

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(189⁸)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 491

DATED 28-10-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Disinfection at Hospet

Recording correspondence re
of linen of the Telegraph Department.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.
91	8. 10. 98.		

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

FROM

THE COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

To

THE Plague Commission,
Madras.

Ry. no. 15-70-P

Dated

Despatched

Received

5th

October 98

Enclosures.

Abstract.

Forwarding copy of letter no. $\frac{4124}{1-10-98}$

from the Superintendent of Tele-
graphs, Bellary Division, informing
that it is quite impracticable
for him to telegraph in advance to
the Medical Officer at Hospet
on each occasion that an
interruption to telegraph
communication occurs &c.

This may be noted
with reference to my
letter to Supl. of
Madras Division
6 + 98

Progs. no. 28/10
491 of 28-10-98

Recorded with reference
to letter no 91 d. 8. 10-98

Lms
21/10/98

14
21 + 50

Despatched 21/10/98 To
The collector of Bellary

Plague.

Copy of letter No. $\frac{4124}{1-10-98}$ from the Superintendent
of Telegraphs, Bellary Division to the Collector
of Bellary.

With reference to your letter No. 1570-P dated
the 25th of September 1898, I have the honour to
inform you that it is quite impracticable
for me to telegraph in advance to the Medical
officer at Hospet on each occasion that
an interruption to Telegraph communi-
cation occurs and a line man has to be
sent out through Hospet to restore commu-
-nication.

2. Such an interruption may commence
at any hour during the day or night and
when it involves the line man travelling by
train may result in the line man missing
the train and consequently a delay of 24 hours
in restoring communication, if he is not
allowed to proceed until the interruption has
been reported to me and I have communicated

Why?

His headman
Can write, or
Can make
arrangements.

with the Medical Officer at Hospet.

3. Moreover while I am on tour as I shall be for the next four months I am often cut off from telegraph communication for 24 hours at a time, and it may even happen I am cut off altogether from telegraph communication till communication is restored on the interrupted section on which the lineman is sent out.

4. I believe I am right in thinking that native engine drivers, firemen, and guards in charge of trains, and railway mail service postal officials in the trains, are neither detained at Hospet 24 hours for disinfection nor disinfected on the platform, and I consider that my telegraph staff sent out to restore communication should be given equal facilities for performing their duties.

5. I think you will admit the necessity of keeping up communication on telegraph lines which carry international traffic

because they are essential

then further in the diff.

and on which in great measure the safety of working trains depends, and restoring it as soon as possible when interrupted.

6. I would further point out that a lineman sent out on interruption duty proceeds to the place where an interruption occurs as quickly as possible and then is obliged to return to his headquarters as quickly as possible, so assuming he passes

his medical inspection at Hospet there is little chance of his spreading infection in going from an infected to a non-infected area, or of acquiring it in going from a non-infected to an infected area.

7. With regard to inoculation I would point out that I cannot insist on my staff being inoculated against their wish nor does the Railway or Postal Department insist on native engine drivers, firemen, guards, and railway mail service sorters

He probably stops in a house
in the way of

being inoculated.

8. In conclusion, therefore, I would ask that either my telegraph staff when passing through Hospet on interruption duty may on passing their medical examination be exempted from disinfection altogether as are the engine drivers, firemen, guards, and railway mail service sorters; or that they may be disinfected while the train waits.

Ref. on C $\frac{15-70-P}{5-10-98}$ —

Forwarded to the Plague Commissioner in continuation of this office letter R. C.

$\frac{15-70-P}{2-10-98}$. The superintendent, in spite

of his having been furnished with a copy of our regulations, mixes up the questions of detention for disinfection at the frontier and of exemption from liability to take out passports on arrival from infected areas at the railway station of destination.

h. h. h.
5-10-98
Acting collector

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189