[L. & M.
3,000—15-6-98.]

Local & Munl. (1898). Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 755 P

DATED 5-8-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague arrangements at Bangalore

Recording letter from the Resident in Mysore describing the measures adopted at Bangalore with reference to plague.

BACK PAPERS.

	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

D.O. [illegible] 132

THE RESIDENCY MYSORE

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
25. JUL-1898
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

Bangalore.
July 22. 1898

My dear Tremenheere:

Herewith a note detailing Plague measures in the City. The efforts of the Durbar authorities are praiseworthy, though there is perhaps a soupçon of eyewash about the arrangements. The division of the City into circles is theoretically a good business, but will require a tremendous amount of supervision — over

THE RESIDENCY MYSORE

measures in the C & M Station comprise the division of the Bazaars into blocks in which all houses are numbered - active supervision by the Health Dept - the maintenance of a Hospital and Segregation Camp which can be fully equipped at a few hours notice - the selection of sites for Camps to be used should any extensive evacuation of houses be necessary - and the preparation of materials for the erection of huts in these Camps. we have inoculating needles ready - but there is no object in procuring Serum beforehand as it will not keep.

The general idea is that our present Hospital arrangements are sufficient for an emergency, and that with our local resources the outside Camps could be fitted up at short notice -

The Mysore Plague Commissioner and the Residency Surgeon are at present at Hubli studying the arrangements there.

The worst feature about the Plague seems to be the absolute ignorance in which the whole thing is shrouded - everything that it was possible to do has been done at Hubli - and yet the mysterious ailment triumphs – no treatment is of any avail – the only effective remedy is to clear the whole locality – and even this does not always succeed. Read the last report by the Pest Research Comtee. – Flag H same in the report referred to.

If you care to see it I will send you the Resy Surgeons notes on what he observes at Hubli.

Yours sincerely

Donald Robertson.

See D.

date 2/6.28 Circ. [illegible] Pol 37

The measures taken by the Mysore Durbar for the protection of Bangalore City against plague may be classed as A: Protective measures to guard the City against the unobserved introduction of the Plague.

B: Combative measures for its suppression should it occur.

Class A. In addition to the Inspection of all arrivals from an infected area and their observation by a Medical

Encl 1 / No. 132 of 1898

Medical Officer for 10 days after arrival in the City, the following are the Chief protective measures:

I. The Supervision System

II The Sanitary Improvement of the town

III The careful watch of the Mortuary Returns.

IV The encouragement of rat catching

V The Inspection of Goods and Goods-Sheds

The

I The main features of these different measures are:-

Supervision System

Is this necessary at present in Madras? I don't think so - HS [illegible]

The Supervision System provides for the daily visitation of each house each day for the purpose of ascertaining what new arrivals, what departures, what cases of sickness or what deaths have occurred in it. For this purpose the town is divided into Blocks and Circles. Each Block consisting of about 50 houses under a Supervisor and each Circle consisting of from 10 to 16 blocks under a Superintendent

Has Bellary been divided into blocks? If not, it had better be HS

The Supervisor is selected from the subordinate Government officials residing in each block so that each

This is a good idea HS

Yes - but the rule ought not be [illegible] [illegible] each Supervisor works, as far as possible in the sphere of his greatest local influence. His duty is to visit each house in his block each day making himself thoroughly acquainted with the inmates of each house and noting down in his Block Return the name and address of every new arrival, departure, case of sickness or death, together with any information he can gather concerning each. This return he submits daily to his Circle Superintendent. The Superintendent, who is either a Gazetted Officer or a Municipal Commissioner

residing

residing in the Circle to which he is appointed, has these returns consolidated and daily submits such Consolidated return to the Chief Plague Superintendent who checks each return noting especially arrivals from infected areas, or deaths or sickness due to fever and when necessary calling on the Assistant Health Officer to make enquiries as to increase of sickness or deaths reported from any particular Circle

II Sanitary Improvement:

A sum of Rs50,000 has been

sanctioned

sanctioned by Government for the Sanitary Improvement of the City and an Executive Engineer appointed on special duty to be in charge of this work.

III "Watch of Mortuary Returns"

To ensure accuracy in these the Municipal Registration Staff has been increased. Police-men are posted at the different burial and burning grounds to register every cremation or burial while the Kolkars and Manegars at the Octroi ukkads register all funerals passing their different ukkads. The returns are compiled weekly in the Municipal office and submitted to the Plague office where they are checked and whenever they show any unusual rise in total number of deaths, or ~~are~~ increase under the Headings Fever or Pneumonia special enquiries into each case are made by the Assistant Health officer.

IV. Encouragement of rat catching

In order to induce the people to destroy rats, wide publicity has been given to the fact that in the event of plague occurring, they may become a grave source of danger as carriers of infection and a reward of one anna is paid by

2 pies in Kurnool
½ annas in city
Madras
Are they rat-catching in
as they should— [illegible]

by the Municipality for every dead rat produced.

V. "Inspection of goods and Goods-sheds".

Proposals for the introduction of a system by which goods-sheds and goods ~~from an infected area~~ will be inspected by an Inspecting Officer to prevent the importation as far as possible of rats from infected areas and of goods the introduction of which has been forbidden, have been submitted to the Resident for Consideration.

These proposals are somewhat crude. It does not require any special order to legalize the catching of rats, and the Railway Cos. will doubtless facilitate the inspection of goods, in the case of through waggons at the terminal Station, and at the frontier as regards vans which discharge en route. The Durbar seem to suggest that I should authorize Inspecting Officers to either disinfect or destroy goods which may be infected. The arrangements for disinfection are as yet incomplete, and it would be rather a tall order to allow I.O.s to destroy goods. If the Resident ordered this he [illegible] [illegible] have to pay the

B. Combative Measures.

The Combative measures consist of:—

I Erection of Plague, Segregation and Health camps.

II The laying in of disinfectants and disinfecting pumps &c.

III The laying in of a small stock of serum sufficient for the inoculation of 100 persons to enable the introduction of inoculation at once whenever sufficient necessity arises.

IV. The training of female nurses both to ~~assist~~ aid in nursing plague cases, and to go round with the Supervisors to houses containing ghosha

Sanitary Commr. has stock for 5000 cases — Yes — But this was the old stock, of doubtful efficiency, & he was told to destroy & replace by new stock — Has he done so? BS

He ~~has been~~ is engaged in getting the new stock. MJ ghosha women.

These measures all describe themselves except I. "Erection of Camps." These consist of 3 kinds

(a) Plague Camp,

(b) Segregation Camp

(c) Health Camp

The Plague Camp provides a puckka built Plague Hospital with separate accomodation for males and females. Close to these, huts of bamboo tatty walls and thatched roofs have been erected providing accomodation, for a nurse, an Assistant Surgeon,

Is there similar accommodation in the Madras plague hospitals? I doubt –

camp

camp servants and for about 100 persons either "contacts" or friends and relatives in attendance on a plague patient.

The Segregation Camp consists of huts as above with accommodation for about 100 persons.

The "general" Health camp consists of a Chattram which has been acquired by the Durbar for this purpose and has accommodation for atleast 75 persons to which 20 huts have been added with accomodation for another

No health camps have yet been actually been prepared in Madras, I think – sites have been selected, however, & huts can quickly be run up, if materials are ready available – I believe they are, but it w.d be as well to make sure.

150 persons. In addition to these 8 sites have been selected at different convenient places throughout the city for the erection of health camps for the ~~different~~ communities ~~ties~~. At each of these there will be hut accomodation for about 100 persons. Each camp is or will be complete with its own kitchens, bath rooms and latrines.

Should necessity arise the different Communities will be moved to erect Caste Hospitals and Caste Plague Camps for themselves to which each Community can take their plague patients.

& those

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

those in attendance on them, and where they can provide, their own medical attendance, subject ~~to~~ only to their general supervision by Government and to their camps being constructed on sites selected and approved by Government.

Humes
A.C. in Plague Duty.
29. 7. 98

Memo
of the Plague Preventive measures
adopted by the Mysore Durbar for the
protection of Bangalore City

22.7.98

D-O. No 42 P. d/ 20-7-1898.

City

My dear Robertson

With reference to the Enclosed extract from the 'Bangalore Bulletin' d/ 13.7-98 published in the Madras Times of the 14th idem, will you kindly let the Madras Government know exactly what preparations have been made in Bangalore City and Cantonment to combat an outbreak of plague: we might get some valuable hints from you

Yours Sincerely

20.7.98

Lewy.
20/7/98

Despd
21-7-1898.

12
20/7

[L. & M. 400-26-3-98.]

NOTE FOR THE Secretary

May not this file be circulated to H.E. also in continuation of the previous note, before making the reference to the President?

I think so, but it shd. go again through H.E. in order that he may now see it.

HT

A cutting from the Bangalore Bulletin d/ 13-7-98 published in the Madras Times of the 14th is appended below: —

[illegible] 19/7/98

Dr. Dobson went round the city with Mr. T. T. Leonard, the Municipal President, yesterday, and was shown the large camp on the Magadi-road, intended for the reception and treatment of plague cases. Mr. Leonard very kindly explained the various details connected with the preparation of the city to meet the scourge. Dr. Dobson was rather astonished at the perfection of arrangements, and observed that the hutting plans were very good, and its cost remarkably low. The Residency Surgeon was able to pick up a few good wrinkles over in the caste camps, of which there are eight completed for the accommodation of sixty families each. He was then taken over the fifth plague circle of the city, where the method of working the supervision system was detailed. Each circle, I believe, is divided into ten blocks, and there is a supervisor to each of the latter, and a superintendent for each circle. The last circle has an office and working staff, who submit daily reports to the Chief Superintendent, Mr. Plumer. The credit of working out the supervision system belongs to the City Municipality, or rather more directly to the Municipal President himself, and very heavy work it has been. Mr. V. P. Madhava Row and Mr. Plumer were with Dr. Dobson, and the Plague Commissioner appeared to have been most favourably impressed by all he saw, and complimented Mr. Leonard on the elaborate state of Municipal preparation in the city. One experiences a sense of security when there is a man at the head of affairs in the pettah who, like the proverbial weasel, sleeps with one eye open, and should the wave of apprehension blow over there will still be as much credit and recompense for all hands, from the ubiquitous Plague Commissioner downwards through all ranks, as if the dreadful epidemic had really come and had been successfully combated.

× Bangalore

Ask Resdt. by d.o. with ref. to this cutting to be good enough to let us know what preparations have been made, as we may get some hints

HT
17 7 98

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARIMENT.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

D.O. ~~Current~~ No. 132 of 1898, dated 22-7-98. from the Resident in Mysore

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

H M

SUBJECT.

Replies to H. M's queries on the note describing plague preventive arrangements in Bangalore.

FOR ORDERS.

H M's Query	Answer
1. Is this (i.e. "the daily visitation of each house each day for the purpose of ascertaining what new arrivals what departures, what cases of sickness or what deaths have occurred in it") necessary at present in Madras. I don't think so. vide Cir No 1169P of 1898 Yes. Let this be done.	Ans. This does not seem necessary at present. It may be noted here that the ~~[illegible]~~ passport rules are in force in the Mofussil & not in Madras City. There seems no harm in extending them to Madras. It seems necessary to extend them; so that persons from e.g. Hubli, alighting in Madras, may be compelled to take out passports & present themselves for inspection.
2. Has Bellary been divided into blocks? If not, it had better be.	The 2d Assistant knows personally that the division of the town for Cholera purposes has also been adopted for plague. A circular has been issued to all Collrs on the ~~this~~ subject of dividing municipal towns into blocks. Bellary ~~division~~ reply is still due.

P.T.O.

H. M's query	Answer
3. This is a good idea (i.e. the selection of the Supervisor from the subordinate Government officials residing in each block).	Yes, but the rule it is submitted should not be rigid. (Intd.) H. T. Still, it may be suggested. HS noted 5/8/98
4. Are they rat-catching in Bellary? If not, they should.	No. Orders ~~will now issue~~ have issued as ordered. HS
5. (Officiating Sanitary Commr. has stock of prophylactic for 5,000 Cases) Yes. But this was the old stock of doubtful efficiency now, which he was told to destroy and replace by new stock. Has he done so?	He is engaged in getting the new stock. (Intd.) H. T. Prof Haffkine telegraphed that he was despatching stock, I think on 29th. H.T. HS
6. (Extract from the note – Close to the Plague hospital, huts of bamboo tatty walls and thatched roofs have been erected, providing accommodation for a nurse, an Asst Surgeon, Camp Servants and for about 100 persons either 'Contacts' or friends and relations in attendance on a plague hospital) accommodation in the Madras plague hospitals? I doubt.	The papers in the office are not clear on this point. The President Mcl. Madras, ~~will be~~ has been asked. H.T. HS
7. No health camps have yet been actually prepared in Madras, I think. Sites have been selected, however, and huts can quickly be run up, if materials are readily available. I believe they are, but it would be as well to make sure.	The President, Mcl. Madras ~~will been be~~ has asked. HS

Initials 31/7/98

H. T.

2895

3/8/98

Local and Municipal Department.

D.O. No 45 P.y 31-7-1898

My dear Robertson,

Very many thanks for your letter of 22nd, its enclosures and your valuable asides. I should much like to see your Residency Surgeon's notes on what he sees at Hubli.

Yours Sincerely,

W. T.
31 7 98

Despd
31-7-1898

en for copying ——
pied ——
amined ——
When signed ——
189 .

AD AGAIN G.O, No. , DATED 189 .							
CURRENT No.							
ENCLOSURES TO C. No.							
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.							

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