V.E

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1898)

PRINTED.

No. 442

DATED 27.10.98.

Desp E 1-11-98.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Inoculation

Requesting the Supt. Govt Press to print and distribute a note regarding — in English and in the Vernaculars

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

No.

Plague Commissioner's Office,

Dated 18 189

Bom ho 4428
27-10-98

Memorandum.

Rejected

D/27/10

It is hardly stuff to print in papers
by
27/10

The Govt. Government is requested to have the accompanying note regarding inoculation printed in English and Vernaculars and as soon as possible and to supply copies to the President, Port Madras, ~~Port Officer~~ & ~~to Sub-Assistant Surgeons~~, to all Collectors and to all the Officers who may apply to them him for them for distribution among the people.

2. ~~It is~~ It is suggested that a copy of the note may be supplied to each ~~person~~ inoculated person after he has been operated upon.

3. ~~The Secretary~~ The Plague Comm. will be very much obliged if the Translators Office will kindly furnish the Govt. as promptly as possible with translations in Hindustani, Tamil, Telugu Canarese & Malayalam.

The

Mr Supt is requested to send them each a printed copy of the note in English.

27 x 98

To Mr Supt Govt Press with note as ref. (2 mds at once

" Translator to Govt
" President Municipality
" All Collectors (2)
" Sanitary Comrs
" Surgeon General

Despd to Supt Govt Press. 27/10/98.

Despd to all 1/11/98

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1898)

CURRENT No. 806

Order Sent to Supt Govt Press with draft order Vide No 1442/98 27/10/98

From Honble Mr P. Rajaratnam Mudaliyar.

No.

Dated 27-10-1898

Received 27-10-1898

Registered 27-10-1898

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that the Superintendent Govt Press may be instructed to strike off some thousands of copies of the circular on plague and requesting permission to embody in the circular that prophylactic can be had in each depot.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1898)

CURRENT No. 807.

From The President, Municipal Commission, Madras

Order

G. No. 757

Dated 27-10-1898

Received 27-10-1898

Registered 27-10-1898

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that he quite agrees with the Plague Commissioner about not having medicine (prophylactic) at the depots.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

G. No: 759 C No 807

MADRAS,

27th October 1898.

My dear Hammick,

I quite agree with you about not having medicine at the Depots and so does Cornwall.

If you will get them printed I can have them distributed.

I return the papers.

Yours sincerely,

Chas Moore

Registration Department,

Madras, 27 October 1898.

Dear Sir

Just received Mr Emeloss
Copy from Messrs Bannerman
Mrs Lee's Abbrevd. Please
instead of Copy put Mr
Strike off same Memorandum 7
copies in English Tamil
& Telugu. Should suppose
same 10000 copies in English,
25000 in Tamil & 2500 in
Telugu for distribution both in
Madras town & in Districts.
Also request permission
to enclose this in Mr
Circular about Plague

5000 Hindustani.

Please see my note
& copy of instructions re
the Cinnear alleged
inoculation & respon-
sibilities re same. It
is desirable to have some
medicines in stock at each
depot when inoculation
is effected and brief instruc-
tions how to use them
administered. & Compliments
season &c.

Yours
Major Salmon

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner,

MADRAS—1898.

Proof for approval

Recd.	1898.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

Please correct & return
W Foss
Secy
29/10/98

Proceedings, No. 442, 27th October 1898.

Desp from Secy of State

OCTOBER.

Ligh Copies 32
Spare Copies 134.

Inoculation.

Requesting the Superintendent, Government Press, to print and distribute a note regarding ——in English and in the vernaculars.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

PROCEEDINGS—No. 442, dated 27th October 1898.

The Superintendent, Government Press, is requested to have the accompanying note regarding inoculation printed in English and Vernaculars as soon as possible and to supply copies to the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to all Collectors and to all other officers who may apply to him for them for distribution among the people.

2. It is suggested that a copy of the note may be supplied to each inoculated person after he has been operated upon.

3. The Plague Commissioner will be very much obliged if the Translators to Government will kindly furnish the Superintendent, Government Press, as promptly as possible with translations in Hindustani, Tamil, Telugu, Canarese and Malayalam. The Superintendent is requested to send them each a printed copy of the note in English.

M. HAMMICK,
Plague Commissioner.

To the Superintendent, Government Press.
„ the Translators to Government.
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ all Collectors (A).
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.

Exd. P. Seetharam.

APPENDIX.

Inoculation.

Persons desirous of being inoculated—

(1) May take an oil-bath a day or two before;

(2) if subject to constipation, it is as well to take a dose of a purgative or a laxative a few days beforehand;

(3) after inoculation, the diet should be simple and light; milk, conji, sago, coffee, soda water, &c., might be taken freely with advantage;

(4) people sometimes suffer from faintness and giddiness after operation; this need cause no anxiety. The best remedy is to sit in a chair and stoop forward with the head between the knees. Soda water or strong coffee mixed with a little milk might be taken;

(5) if the arm inoculated gives much pain, bran or any other dry fomentation may be used and the arm should be supported by sling;

(6) inoculated persons should avoid exposing themselves until the fever entirely subsides; pain in the arm may continue for some days, but this need not prevent the ordinary work;

(7) for three or four days, even ordinary bath should be avoided; or if it is absolutely necessary, a sponge-bath should be taken in a closed room so that the person may not catch a chill; cold baths should be avoided;

(8) oil-bath should not be taken for eight or ten days after inoculation;

(9) no treatment is necessary for the fever which will subside by itself in two or three days. Head-ache, if present, may be treated by external application of menthol or ice or cold lotions, such as vinegar and water. Should, however, the fever rise high, the inoculated person would do well to seek the advice of a competent medical officer or send intimation to the nearest dispensary and not trust to quacks;

(10) sickness and nausea, when present, are best treated by a little iced soda water or soda water and milk mixed;

(11) sexual abstinence should be observed at least for two or three weeks;

(12) females will find it convenient to be inoculated a week or ten days before menses; they may be operated on one week after the period;

(13) persons with a weak heart or lungs and persons subject to hysterics, heart disease or nervous disability should get themselves carefully examined by a medical officer before they subject themselves to inoculation.

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner.

No. 442 / 27-10-58

The Superintendent, Government Press is requested to have the accompanying note regarding inoculation printed in English and Vernaculars as soon as possible, and to supply copies to the President Municipal Commission, Madras, to all Collectors and to all other officers who may apply to him for them for distribution among the people.

2. It is suggested that a copy of the note may be supplied to each inoculated person after he has been operated upon.

3. The Plague Commissioner will be very much obliged if the Translators to Government will kindly furnish the Superintendent, Government Press as promptly as possible with translations in Hindustani, Tamil, Telugu, Canarese & Malayalam. The Superintendent is requested to send them each a printed copy of the note in English.

27/10/58
Personal Assistant
for Plague Commissioner.

To

The Superintendent, Government Press.

This is the note referred to in P.C. - 442

Inoculation

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(1) may take an oil-bath a day or two before;

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(8) oil-bath should not be taken for eight or ten days after inoculation;

(9) No treatment is necessary for the fever which will subside by itself in ~~from 24 to 36 hours~~ two to three days. Head ache, if present, may be treated by external application of menthol or ice or cold lotions such as vinegar and water. Should, however, the fever rise high, the inoculated person would do well to seek the advice of a competent medical officer or send intimation to the ~~dispensary~~ nearest dispensary and not trust to quacks;

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(13)

(13) Persons with a weak heart or lungs and persons subject to hysterics, heart disease or nervous disability should get themselves carefully examined by a medical officer before they subject themselves to inoculation.

Rect E
Please print soon in
with double wide margin
and send 3 copies of proof
Surg
22/8/98

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
11-AUG-1898
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

Circular to villagers.

The public are aware that a most dangerous disease known as the bubonic plague appeared two years ago in Bombay and subsequently in Poona and carried off several thousands of the population. The disease has since broken out in Hyderabad and in Hubbili (Dharwar) and is now advancing towards the borders of this Presidency. Its chief characteristics are fever attended with glandular swellings and a high rate of mortality. High fever is ushered in with shivering and after two or three days of continuous fever, glandular swellings may appear in the groins of the leg, arm-pits or neck or in all the three places. If the disease continues, the patient may vomit blood and blood may also be discharged from the nose, the mouth, the bowels and mixed with urine. The swellings may become gangrenous and bleeding may occur from them; death may be ushered in by convulsions, delirium, insensibility etc.

2. The disease is more dangerous than cholera and is very infectious. Once it takes root, it will be difficult to eradicate it. The best efforts of Government have accordingly been directed for some months past towards stopping, by every possible means, its advance into this Presidency. With this object, a careful examination of all passengers has been ordered to be made at selected stations on all the Railways and along the main roads leading into the Presidency, and camps have also been formed for detaining and treating passengers suspected to be suffering from symptoms of plague.

3. All persons are allowed to pass freely as in ordinary times except --

(a) those suspected of plague,

(b) those suspected of arriving from an infected locality.

locality.

(a) Persons suspected of plague, with their families and attendants, are required to be detained at the frontier inspection stations for isolation and disinfection, until it is deemed safe to release them with passports.

(b) Persons suspected of arriving from an infected area are examined at the frontier inspection stations and allowed to proceed on their journey on the following conditions :-

(1) at frontier stations, they are provided with passports binding them to present themselves for daily inspection for the next ten days before the local authority, i.e. the local Medical officer or Police Station House officer or village headman in any village where they may be, information of the issue of the passport being sent promptly by the officer in charge to the local - authority at the place of destination.

(2) at railway frontier inspection stations, their tickets are punched with a special mark, if they have not been so marked before, and on arriving at the railway station where they intend to leave the train, they are furnished with passports by the Station Master or other officer appointed for the purpose, and intimation of the fact is sent to the local authority at the place of final destination.

4. Before persons arriving from an infected area are permitted to proceed on their journeys under passports as stated above, they may be disinfected if the Collector so orders. This is merely a process of cleaning the person and his clothing and will be resorted to only in exceptional cases.

5. Persons coming from an infected area who appear to be likely to sicken ~~the~~ plague or spread infection of plague, whether by reason of their appearance, the dirty

dirty condition of their clothes, or the fact that they are travelling in gangs, or who belong to classes which are likely to disseminate the disease, or who seem likely not to be easily traced on arrival at their destination, or who are not to be depended upon to give information should plague occur among them after arrival at their destination, or for any other similar reason, may also be similarly detained under the special orders of the Collector.

6. The necessity for detaining persons for observation, or for requiring them to present themselves daily for inspection for ten days is due to the fact that medical officers have laid down ten days as the limit of - safety; that is to say, infection is possible for ten days after a person leaves an infected area.

7. All taluks situated on the borders of the Bombay Presidency and Hyderabad Territory have been divided into convenient circles, and placed in charge of Special Plague Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors whose duty it is to constantly and systematically patrol their circles in order to give the earliest possible information of a case of plague so that immediate action may be taken. They will also report any pressing sanitary need to the District Medical and Sanitary officer, and will also check passports or passes in the case of persons arriving from an infected locality. Persons arriving - without a passport or pass or who may be found to have broken its conditions may be detained by the Plague Inspector or any member of his staff and sent to the nearest medical officer for detention until he (the medical officer) is satisfied that there is no danger of such persons spreading infection.

Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors are also required to keep a record of all persons suffering from

continuous

continuous fever for more than twelve hours and to arrange with the village headman to have such persons inspected twice daily in view to find out if the case turns out to be one of plague.

8. The measures indicated above are absolutely necessary for protecting the people of the Presidency against the danger that is threatening them on all sides. These measures will no doubt entail a certain amount of hardship and inconvenience to persons going from place to place on business or pleasure, but considerations for individuals must give way to considerations for the good of the people at large. It is well known that on occasions of the outbreak of cholera or small-pox the people very often voluntarily enforce a sort of quarantine against persons coming from villages infected with those diseases, and it needs no argument to convince them that in dealing with a disease so much more infectious and dangerous as is the plague which is threatening this Presidency, similar precautionary measures should be enforced with all possible rigour. The leading men of every village should therefore make it their duty to watch all strangers coming into their village and give immediate information to the Village Munsiff or to the nearest Station House officer if they find reasons to suspect that the strangers have come from plague infected tracts or are suffering from severe fever or symptoms of plague. Unless they willingly and cordially co-operate with the officers appointed for the duty and give prompt intimation of all suspicious cases coming to their knowledge, the best efforts of Government towards arresting this dreadful disease will become practically of no avail.

9. There are also certain sanitary precautions which the people should carefully observe on occasions like the present if not at all times. ~~Nearly all~~ many diseases

eases of the human body are due to filth, foul air, bad food, bad water etc, ~~and this is especially so in re gard to the plague epidemic~~ those other unsanitary conditions probably predespose to attack & foster the plague germ - Habitations

(1) Every ~~house~~owner should ~~therefore~~ see that his ~~house is kept~~ thoroughly clean ~~and~~ that all manure, dirty water, washings of cattle stalls and collection of dirt of any description ~~are~~ must be completely removed.

(2) Where the earth remains damp and foul after such removal, it should be dug up till dry and clean earth is reached.

(3) The old earth should be taken from the town and may be used as manure for the fields; new earth from a clean place should be laid down.

(4) The interior and exterior of houses should be whitewashed. If persons cannot afford to do the outside, the inside at least should be whitewashed.

(5) Bundles of clothing and other materials hanging from the beams or occupying in any other way the rooms in which persons sleep, should be removed.

(6) Doors and windows should at all possible hours be left open so that free ventilation be obtained.

(7) If private latrines are used, they must be kept free from fecal matter by removal at least twice daily.

(8) The drains leading from houses should be cleansed twice daily.

(9) Cesspools and pits for receipt of urine of cattle should be emptied daily.

1 ~~(10)~~ The body and clothing should be kept scrupulously clean. If delicate, persons should use warm, not cold, baths.

2 ~~(11)~~ The food should be plain, nourishing and of good quality.

3 (N) All vegetables or leaves or fruits, likely to cause diarrhœa, should be abandoned.

4 (N) All forms of drinking to excess, debauchery, late hours and exposure to wet and cold should be avoided.

5 (N) Cold cooked food should never be used. Care should be taken not to allow flies to settle upon food. Vegetables and leaves should never be eaten otherwise than after cooking. Before being cooked, they should be well washed in water that has been purified by boiling. Salt should be freely used with the diet; but, on the other hand, it must not be used in such unusual amounts as to excite uneasiness or looseness of the bowels.

6 (N) An inferior quality of water should not be kept in the house; only the cleanest available should be employed.

7 (N) Water for drinking purposes and for washing the mouth or eating and drinking vessels, and milk should be boiled before use.

Miscellaneous

~~9.~~ 10 It has been found from experience from other Provinces that rats are a dangerous means of conveying infection. Every effort should therefore be made to destroy them in time.

~~11.~~ 11 Large sums of money have already been expended in carrying out Government's Plague preventive measures, and if, in spite of all these precautions, the plague should unfortunately make its appearance in this Presidency, the public may rest assured that the Government is fully prepared to meet it and prevent it at all cost from assuming an epidemic form. Should the disease unfortunately break out, it will be necessary to introduce an efficient system of house to house inspection in order promptly to detect all real or suspected cases; to segregate the sick and treat them in hospitals specially erected for the purpose; to cause evacuation of infected houses

Persons with cuts or abrasions on their hands feet or other exposed parts of the body should avoid attendance on plague patients but if attendance is essential the wounds part should be covered & on occasions of temporary withdrawal from attendance the part should be washed with disinfectant which can be obtained from the Sanitary Staff on application

houses and localities, if need be; and to enforce general sanitary precautions, such as extensive cleansing of dwellings, freer admission of light and air, destruction or modification of insanitary buildings, improvement of drainage and conservancy, abatement of overcrowding, opening out of crowded localities.

~~12.~~ 13 Segregation of the plague-stricken and of the persons who have been in immediate contact with them is a fundamental precaution which is essential to the successful issue of any operations against the disease. It is the only effective means of preventing the spread of the infection and will be carried out with the strictest regard to the habits, feelings and prejudices of the different classes of the community. Those who may desire it will be permitted, and aided, to erect their own hospitals and their own segregation huts, in sites shown to them or selected by them and approved by the authorities. Friends and relations will be allowed to visit the patients and, if desired, to reside near them. They can have their own food and can bring their own doctors. Every arrangement will be made to respect the privacy of women. No particular mode of treatment will be forced upon any one, and women will, under no circumstances, be required to be examined by men. In cases where, ~~owing to the virulence of the disease, it is found absolutely necessary to evacuate any~~ infected houses or localities are evacuated the inmates will be temporarily accommodated in some convenient place, and during their absence, their houses and such of their property as may be left behind will be taken care of by Government, and adequate compensation will be paid to poor people for articles destroyed by the Sanitary authorities. In special cases, the sick and the other inmates of the house will be permitted to be segregated in

Copy verbatim from page 95 of Madras Plague Regulations & Rules

they vacate
in sheds in their own compounds provided their houses to be disinfected.

13. It may be noted here that in two districts of the North-West Provinces where the plague existed for a long time in an epidemic form, the villagers learnt by bitter experience that evacuation of the plague infected locality was their best chance of escape, and it soon became a common practice with them to vacate the village immediately the plague appeared, and to camp on the hill sides or other safe places. It is desirable that each class or caste of persons in towns in this Presidency should arrange beforehand with the district authorities for sites for hospitals and segregation camps, and organise measures at once to keep every thing ready for erecting them without delay when necessity arises. Every assistance will be given them by the officers of Government.

14. Should plague break out in any village or town, passes will be freely granted by the Plague authority or other officer authorised by the Collector to the people to pursue their usual occupations without hindrance. General passes will be given to agriculturists and others having occasion to make daily and frequent journeys by road, rail or boat from an infected area. Where it is necessary for the whole family to go and work in the fields, a single pass may be given for the family which may not be revoked even should a case of plague occur in the family of the pass-holder. There must, however, be a separate pass for each person making a railway journey under a general pass. The passes will not cover residence outside of the infected area and will not cover journeys by rail unless that is expressly stated on them. Special passes will be freely given to persons who may wish to leave the infected area and reside elsewhere and may be granted for households provided that

that the name and description of each person covered by the pass is entered therein. Before, however, these special passes are given, the plague authority will satisfy himself that no case of plague has occurred in the house of the applicant or in any adjacent house or among any of his relations or associates and may also require the disinfection of all clothes and other articles to be taken away.

The Collector may at his discretion exempt from the necessity of taking out passes persons who are merely returning from an infected area to their own village after bringing to market in such area articles of food or fuel, provided that such return be within eight hours after arrival and not after sunset, and provided also that the person concerned has not entered a dwelling house within the infected area. The Collector may also exempt any persons with regard to whom there are no reasonable grounds for suspicion of infection.

15. As already stated, the sole object of Government is to prevent the importation of plague into the Presidency and promptly to check its spread and stamp it out should it nevertheless appear. That object can only be fully attained if the people themselves for whose benefit the regulations have been framed loyally accept them and support the action of the authorities. They should not give way to unnecessary alarm nor allow themselves to be misled by false rumours. They should freely and promptly bring to notice of the Taluk officers and others appointed for the special duty all cases in which they may be subjected to unnecessary inconvenience and annoyance.

16. There is one other point to which it is necessary to draw their special attention. They are aware from long experience that persons who have been vaccinated are less liable to attacks of small-pox than those who have not been vaccinated. Experiments made in Bombay, Poona, Calcutta

Calcutta and other places have also shown that persons inoculated with properly prepared plague ~~lymph~~ Serum such as has been ~~prepared~~ found by Mr. Haffkine are less liable to attacks of plague than those not so inoculated. Not only is the percentage of attacks reduced but the rate of mortality is materially lessened. Government has, however, no intention to force the people to subject themselves to this inoculation. It will be left entirely to them to adopt the system or not. They will be assured, however, that segregation will not be enforced in the case of persons who voluntarily allow themselves to be inoculated, even though they may happen to be subsequently attacked with the plague.

Page 2 & 3

omit

Note This is not expressly guaranteed in the rules issued by the Local Govt, but I found the passage in a speech of the Lt Govr of Bengal reported on page 281 of the Proc: of the Legislative Council dated 30 April 98. The passage is quoted below for reference.

"We have intimated to you that when families have been completely inoculated we will leave them alone even if plague attacks a member of it. It is a risk but a risk worth running. We accept it because we believe the inoculated patient will have a very mild attack and he will not be a material danger to his family & his neighbours."

BJ
5.8.98

he attacked with plague he must be treated like any ordinary patient & those in his house & neighbourhood will be protected without inoculation. In the same way the Hyderabad Regulations

Appendix

~~DISINFECTION.~~

disinfection

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 25 AUG. 189 LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

A. RULES FOR PLAGUE-INFECTED HOUSES.

I. Sprinkle 1-1000 Perchloride of Mercury solution on the floor and in all corners to "lay" the dust.

II. Open all windows and doors and allow free ventilation.

III. Carefully sweep up all dust and rubbish; remove out of doors and burn. Also burn all bedding and clothes of the patient and all torn and dirty rags, sacking, etc lying about. This must be done out of doors.

IV. Steep all other clothing, bedding, sacking, bags etc, whether in use at the time or not, in 1-1000 Perchloride of Mercury solution for half an hour, thoroughly soaking all parts of each article. Next place them in a chattiful of water which is to be boiled for half an hour.

V. Carefully flush (pump) 1-1000 Perchloride of Mercury solution in all parts of the rooms in the affected house beginning above at the rafters and proceeding downwards to the floor. Especially flush out all crevices, clefts, niches, corners, bathing places, cooking places and latrines. The floor must be thoroughly soaked and especially at its junction with the walls. The door and lintrels must be carefully mopped or flushed and also all boxes, almirahs etc in the room. The furniture should be disinfected first, then taken outside and placed in the sun to dry, and then the room disinfected.

VI. Thoroughly fill all gurrahs, cooking pots and pans, lotahs etc with boiling water and keep at the boil for half an hour, or with a weak solution of Permanganate of Potasium and leave for one and half hours. Then pour out and wash with ordinary water.

VII. All useless articles must be burnt. All rubbish burnt, whether within or without the affected house; the compound thoroughly cleaned up and the drains and latrines flushed out with water first and then washed with 1-1000 Perchloride of Mercury solution.

VIII. The houses directly adjoining must be hot limewashed with chloride of lime at once and thoroughly cleaned.

IX.

IX. The affected house is not to be occupied for a week. On the day following the Disinfection by Perchloride of Mercury, the out side and inside of the affected house must be hot limewashed.

X. In cases where houses have no free ventilation i.e. at least two small windows and one big door for each room, windows and other ventilation holes must be made by knocking holes in the walls, removing broad strips of tiles (not rafters), from the roof or taking off and burning the thatch of the roof.

N.B. All persons engaged in disinfection work are to wear shoes covering the upper parts of their feet, and to wash their hands and feet in 1-1000 Perchloride of Mercury solution on completion of their work, and disinfect their clothes and persons in Carbolic acid or Phenyle solution.

B. DIRECTIONS FOR DISINFECTION.

I. Perchloride of Mercury is the best chemical disinfectant known and should always be used. Reliable perchloride can be obtained from the Medical Stores, Madras.

II. It is best to issue this disinfectant to coolies as a solution, since it is very poisonous. The solution can be prepared as follows:-

Take a clean one-gallon bottle. Place half pound of perchloride of mercury and one pound of Hydrochloric acid and half fill the bottle with water. Shake thoroughly and then gradually add repeated quantities of water until all is dissolved.

(This solution can readily be prepared if the materials are pure. If a large portion of the Perchloride of Mercury remains undissolved it is probably very impure and practically useless).

Colour the solution with a pinch of Red ink powder to prevent any one drinking it and "label" "Poison".

Six Oz. of this solution in an ordinary wooden bucketful of water (of nearly 20 pints capacity) gives a reliable solution of Perchloride of Mercury, of practically 1-1000.

III. Phenyle should be served out free. It is poisonous, corrosive and must be diluted as directed.

IV. Potassium Permanganate requires to be powdered to ensure rapid and complete solution. Half an ounce to an ordinary pailful of water will serve as a reliable disinfectant. When it loses its purple colour and turns brown it is useless having been decomposed.

V. Hot water. An easy and simple method of disinfection is readily at hand in most situations. Water heated to 127 °F or above appears to destroy the vitality of the Plague Bacillus. This temperature can be borne by the hand for a few minutes only. Boiling water will therefore certainly destroy the Bacillus. Floors and walls of houses, fixtures and furniture could be disinfected by pouring boiling water all over the surface.

M.B., D.P.H.,
Surgeon-Major,
Acting Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

E

Circ to Villages of Presy.

18

Prest

Please print from
and circulate
with suitable wide
margin
27/8/98

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
22-AUG-1898
LOCAL SANITATION DEPARTMENT

Received 30/8/98

Pab
Send out
tonight 1/9
30-8

The accompanying memorandum explaining briefly the nature and objects of the various preventive measures adopted by Government to stop the advance of the plague into this Presidency and of the further precautions that should be taken in the event of this terrible disease unfortunately breaking out in any district is circulated to all village officers for information and guidance and for publication in their villages. The rules issued on the subject from time to time have already been published in the Fort St. George and District gazettes. The more important of them have been collected and arranged in a convenient form in the present memorandum which should be carefully studied and explained to the villagers. Spare copies of the memorandum may be obtained from the Tahsildars and distributed freely to all who are able to read.

2. Special attention should be paid to the instructions contained in paras 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 of the memorandum. It shall be the duty of the village officers to prevent the entry into their villages of persons coming without passports or passes from any infected area. For this purpose, the Munsiff and karnam should, with the aid of the village servants, keep a strict watch on all persons coming into their villages, find out whence and by what route they came and report promptly to the Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar, whoever may be nearest, if they see any reason to suspect that the persons have come from an infected locality without passports or passes, or that they have not given a true account of their movements. Pending the orders of the Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar, or a Plague or a medical officer, the persons should be detained in the village. Persons not suspected to have come from an infected area and not suffering

from

from any symptoms of the disease should not be interfered with.

3. The village officers should go round their villages twice or thrice every day and see that all the houses and streets and backyards are kept perfectly clean. A separate well or pond should be set apart for drinking purposes and the public should be prevented from washing themselves or their clothes in such well or pond or otherwise polluting the water. Every case of sickness should be carefully enquired into to see if symptoms of plague exist. If the symptoms are suspicious, the house should be at once thoroughly cleaned and the patient removed to a segregation camp if one is maintained within easy reach. If not, the patient and all who have been in contact with him should be isolated in a hut or shed in the village remote from inhabited houses pending the arrival of the Plague or Medical officer who should in every case be requested to attend forthwith. All cases of persons suffering from continuous fever for more than twelve hours should also be promptly reported to the nearest Plague or Medical officer.

4. At certain road stations and rail stations, passengers coming from infected areas are examined by officers detailed for the purpose and are furnished with passports binding them to present themselves for daily examination for the next ten days before the local authority of the town or village of destination. In all such cases, the officer issuing the passport will intimate the fact to the local authority or village officers of the village who should thereupon watch the arrival of such persons and examine them every day for ten days. If, at the end of the period, the passport holder does not exhibit any symptoms of plague, he may be allowed to go free, giving

giving up the passport which should then be forwarded to the Tahsildar. If, however, the passport holder exhibits symptoms of plague before the expiration of the ten days, he should be forwarded to the segregation camp or isolated in a detached hut or shed in the village as laid down in para 3 above. If, after the receipt of intimation of the issue of passport, the persons mentioned therein do not make their appearance within the expected time, the village officer should report the fact at once to the issuing officer and to the Tahsildar and institute prompt enquiries in the villages en route and in the adjacent villages and trace the passport holder if possible and detain them for observation.

5. A register in the following form should be maintained by village Officers regarding the examination of persons arriving with passports.

(1) Date of receipt of intimation.
(2) Name of traveller.
(3) From what infected area arriving.
(4) Date of arrival of traveller.
(5) Number, date, and place of issue of passport.
(6) How long kept under observation.
(7) State of health of the traveller and other persons living in the house in which he is or has been residing.
(8) Date of departure if occurring within ten days.
(9) Destination.
(10) Date of intimation of departure to the local authority of the place of destination.
(11) Date of despatch of the passport to the Tahsildar.

3. Village officers should promptly obey and carry out all orders which may be issued by the Tahsildar, Plague, Medical or other officer in regard to the cleansing and disinfection of houses, house-to-house visitation, segregation of persons suspected of Plague &c. This terrible disease is so infectious that unless the necessary precautions are promptly taken, it will be impossible to prevent it from spreading far and wide and endangering the life of the whole population. It is incumbent, therefore, on village officers to exercise the utmost possible vigilance and report without the least delay all suspicious cases arising in their villages. Any remissness in this respect will be most severely punished.

B 0

Circulars to Villages

The public are aware that a most dangerous disease known as the bubonic plague appeared two years ago in Bombay and subsequently in Poona and carried off several thousands of the population. The disease has since broken out in Hyderabad and in Hubbli (Dharwar) and is now advancing towards the borders of this Presidency. Its chief characteristics are fever attended with glandular swellings and a high rate of mortality. High fever is ushered in with shivering and after two or three days of continuous fever, glandular swellings may appear in the groins, armpits or neck, or in all the three places. If the disease continues, the patient may vomit blood and blood may also be discharged from the nose, the mouth, the bowels and mixed with urine. The swellings may become

become gangrenous and bleeding
may occur from the intestines; death
may be ushered in by convulsions,
delirium, insensibility, etc.

2. The disease is more dangerous
than cholera and is very infectious.
Once it takes root, it spreads like
wild fire and it will be difficult
to eradicate it. The best efforts of
Government have accordingly
been directed for some months
past towards stopping, by every
possible means, its advance into
this Presidency. With this object,
a careful examination of all
passengers has been ordered to
be made at selected stations
on all the Railways and along
the main roads leading into the
Presidency, and segregation
camps have also been formed
for detaining and treating pas-
sengers suspected to be suffering
from ~~cerebro-spinal~~ symptoms of
plague. All persons are allowed
to pass freely except —

(a) those suspected of plague,

(b) those suspected of arrival
from an infected locality.

I should add somewhere
now that the
Sanitary authorities have
laid down 10 days as the
limit of safety; that is to say
inspection is possible for ten
days after a person leaves an
infected

as in ordinary times

page 30 of 31

(a) Persons suspected of
plague, with their families and
attendants, are required to be
detained at the frontier inspection
stations for isolation and disin-
fection, until it is deemed safe
to release them with passports.
~~as noted below.~~

(b) Persons suspected of arriv-
al from an infected area
~~are disinfected, if necessary, and shall~~
~~(a) at any~~ provided (b) at road frontier
stations with passports to bridle
them to present themselves for
daily inspection for the next ten
days before the local authority,
i.e. the local Medical officer
or Police Station House officer
or village headman in any village
where they may be, ~~a passport to~~
~~be issued~~ (the officer in charge
~~and~~ his intimation of the ~~fact~~
~~of the passport being issued~~ sent by post
to the local authority at the place
of destination.

(c) At railway frontier inspection
stations, their tickets ~~are~~ punched
with a distinctive mark, ~~if not then~~
~~already so punched~~

20

I should add somewhere
that the
Sanitary authorities have
laid down 10 days as the
limit of safety; that is to say
inspection is possible for ten
days after a person leaves an
infected locality

page 30 of 31

Disinfection is merely a special
process of cleaning the person & his
clothing & bedding. Disinfection
is ~~carried out~~ ordered by
in exceptional cases.

are examined at inspection stations and
allowed to proceed on their journey after
caution: —

they

so marked before, and on arriving at their railway station ~~where they are stopped at stations~~ they are furnished with passports by the Station Master or other officer appointed for the purpose, and intimation of the fact is sent to the local authority at the place of final destination.

intend to leave the train

See Resolution

4

5 Persons coming from an infected area who appear to be ~~suspicious~~ whether by reason of their appearance, the dirty condition of their clothes, or the fact that they are travelling in gangs, or belong to classes which are likely to disseminate the disease, or ~~cannot be~~ traced on arrival at their destination, or depended upon to give information should plague occur among them after arrival at their destination, or for any other similar reason, may also be similarly detained under the special orders of the Collector.

Page 31
likely to be stricken by plague or spread or infecting plague,

who seem likely not to be easily

who are not to be

6 See separate sheet

5) All talukas situated on the borders of the Bombay Presidency and ~~the~~ Hyderabad Territory have,

4 Before persons coming from an infected area are permitted to proceed on their journey under passports to states where they can be inspected if desired or notes. This is merely a process of cleaning them their clothing and with respect to any in exceptional cases.

4 Before persons coming from an infected area are permitted to proceed on their journey under passports to states where

5 ~~Necessity for~~ detaining persons for observation or ~~for requiring them to present themselves daily~~ for inspection for ten days if the ~~Medical~~ fact that medical officers have laid down ten days as the limiting period that is they inspection is possible for ten days after a person leaves an infected area.

Before

see

have been divided into convenient circles, and placed in charge of Special Plague Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors whose duty it is to constantly and systematically patrol their circles in order to give the earliest possible information of a case of plague so that immediate action may be taken. They also report any pressing sanitary need to the District Medical and Sanitary officer, and will also check the passports or passes in the case of persons arriving from an infected locality. Persons arriving without a passport or pass or who may be found to have broken its conditions may be detained by the Plague Inspector or any member of his staff and sent to the nearest medical officer for detention until the Medical Officer is satisfied that there is no danger of such person spreading infection.

pp 32

Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors are also required to keep a record of all persons suffering

suffering from continuous fever
for more than twelve hours and
to arrange with the village headmen
to have such persons inspected
twice daily in order to find out
if the case turns out to be one of
plague.

6. The measures indicated
above are absolutely necessary
for protecting the Presidency
against the danger that is threat-
ening on all sides. These measures will
no doubt entail a certain amount
of hardship and inconvenience
to persons going from place to
place, on business or pleasure,
but considerations for individuals
must give way to considerations
for the good of the people at
large. It is well known that on
occasions of the outbreak of
cholera or small-pox, the
people very often voluntarily
enforce a sort of quarantine
against persons coming from
villages infected with those dis-
eases, and it needs no argument
to convince them that in dealing
with

respecting the

a disease so much more
with infectious and dangerous
as is the plague which
is threatening this Presidency,
similar precautionary measures
should be enforced with all
possible rigour. The leading men
of every village should therefore
make it their duty to watch
All
every strangers coming into
their village and give immediate
information to the Village Munsiff
or to the nearest Station House
officer if they find reasons to
suspect that the strangers have
come from plague infected
tracts or are suffering from
severe fever or symptoms of
willingly and
plague. Unless they cordially
co-operate with the officers appoint-
ed for the duty and give prompt
intimation of all suspicious
cases coming to their knowledge,
the best efforts of Government
towards arresting this dreadful
disease will become practically
symptoms of no avail.

C — 97 There are also certain
sanitary precautions which
the

the people should carefully observe at occasions like the present, if not at all times.

Nearly all diseases ~~that flesh is heir to~~ are due to filth, foul air, bad food, bad water etc, and this is especially so in regard to the plague epidemic

(1) Every householder should therefore see that his house is kept thoroughly clean and that all manure, dirty water, washings of cattle stalls and collection of dirt of any description are completely removed.

(2). Where the earth remains damp and foul after such removal, it should be dug up till dry and clean earth is reached.

(3) The old earth should be taken from the town and may be used as manure for the fields; new earth pond clean place should be laid down.

(4) The interior and exterior of houses should be whitewashed.

(5). Bundles of clothing and other materials hanging from the beams or occupying in any other way the rooms in which persons sleep, should be removed.

(6). Doors and windows should at all possible hours be left open, so that free ventilation be obtained.

(7) If private latrines are used, they must be kept free from fecal matter by removal at least twice daily.

(8) The drains leading from houses should be cleansed twice daily.

(9) Cesspools and pits for receipt of urine of cattle should be emptied daily.

Reference

(10) The body and clothing should be kept scrupulously clean. If delicate persons should use warm, not cold, baths.

If persons cannot afford to do the outside the inside at least should be whitewashed. (4)

(11) The food should be plain, nourishing and affordable quality.

(12) All vegetables or leaves or fruits, likely to cause diarrhoea, should be abandoned.

(13) All forms of drinking to excess, debauchery, late hours and exposure to wet and cold should be avoided.

(14) Cold cooked food should never be used. Care should be taken not to allow flies to settle upon food. Vegetables and leaves should never be eaten otherwise than after cooking. Before being cooked, they should be well washed in water that has been purified by boiling. Salt should be freely used with the diet; but on the other hand, it must not be used in such unusual amounts as to excite uneasiness or looseness of the bowels.

(15) Water of inferior quality or water should not be kept in the house; only the cleanest available should be employed.

(16) Water for drinking purposes and for washing the mouth ~~and~~ & eating and drinking vessels, and milk should be boiled before use.

10 If has been found from experience in the Provinces that rats are a dangerous means of conveying infection. Every effort should therefore be made to destroy them [illegible].

Measures to prevent Plague

6

11 Large sums of money have already been expended in carrying out the measures referred to above, and if in spite of all these precautions the plague should unfortunately make its appearance in this Presidency the public may rest assured that the Government is fully prepared to meet it and prevent it at all cost from assuming an epidemic form. ~~Should a decent unfortunately break out it~~ will be necessary however, to introduce an efficient system of house to house inspection in order promptly to detect all real or suspected cases; to segregate the sick and treat them in hospitals specially erected for the purpose; to cause evacuation of infected houses and localities, if need be; and to enforce general sanitary precautions, such as extensive cleansing of dwellings, free admission of light and air, destruction or modification

of

[illegible] Bengal 30 April 98

of insanitary buildings, improvement of drainage and conservancy, abatement of overcrowding, opening out of ~~congested~~ crowded localities.

9 & 12 Segregation of the ~~sick~~ and of the persons who have been in immediate contact with them is a fundamental precaution which is essential to the successful issue of any operations against the disease. It is the only effective means of preventing the spread of the infection and will be carried out with the strictest regard to the habits, feelings and prejudices of the different classes of the community. Those who may desire it will be permitted and aided to erect their own hospitals and their own segregation huts, on sites shown to them or selected by them and approved by the authorities. Friends and relations will be allowed to visit the patients, and, if desired, to reside near them. They can have their own food and can bring their own doctors. Every arrangement will be made to respect the privacy of women

to

plague - Mackie

I should add a few words here pointing out how wonderfully efficacious it has been found to be in the Punjab in cases where villages have been attacked

Page 84, 85 bis

no particular mode of treatment will be forced upon any one, and women will under no circumstances be required to be examined by men. In cases where, owing to the virulence of the disease, it is found absolutely necessary to evacuate any infected houses or locality, the inmates will be temporarily accommodated in some convenient place, and, during their absence, their houses and such of their property as may be left behind will be taken care of by Government, and adequate compensation will be paid to poor people for articles ~~condemned~~ destroyed by sanitary authorities. In special cases, the sick and the other inmates of the house will be permitted to be segregated in sheds in their own compounds provided they vacate their houses to be disinfected.

13 St. Wright Webb Thos
a Lay Asst in ...
Afternoon that ...
hear Chas 7 ...
B Webb ...
n Hill ...
Cantt Hospital ...
Life ...
(in his ...
(Mrs Thomas)
hospital ...
near Bks ...
then necessity ...

14 ~~15~~ see sheet 9

As already stated, the sole object of Government is to prevent

prevent the importation of plague into the Presidency and promptly to check its spread and stamp it out should it nevertheless appear. That object can only be fully attained if the people themselves for whose benefit the regulations have been framed loyally accept them and support the action of the authorities. They should not give way to unnecessary alarm, nor allow themselves to be misled by false rumours. They should freely and promptly bring to notice of the Taluk officers and others appointed for the special duty all cases in which they may be subjected to unnecessary inconvenience and annoyance.

There is one other point to which it is necessary to draw their special attention. They are aware from long experience that persons who have been vaccinated are less liable

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to attacks of small-pox than those who have not been vaccinated. Experiments made in Bombay, Poona, Calcutta and other places have also shown that persons inoculated with such as has been prepared by Mr Haffkine are also less liable to attacks of plague than those not so inoculated. Not only is the percentage of attacks reduced but the mortality is materially lessened. Government has, however, no intention to force the people to subject themselves to this inoculation. It will be left entirely to them to adopt the system or not. They will be assured, however, that segregation will not be enforced in the case of persons who voluntarily allow themselves to be inoculated even though they may happen to be subsequently attacked with the plague.

8

Steamer plague regulations and
13/8/x. ~~During the prevalence of~~
~~the epidemic~~, passes will be freely
granted to the people to enable
them to pursue their usual occu-
pations without hindrance.
General passes will be given to
agriculturists and others having
occasion to make daily and
frequent journeys by road, rail
or boat from an infected area.
Where it is necessary for the whole
family to go and work in the
fields, a single pass may will be
given for the family which may
not be revoked even should a
case of plague occur in the
family of the pass-holder. There
must, however, be a separate pass
for each person making a rail-
way journey under a general
pass. The passes will not cover
residence outside of the infected
area and will not cover journeys
by rail unless that is expressly
stated on them. Special passes
will be freely given to persons
wish to leave the infected ar

by B. Plague authorities or B.
officer authorized by B. order

pages 38 and 39

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ld
cted
suffering
from

reside elsewhere and may be granted for households provided that the name and description of each person covered by the pass is entered therein. Before however these special passes are given, the plague authority will satisfy himself that no case of plague has occurred in the house of the applicant or in any adjacent house or among any of his relations or associates and may also require the disinfection of all clothes and other articles to be taken away.

The Collector may at his discretion exempt from the necessity of taking out passes persons who are merely returning from an infected area to their own village after bringing to market in such area articles of food or fuel provided that such return be within eight hours after arrival and not after sunset and provided also that the person concerned has not entered a dwelling house within the infected area. The Collector may also exempt from the necessity of taking out passes any persons in regard to whom there are no reasonable grounds for suspicion of infection.

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