of the Health Officer as President, one Hindu, and one Muhammadan, who shall, if possible, be medical practitioners, and one lady doctor.

6. *Duties of Committee of Observation.*—It shall be the duty of the Committee of Observation to report daily to the Health Officer, through the registering officer of the circle, all cases of unusual fever accompanied by glandular swellings which may occur in their circle among persons who have arrived within the preceding ten days from any infected area, or in houses where any such person may be or may have been staying.

7. *Duties of Medical Committee.*—If on a case of fever as described in Rule 6 being reported by the Committee of Observation the Health Officer is of opinion that further enquiry is necessary for the purpose of ascertaining whether the case is or is not one of plague, the Medical Committee shall visit the house in which the case has occurred, accompanied, if possible, by the Committee of Observation for the circle, and shall enquire into the case. If the patient is a female, any examination that may be necessary shall be conducted by the lady doctor. If the case is found to be one of plague it shall be dealt with under the rules contained in regulation number 11, which will then come into force as far as is necessary for the purposes of the particular case.

8. *General sanitary precautions.*—In any municipality or cantonment the District Magistrate or any Magistrate authorized by him in this behalf, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may issue general orders that by a certain specified date certain sanitary precautions of a simple nature, such as cleaning and proper ordering of latrines, flushing of drains and sewers, filling up of well-privies, removal of filth and rubbish, and the like, shall be carried out within any specified area, and all persons residing within such area shall be bound to give effect to these orders. If within such time such persons fail to carry out the operations specified in the notice, the Health Officer may, with the sanction of the District Magistrate or of the Cantonment Magistrate, enter upon the premises at any time between sunrise and sunset, after giving such notice of his intention as shall, under the circumstances, appear to him to be reasonable, and carry out the measures specified above: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall give at least one hour's notice of his intention to enter such apartment, and shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing from such

portion of the apartment as he may desire to enter. The expenses incurred may be recovered in the manner provided in sections 120 to 129, both inclusive, of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, from the persons who, in the opinion of the District Magistrate, may fairly be held responsible.

9. *Insanitary premises and blocks of huts.*—When any premises or any block of huts are in such a dangerously insanitary state as, in the opinion of the Health Officer, to make the inmates thereof especially liable to an attack of the bubonic plague, he may, with the previous sanction of the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate, require the owner by notice to have the whole or any portion of such premises cleansed within a specified time in such manner as may appear to him necessary, and may in consultation, if necessary, with a competent engineer, direct the owner to remove all structures, partitions, erections or portions of house-walls which obstruct light and ventilation. If within such time the owner fails to carry out the operations specified in the notice, the Health Officer may enter upon the premises at any time between sunrise and sunset, after giving such notice of his intention as shall, under the circumstances, appear to him to be reasonable, and carry out the measures specified above: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall give at least one hour's notice of his intention to enter such apartment, and shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing from such portion of the apartment as he may desire to enter. The expenses incurred may be recovered in the manner provided in sections 120 to 129, both inclusive, of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, from the owner or from the persons who, in the opinion of the Magistrate of the district, may fairly be held responsible.

10. *Prohibition of rag-picking.*—No person, except municipal or cantonment servants, shall pick up rags or other refuse in the streets or elsewhere; nor shall rags or refuse be transported, except under such conditions as may be prescribed by the Health Officer. Any person picking up rags or other refuse in the streets or elsewhere shall be liable to be arrested by the police. The District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate may disinfect or at his discretion destroy any collection of rags in rag-pickers' houses or rag stores.

11. *Provision of hospitals.*—It shall be lawful for the District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate to select a site or sites and erect hospitals thereon, or to convert any building, not being a place of worship, into a hospital for the isolation of patients suffering from the plague, in any locality which, in the opinion of the Health Officer, may be suitable for the purpose. In such hospital separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, having regard to their rank and station in life. The owner or lessee of any such site or building shall not be entitled to claim from the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate anything beyond a reasonable rent for the period during which the site or building may remain in his occupation. Before vacating the building, the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate shall cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected.

12. *Provision of camps.*—It shall be lawful for the District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate to select a site or sites and erect thereon temporary camps, or to convert any building, not being a place of worship, into a camp for the segregation of persons suspected to be infected with plague, or for the residence of persons compelled to vacate their houses under these Regulations. The owner or lessee of any such site or building shall not be entitled to claim from the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate anything beyond a reasonable rent for the period during which the site or building may remain in his occupation. Before vacating the building, the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate shall cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected, both internally and externally.

13. *Reports from factories.*—Every occupier of a factory shall, on employing in his factory any person who has come from any area infected with bubonic plague, immediately report in writing to the Magistrate of the district the fact of such employment and the name and address of the person employed.

The word "factory" used in this rule means any premises wherein is carried on any process for, or incidental to, making, altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing or otherwise adapting for use or sale any article or part of an article, and wherein steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of any such process.

14. *Report by householder.*—If there is resident in any house a person who has come within ten days from any area infected with bubonic plague, the owner of such house or, if the owner be non-resident, the person who collects the rent of the house or any part of it, shall report forthwith to a member of the Committee of Observation (1) all cases of fever such as is described in Rule 6 which may occur among the residents of the house, and (2) the death of any person in the house from any such fever.

15. *Report by medical practitioner.*—Any medical practitioner who attends in any house a case which he has reason to believe to be a case of bubonic plague shall forthwith report such illness to the Committee of Observation or to the Health Officer.

16. *Family hospitals and camps.*—When a family or an association of families desire to provide a hospital and camp for the reception of the members of such family or association of families who may be attacked by plague or exposed to infection, the family or association of families may apply through any of its members to the Health Officer for permission to make use of such hospital and camp. If after such enquiry as may be necessary the Health Officer approves of the site and arrangements proposed for management, he shall give a written license for such hospital and camp. In the case of well-to-do families having large quarters or separate garden-houses, the hospitals and camps may be allowed in such places if otherwise

suitable. It shall be the duty of the applicant to arrange so that the hospital and camp may be constructed without delay as soon as a case of plague occurs. All such hospitals and camps shall provide suitable accommodation for women who, according to the custom of the country, do not appear in public. Provided that the number of family hospitals and camps sanctioned in any town or cantonment shall not exceed the number that can be adequately guarded and supervised, and the license of a family hospital or camp may be withdrawn at any time if the Health Officer considers the maintenance of such hospital or camp to be objectionable or dangerous to the health of the neighbourhood.

17. *Caste hospitals and camps.*—When the members of a particular caste desire to provide a hospital and camp for the reception of those among them who may be attacked by plague or exposed to infection, they may apply as above to the Health Officer for permission to make use of such hospital or camp. If after such enquiry as may be necessary the Health Officer approves of the site and arrangements proposed for management, he shall give a written license for such hospital and camp. It shall be the duty of the applicant to arrange so that the hospital and camp may be constructed without delay as soon as a case of plague occurs. All such hospitals and camps shall provide suitable accommodation for women who, according to the custom of the country, do not appear in public.

18. *Caste hospitals and camps for the respectable poor.*—If on application being made under Rule 17 the District Magistrate is satisfied that the persons making the application are too poor to provide a hospital and camp for themselves, he may cause the necessary arrangements to be made at the cost of, or with help from, the Municipal Fund.

19. *Compensation.*—The District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under this regulation; provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever. In deciding claims to compensation, the District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate shall consult the Committee of Observation, but shall not be bound to follow their advice.

20. *Control.*—All powers conferred upon the Health Officer or the Cantonment Magistrate, by these rules, shall be exercised subject to the general control of the District Magistrate.

21. *Expenses.*—Subject to the provisions of Rules 8 and 9, all expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall, in the first instance, be paid from the Municipal Fund or from loans made under the Local Authorities (Emergency) Loans Act, 1897; but the District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate may recover from any person any amount which such person would, under similar circumstances, be liable to pay to the Commissioners under the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or the Cantonment Act or Rules, as the case may be.

22. *Registration of burial and burning-grounds.*—In every municipality and cantonment the District Magistrate shall cause to be registered any place used as a burial or burning-ground which has not been already registered under section 254 of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, and no place which has not been registered either under that section or under this rule shall be used as a burial or burning-ground.

E J. H.—Reg. No. 7538C—909 - 9-2-98.

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF BUBONIC PLAGUE IN MUNICIPAL TOWNS AND CANTONMENTS.

PLAGUE REGULATION No. 11.

Calcutta, the 8th February 1898.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department No. 302, dated 4th February 1897, and in supersession of the rules contained in Parts III and IV of Plague Notification No. 9 of the 10th November 1897, except in so far as those rules relate to the town of Calcutta, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to prescribe the following regulation for preventing the spread of the bubonic plague in municipal towns and cantonments :—

1. *Date of taking effect.*—Except as provided in Rule 7 of Regulation 10, this regulation shall come into force in any Municipality or Cantonment from the date on which the Magistrate of the district may, by proclamation issued with the sanction of Government, declare the plague to be prevalent there, and shall continue in force until by a similar proclamation he shall declare the plague to have ceased.

2. *Health Officer defined.*—The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of the district, and include a Civil Medical Officer, a Military Medical Officer in charge of a Cantonment, an Assistant Surgeon in medical charge of a district or subdivision or a municipal dispensary, and any medical practitioner appointed by the District Magistrate under Rule 3.

3. *Appointment of Health Officers.*—In any Municipality or Cantonment where plague has been declared to be prevalent, the District Magistrate, subject to the general instructions of the Commissioner, shall appoint as many Health Officers as may be necessary to prevent the spread of the disease, and shall fix their pay. He shall also appoint such subordinate staff to assist the Health Officers in carrying out their duties as he may consider necessary and shall fix their pay.

4. *Appointment of Medical Committee.*—For each division of the Municipality or Cantonment for which a Health Officer is appointed, or for such smaller area as he may consider necessary, the District Magistrate shall also appoint a Medical Committee consisting of the Health Officer as President, one Hindu and one Muhammadan, who shall, if possible, be medical practitioners, and one lady doctor.

5. *Procedure in case of suspected plague.*—When the Health Officer has reason to believe that a case of plague has occurred in a house, he shall proceed with, if possible, the members of the Medical Committee, to enquire into the case. The owner and occupier of the house shall permit the Health Officer to enter his premises and examine any person whom such Health Officer has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic plague. In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person is a female, the examination shall be made through female agency.

6. *Segregation.*—(1) If, on inquiry under the last preceding rule, the Health Officer finds that a fatal case of plague has occurred in the house or that any person therein is suffering from or infected with plague, he shall, in the latter case, cause such person to be removed to a hospital for treatment. He shall also, in either case, cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides and all occupants of those neighbouring houses which are likely to have become infected to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days. The District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may grant subsistence allowance at rates suitable to their station in life, to persons detained under this rule.

(2) When family hospitals and camps or caste hospitals and camps have been provided under Rules 16, 17 and 18 of Plague Regulation number 10, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire, and if accommodation is available, be removed to such hospitals or camps. In the case of females who, by the custom of the country, do not appear in public, their transport to the hospital or camp shall be arranged for in such a manner as to preserve their *parda*.

(3) In family and caste hospitals the patients may be treated on such system and by such doctors as they or their friends may desire.

(4) In all hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females and they shall, so far as may be possible, be treated by female agency.

(5) In all hospitals, the relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids* and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them at all times, subject to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(6) If in any case a person removed to a public or family or caste hospital is accompanied by friends or attendants, the Health Officer may require so many of them as are not in personal attendance on the patient to live in the immediate neighbourhood of the hospital in segregation huts or tents provided for the purpose, and to remain in such place until they receive permission from the Health Officer to depart.

(7) If a person is attacked with bubonic plague while so segregated, the Health Officer shall remove such person to a public or family or caste hospital, and may treat his friends and attendants as provided in the preceding rule.

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(8) All hospitals and camps shall be suitably guarded, and in the case of family and caste hospitals and camps the arrangements for guarding must be approved by the District Magistrate, and their cost will be met by the persons on whose application the hospital or camp was sanctioned.

(9) Family and caste hospitals or camps may be closed by order of the District Magistrate if the Health Officer reports that the conditions on which such hospitals or camps were sanctioned are not complied with, or that their continuance is objectionable or a source of danger to the neighbourhood.

7. *Disinfection and cleansing of houses, etc., by Health Officer.*—In any house in which a case of plague has occurred, the Health Officer shall take measures for the disinfection and cleansing of the house, the destruction of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, the improvement of the sanitary condition of the premises, the removal, in consultation, if possible, with a competent engineer, of all partitions, erections or portions of house-walls which obstruct light and ventilation, and other sanitary precautions. The District Magistrate on the report of the Health Officer may order the burning or destruction of any hut or other temporary structure, if disinfection cannot be satisfactorily effected otherwise, awarding compensation to persons who are so poor as to be unable to replace at their own expense the structure that has been burnt or destroyed.

8. *Right of entry.*—The owner and occupier of any house in which a case of plague has occurred shall permit the Health Officer and his staff to enter his house or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the preceding rule. In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance and shall take such further steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. Provided that, when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall not enter such an apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw.

9. *Evacuation of street or quarter.*—If bubonic plague has become prevalent in a portion of a Municipality or Cantonment, the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may, with the sanction of the Commsisioner, direct the inhabitants of any street, muhalla or other locality to vacate their houses and to remove to a temporary settlement at a distance from the infected quarter. The District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may, when necessary, provide such persons with temporary accommodation. The Health Officer shall arrange for the thorough disinfection and cleansing of the empty premises, and no person shall be permitted to return until the premises have been certified to be free from infection.

10. *Watch and ward of houses.*—Whenever houses are vacated under Rules 6 (1), and 9, each householder shall be permitted to make suitable arrangements for the care of his house and property during his absence, provided that the house is not occupied. He may remove any valuable property or place seals upon it, and the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate, as the case may be, will arrange for the watch and ward of empty houses, and will see that they are properly padlocked or secured.

11. *Duty of compliance.*—A person dealt with under the foregoing rules, and any person who may be removed to a hospital in a Cantonment by order of the Military Medical authorities, shall comply with any directions that may be given to him by the Health Officer with regard to his removal to, and residence in, an observation shed, public or private hospital or place of segregation, and with respect to disinfecting or burning of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, or with respect to any other sanitary matter. He shall not depart from any such place without the written permission of the Health Officer.

12. *Disposal of dead.*—The friends of the deceased shall be permitted to dispose of the corpse by cremation or burial in accordance with their religious practices, but they shall obey the directions of the Health Officer or other sanitary or executive authority as to the route and method of removing the corpse to the burial or cremation place. In the event of the failure or refusal of relatives or friends of the deceased to dispose of the body, the Health Officer shall dispose of it in accordance with the religion of the deceased. The corpses of Europeans or Muhammadans who die of plague shall be buried, if possible, at least six feet deep. The coffin and cloth used to cover the corpse, when not interred with the corpse, shall be destroyed. In cases where cremation is the custom, the body shall be completely burned at the usual burning ghât or other isolated locality in accordance with custom, the cloths brought in contact with the body being either burnt according to custom or disinfected.

13. *Ambulances.*—The District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, shall provide suitable conveyances, painted in a conspicuous manner, for the free carriage of persons suffering, or suspected to be suffering, from the plague, and it shall be lawful to drive or carry such conveyances through any public or private thoroughfare.

14. *Disinfection of public conveyances.*—Any conveyance, public or private, that has been used by a person infected with, or suspected of being infected with, plague, shall be thoroughly disinfected and exposed to air and sunlight for not less than 24 hours before being again used, and all articles of furniture belonging to it, which in the opinion of the Health Officer cannot be properly disinfected, shall be destroyed by fire.

15. *Compensation.*—The District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under these regulations; provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever. In deciding claims to compensation, the Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, shall consult the Medical Committee, but shall not be bound to follow their advice.

16. *Control.*—All powers conferred upon the Health Officer or the Contonment Magistrate by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the District Magistrate.

17. *Delegation of powers.*—All or any of the powers of the District Magistrate may, with the sanction of Government, be exercised by any other gazetted officer of Government.

18. *Expenses.*—All expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall, in the first instance, be paid from the Municipal Fund or from loans made under the Local Authorities (Emergency) Loans Act, 1897; but the District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may recover from any person any amount which such person would, under similar circumstances, be liable to pay to the Commissioners under the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or the Cantonment Act or Rules, as the case may be.

C. T.—Reg. No. 7539C—909—9-2-98.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE IMPORTATION OF PLAGUE INTO VILLAGES AND NON-MUNICIPAL TOWNS.

PLAGUE REGULATION No. 12.

Calcutta, the 8th February 1898.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, in the Home Department, No. 302, dated 4th February 1897, and in supersession of the rules contained in Parts II and IV of Plague Regulation No. 9, dated the 10th November 1897, except in so far as those rules relate to Calcutta, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased to prescribe the following regulation for preventing the importation of bubonic plague into villages and non-municipal towns.

1. *Date of taking effect* —This Regulation shall come into force at once.

2. *Subdivisional Health Officer.*—In any subdivision where it is considered necessary, the District Magistrate may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, appoint any medical officer or any qualified medical practitioner to be Subdivisional Health Officer, and may fix his pay, or, where he is already a salaried officer of Government, may with the approval of Government fix a reasonable deputation allowance to be paid to him for this extra duty. The Subdivisional Health Officer shall be subordinate to the Civil Surgeon of the district.

3. *Report by proprietors of lands and others.*— Every owner or occupier of land and the agent of any such person, every patwari, and every panchayat appointed under Chapter VI (B.C.) of 1870, and every person employed in the collection of revenue or rent by Government or the Court of Wards, shall report to the Subdivisional Health Officer any case of unusual fever accompanied by glandular swellings that may occur in his neighbourhood among persons who have arrived within the preceding ten days from an infected area, or in a house where any such person may be or may have been staying. The Subdivisional Health Officer shall at once inform the Subdivisional Magistrate of the receipt of any such report.

4. *Inquiry by Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer.*—On receiving information of a case of fever of the kind described in the last preceding rule, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer shall at once go to the place indicated and shall make an inquiry into the nature of the case in consultation, if possible, with two or more of the leading inhabitants of the place.

5. *Right of entry and examination.*—If the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer considers the case to be a suspicious one, the owner or occupier of the house shall permit him to enter it and to examine the patient. In case of resistance or refusal the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule.

6. *Examination of women.*—If the patient is a female, any examination that may be necessary shall be made by female agency.

7. *Procedure in case of plague.*— If the case is found to be one of plague, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer shall take action under the rules contained in Regulation No. 13, which will then come into force as far as is necessary for the purposes of the particular case.

8. *Sadar Subdivisions.*—In the case of Sadar Subdivisions the duties of Subdivisional Health Officer under this regulation shall be discharged by the Civil Surgeon or by any subordinate medical officer whom the District Magistrate may empower for the purpose.

9. *Control.*—All powers conferred upon any officer by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the District Magistrate.

10. *Delegation of powers.*—The District Magistrate may confer upon any gazetted Officer of Government all or any of the powers of the Subdivisional Magistrate within any specified local area. He may also confer upon any medical practitioner all or any of the powers of the Subdivisional Health Officer within any similar area.

11. *Registration of burial and burning-grounds.*—In any town where the District Magistrate considers it necessary, the Subdivisional Magistrate may require the owner of any place used as a burial or burning ground for corpses to register it in his office and no place which has not been so registered shall be used as a burial or burning-ground.

12. *Expenses.*—All expenses incurred under these rules shall be paid from the District Fund or the District Road Fund as the case may be.

Encl 1798

J. S. N.—Reg. No. 7918C -900—11-2-98.

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF BUBONIC PLAGUE IN VILLAGES AND NON-MUNICIPAL TOWNS.

PLAGUE REGULATION No. 13.

Calcutta, the 8th February 1898.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, in the Home Department, No. 302, dated 4th February 1897, and in supersession of the rules contained in Parts II and IV of Plague Regulation No. 9, dated the 10th November 1897, except in so far as those rules relate to Calcutta, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased to prescribe the following Regulation for preventing the importation of bubonic plague into villages and non-municipal towns.

1. *Date of taking effect.*—Except as provided in rule 7 of Regulation 12, this Regulation shall come into force in any subdivision from the date on which the District Magistrate may, by proclamation, issued with the sanction of Government, declare the plague to be prevalent, and shall continue in force until by a similar proclamation he shall declare the plague to have ceased.

2. *Appointment of Subdivisional Health Officers.*—On plague being declared prevalent in any subdivision, the District Magistrate may, subject to the control of the Commissioner, appoint as many Subdivisional Health Officers as he may think necessary, and may fix their pay. All such officers shall be subordinate to the Civil Surgeon of the district.

3 *Appointment of Medical Committees.*—For any town, village, or group of villages, where plague is prevalent, the Subdivisional Magistrate may appoint a Medical Committee consisting of such medical practitioners and other suitable persons as may be available, for the purpose of accompanying the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer on his visits of inspection, explaining the necessity of the sanitary measures adopted, and assisting in carrying them out.

4. *Procedure in case of suspected plague.*—When the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer has reason to believe that a case of plague has occurred in a house, he shall proceed with, if possible, the members of the Medical Committee, to enquire into the case. The owner and occupier of the house shall permit him to enter his premises, and examine any person whom he has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic plague. In case of resistance or refusal, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer may call in the police officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person be a female, the examination shall be made through female agency.

5. *Segregation.*—(1) If on enquiry under the last preceding rule the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer finds that a fatal case of plague has occurred in the house, or that any person therein is suffering from, or infected with, plague, he shall, in the latter case, cause such person to be removed to a hospital for treatment. He shall also, in either case, cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resided to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days. The Subdivisional Magistrate may grant subsistence allowance at rates suitable to their station in life, to persons detained under this rule.

(2) When family or caste hospitals and camps have been provided to the approval of the Subdivisional Magistrate, sick or suspected persons may be removed to such private hospitals and camps instead of to a public hospital or camp. Females, who by the custom of the country do not appear in public, shall be conveyed to the hospital or camp in such a manner as to preserve their *purda*.

(3) In family and caste hospitals the patients shall be treated on such system and by such doctors as they or their friends may desire.

(4) In all hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and they shall, so far as may be possible, be treated by female agency.

(5) In all hospitals the relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids* and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them at all times, subject only to such precautions as the Subdivisional Health Officer may consider necessary.

(6) If in any case a person removed to a public or family or caste hospital is accompanied by friends or attendants, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer may require so many of them as are not in personal attendance on the patient to live in the immediate neighbourhood of the hospital in segregation huts or tents provided for the purpose, and to remain in such place until they receive permission to depart.

(7) If a person is attacked with bubonic plague while so segregated, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer shall remove such person to a public or family or caste hospital, as may be suitable in the case, and may treat his friends and attendants as provided in the preceding rule.

(8) All hospitals and camps shall be suitably guarded, and in the case of family or caste hospitals and camps the arrangements for guarding must be approved of by the Subdivisional Magistrate, and their cost will be met by the persons by whom the hospital and camps are provided.

(9) Family and caste hospitals and camps may be closed by the order of the Subdivisional Magistrate if the Health Officer thinks that they are not properly managed, or that their continuance is objectionable or a source of danger to the neighbourhood.

Rule 8-A - Vide C. No 198 P. 900

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6. *Disinfection and cleansing, of houses &c. by Health Officer.*—In any house in which a case of plague has occurred, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer shall take measures for the disinfection and cleansing of the house, the destruction of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, the improvement of the sanitary condition of the premises, the removal, in consultation, if possible, with a competent Engineer, of all partitions, erections or portions of house walls which obstruct light or ventilation and other sanitary precautions. The Subdivisional Magistrate may, on the report of the Health Officer, order the burning or destruction of any hut or other temporary structure, if disinfection cannot be satisfactorily effected otherwise, awarding compensation to persons who are so poor as to be unable to replace at their own expense the structure that has been burnt or destroyed.

7. *Right of entry.*—The owner or occupier of any house in which a case of plague has occurred shall permit the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer and his staff to enter his house or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the preceding rules. In case of resistance or refusal, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such further steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer shall not enter such an apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw.

8. *Evacuation of village.*—On the occurrence of plague in a town or village, the Subdivisional Magistrate may direct the inhabitants to vacate their houses and to remove to a temporary settlement outside the town or village, and he may, when necessary, provide such persons with temporary accommodation. After evacuation, the Health Officer shall arrange for the thorough disinfection and cleansing of the empty premises, and the inhabitants shall not be permitted to return until the premises have been certified to be free from infection.

9. *Watch and ward of houses.*—Whenever houses are vacated under rules 5 (1) and 8, each householder shall be permitted to make suitable arrangements for the care of his house and property during his absence, provided that the house is not occupied. He may remove any valuable property or place seals upon it, and the Subdivisional Magistrate will arrange for the watch and ward of empty houses, and will see that they are properly padlocked or secured.

10. *Duty of compliance.*—A person dealt with under the foregoing rules, shall comply with any directions that may be given to him by the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer with regard to his removal to, and residence in, an observation shed, public or private hospital or place of segregation, and with respect to disinfecting or burning of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, or with respect to any other sanitary matter. He shall not depart from any such place without the written permission of the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer.

11. *Disposal of dead.*—The friends of the deceased shall be permitted to dispose of the corpse by cremation or burial in accordance with their religious practices, but they shall obey the directions of the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer or other sanitary or executive authority as to the route and method of removing the corpse to the burial or cremation place. In the event of the failure or refusal of relatives or friends of the deceased to dispose of the body, the Subdivisional Magistrate or Health Officer shall dispose of it in accordance with the religion of the deceased. The corpses of Muhammadans who die of plague shall be buried, if possible, at least six feet deep. The place of burial should be far from habitations, and should be so situated that there may be no risk of contaminating sources of water-supply. The coffin and cloth used to cover the corpse, when not interred with the corpse, shall be destroyed. In cases where cremation is the custom, the body shall be completely burned at the usual burning ghât or other isolated locality in accordance with custom, the cloths brought in contact with the body being either burnt or disinfected.

12. *Disinfection of public conveyances.*—Any conveyance, public or private, that has been used by a person infected with, or suspected of being infected with, plague shall be thoroughly disinfected and exposed to air and sunlight for not less than twenty-four hours before being again used, and all articles of furniture belonging to it, which, in the opinion of the Subdivisional Health Officer, cannot be properly disinfected, shall be destroyed by fire.

13. *Delegation of powers.*—The powers conferred by this Regulation on the Subdivisional Magistrate may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, be exercised by any gazetted officer of Government specially empowered by the District Magistrate on that behalf.

14. *Compensation.*—The Subdivisional Magistrate may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under these Regulations: Provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever. In deciding claims to compensation, the Subdivisional Magistrate shall consult the Medical Committee, but shall not be bound to follow their advice.

15. *Control.*—All powers conferred upon the Subdivisional Magistrate or the Subdivisional Health Officer by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the District Magistrate.

16. *Expenses.*—All expenses incurred under these rules shall be paid from the District Fund or from the District Road Fund as the case may be.

T. N. R.—Reg. No 7541C—909—9-2-98.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 1780

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

No. 1049Medl.

CALCUTTA, THE 24TH FEBRUARY 1898.

FROM H. H. RISLEY, ESQ., C.I.E,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

SIR,

UNDER instructions contained in the letter from the Government of India in the Home Department, No. $\frac{6\text{-Sany.}}{604}$, dated the 20th February 1897, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, a copy of this Government Circular No. 8Medl., dated the 8th February 1898, and enclosures, dealing with precautions against the importation of plague into villages and towns in Bengal.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

S. M. W.—Reg. No. 8157C—158—24-2-98.

*When given for copying*_____)
*When copied*_____)
*When examined*_____) 189 .
*When signed*_____)

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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