

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(189)

W. C. Hancock.
~~PRINTED.~~

No.

580/1

DATED

5/4/98
Sept 7-11-98.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Destruction of Rats

Informing the Agent and Manager,
Madras Railway Company, that two other
methods than those by rat traps can be sug-
gested for the ———; and that if small reward
be granted, several will be killed.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. (1898)

CURRENT No. 953

*6.5
inspected at 7.38 p.m.
7/5/98
sent*

8/5/98
Letter Order
No. 580 7/5/98

From
The Agent and Manager
Madras Railway
Company

No. 953
11132

In reply to your letter
No 953, I have the honour
to state that I am unable
to suggest other methods of
killing rats in goods sheds than by
means of rat-traps. Poisoning
is very undesirable. I understand
the Govt will be satisfied if you
issue a circular as suggested
in No 953 & direct for
No 120/20/98

Dated 27-10-1898
Received 2-11-1898
Registered 2-11-1898
Enclosures /
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Requesting whether the Plague
Commissioner can assist
him by suggesting any means
by which rats can be
in goods sheds at stations
can be destroyed

Some small rewards have
been granted for the killing of rats
Several have been killed - and
I think perhaps, if inquiry was made
could be found who would catch &
kill rats at so much a head. There is
what the Government have been paying a some places -

Reference has been made
to the fact that the importance
of cleaning up the infected places of rats
& I hope there is that you will
will continue.

6/11

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

(A. & M. IV.)

Enclosures

No. 9553
11132

Madras Railway Company,

AGENT & MANAGER'S OFFICE,

RAYAPURAM TERMINUS,

Madras, 27th October 1898.

From

The Agent and Manager,

Madras Railway Company.

To

Mr. Hammick Esq. J. C. S.
Procurator Commissioner,
Madras.

SIR,

I have the honor to send for your personal copy of a letter from the Company's Traffic Manager on the subject of Rats in goods sheds at stations and to ask if you can assist us by suggesting any means by which Rats can be destroyed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most Obedt. Servant,

Wm. J. M. M.

Agent and Manager.

(Enc 1)
C/c

N.C. 9929.6.
33373.

Madras Railway Company.

Traffic Manager's office.

Central Station, Madras, 21st October 1898.

The Agent and Manager,
Royapuram.

Dear Sir,

Bubonic Plague - Destruction of rats.

Referring to your endorsement No. 9553, of the 18th instant upon Proceedings of Government No. 1207.P. dated 30th ultimo, it is difficult to suggest any further action than that already taken by this Department unless the Government can instruct us as to some really effective means of killing rats in our Goods Sheds. We have tried the rat traps referred to in your letter No. 9553/6558 of 6th July last and spent a considerable sum of money on them, but all stations are unanimous in reporting upon their inefficiency. We have pointed this out to the Medical Officer on whose recommendation these traps were first introduced but he apparently is unable to suggest any better means of killing the rats.

2. It is understood that if poison is used the last state will be worse than the first, as the animals die in their holes and poison the atmosphere of the sheds and cause disease all round. Instructions were given to stations many months ago about watching

First copy sent to D.

watching rats in consignments of grain from Northern India and enquiries have been made on the subject from time to time. Only one case has been reported in which two rats were detected in a wagon. One of these was killed and the other escaped. This wagon was not from an infected station.

3. It seems useless to issue a circular instructing the staff to destroy bandicoots and rats unless we can provide some effective means of carrying out the order.

Yours faithfully.

(Sd) F. W. Read.

Traffic Manager

(True copy).

The Plague Commissioners.

1/10 953 of 1896

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager.

To

The Consulting Engineer

for Railways.

Dated

188

Read.

No.

noting that in consequence of the fact
that the rates and expenses have been made on
the basis of the time. Only one case has
been reported in which the rate was stated
in a margin. One of these was killed and the other
escaped. The margin was not from an inspection
station.

From
MADRAS RAILWAY.
The Agent and Manager.
To
The Consulting Engineer
for Railways.
Dated
188
Recd
No.

Yours faithfully
(Sd) F. W. Beach
Traffic Manager

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN No.
189

CONTENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

NUMBER OF COPIES
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Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
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