

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 964 P

DATED 31-8-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Plague Regulations & Rules

Ordering, that the officers in charge of Health
and Suspect Camps may ^{with due care} allow the inmates to
leave the camps during day time to pursue
their daily employments, to be inserted as
Rule 31 on page 97 of the Madras ———

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[L. & M.]

500-16-3-93.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,
 Again G.O., No. dated 189 ,
 Current No. of 189 , dated , from
 „ 189 , „
 „ 189 , „

*Number this
 to send all papers
 after which committee
 will have to lay with
 file and they will
 circ slip him 30/8/98*

his ORDER. No 964 P. mis. dy 31-8-98

Hon. Mr. Arundel
(as dissenting member.)

*Seen
 H 30.8.98.*

The following should be inserted
 as Rule 3 A on page 97 of the
 Madras Plague Regulations and
 Rules:—

"3 A. Officers in Charge of Health
 and Suspect camps ^{at their discretion} may allow
 the inmates to leave the camps
 to pursue their daily employment,
 during day time, taking security,
 if necessary, from them or their
~~return~~ friends for their due return
 at sunset. Persons who are
 allowed this freedom should be
 medically examined, and their
 persons and clothing disinfected
 both before they leave the camp
 and after they return."

(From rules)

*Long
 26/8/98.*

AT

29 8 98

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

~~Current No.~~ 144

of 1898, dated 8-8-98 from the Captain Estlin

Current No.

of 189 , dated from the

SUBJECT.

Plague arrangements in the
Bombay Presidency

FOR ORDERS.

In compliance with a request made from the Government office, the Resident in Mysore sends for information copies of the following two interesting papers:-

- (1) Note by the Presidency Surgeon, Bangalore, on the plague arrangements at Hubli, which he visited ^{2 days} before the Madras Sanitary Comm.;
- (2) Note by S. Reade, ^{his superior of} the arrangements in Poona.

2. In some matters, the first paper gives more information than ^{that} given by the Madras Sanitary Commr. in paras 10-15 of his report printed in G.O. No 767 P. dt 8-8-98, and the following points deserve special notice:-

- (a) Persons holding inoculation certificates

A

on the 9th instant the number
of cases in Dublin as high
as 79. Dublin methods therefore
are not safe guides.

The only change I should make is that at A, above

BS
 HA
 for m. sec
 Chs 1222P
 of 890
 198

We need not object
H-7.

Flaque

5

i.e. for Contacts &
Suspects. 11-7.

(1) That persons removed to the Segregation Camp should be allowed to go out during the day, taking ^{being} security, if necessary, ^{taken} from themselves.

or their friends for their safe return
at night. In Hubli, this freedom
is allowed only to persons in the Health
Camp.

(2) That among the better class of
people who occupy good houses in
spacious compounds, surveillance
may be substituted for segregation.

(3) That corpse inspection is very
necessary, and should be instituted
as soon as any ~~excess~~ mortality
is not satisfactorily accounted for
is discovered. Dr. Reade thinks
that any opposition to corpse

inspection can invariably be got
over by a little tact and persuasion,
and points out that in Poona, all
objection disappeared when it was
ruled that in the event of corpse inspection
being objected to, the inmates of the
house would be segregated. This
is the Madras rule - vide first para
on page 94 of the Madras Plague

Regulations & Rules. When high class Brahmins requested an ~~examination~~ by a Brahmin
doctor, this was allowed in Poona, provided the
examination was done in the presence of a European
medical officer. This concession must make the
system of corpse inspection quite unobjectionable.
Dr. Reade also draws attention
to the importance of having a number
of "Observation hospitals" in a town,
and of sending sick people there for
diagnosis before taking them to the
Plague Hospital. The indiscriminate
taking

have some
I doubt whether this is
safe for a "Contact" House
The suggestion may be borne
in mind. ^{I should say it was} safe, as the people who
are admitted are ^{inspected at least once daily - I think} ~~inspected at least once daily - I think~~
It seems risky. ^{Dr. Reade} ~~Dr. Reade~~

Exceptionally, we permit
segregation in compounds.
Pamphlet p. 95. line 12
MA.

These remarks are very valuable -
Why am I to confirm the views then
expressed, though they go beyond them in the
importance attached to corpse inspection.
MA.

a good plan ^{if} ~~provided~~ the "observation
hospitals" can be provided -
MA

Observation wards also
be attached to "Suspect"
camps. Pamph. p. 103. para. 33
MA

I think we might allow the
relaxation at the top of p. 4 - This
is not an important matter to speak
of - Only a note will be required
to the Regs.
MA 15.8.98

With the Hon. Mr. Arundel
kindly say whether he meant
his initials to apply to H in
last note, or to the antepenultimate
line of the office note.
I ask with ref. to his remark
"It seems risky" at the top
of p. 4.
MA 19.8.98

5
Taking of sick people to the Plague
hospital is objectionable both because
cases not really plague may be
taken there by mistake & exposed to the
danger of infection, and because a
single instance of such a kind is enough
to alienate the ^{good will} ~~sympathy~~ of the people.

The reports contain interesting
matter, but I don't think we
need make any change in our
system at present. Of course
as time goes on & experience
is gained, we shall have to
make many changes; but at
present, the fewer the better.
Otherwise Col^d don't know
where they are.

MA 20.8.98
MA 22.8.98
MA 22.8.98
MA 22.8.98

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

W.D.
CURRENT No. 144.

From *Captain K. D. Erskine*
Bangalore

Order

No.

Dated 8-8-1898

Received 11-8-1898

Registered 11-8-1898.

Enclosures 2

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding Presidency Surgeon's
notes on what he saw at
Hubli and also a copy
of a note by Dr. Reader

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Note by Brigade Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel A. F. Dobson, Resident Surgeon, Bangalore, on plague preventive measures at Hubli - 2nd Augst 1898.

I left Bangalore on the morning of the 21st ultimo and arrived the next day at Hubli where I was shown over the town by Surgeon Captain B. H. F. Leuman. I. M. S., and who also very kindly furnished me with particulars of the measures which are being conducted for the control and suppression of the outbreak of plague at that Station.

The inspection of the town is attended by 1 Medical Officer and 1 nurse, the females of the affected areas being seen to by the latter. The duties of inspection of suspicious cases and deaths devolve upon 1 Assistant Surgeon who is solely responsible that no corpse is buried or burnt without a Certificate from

him which is issued in triplicate
for distribution as follows:-

The original is furnished to the
Corps's relatives, the duplicate
Copy to the Ceph. of the District
to be registered in the Municipal
Office, and the triplicate is
retained for record by the
Assistant Surgeon. Should the death
have not taken place from plague
the body is accordingly permitted
to be disposed of anywhere the
relatives wish; but if from plague
the Corpse must be buried or burnt
at the special plague ground set
apart for that purpose. In sus-
picious cases and where the diagnosis
is at all doubtful the body is sent
to the mortuary at the Plague hospital
for microscopical or other exami-
nation. If pronounced to be "Plague"
it is then buried in the plague
Cemetery, but if not anywhere
the people choose. All Corpse

are

Turning out infected
meas.

are Carried in Shrouds which are
thoroughly soaked in a disinfectant
and persons attending on "Plague"
funerals are with their kit duly
disinfected.

The members of the house in which
a plague case or death has occurred
are sent to the "observation Camp"
near the Plague hospital; one
attendant is allowed to accompany
a case into the plague ward to
help to look after it. The inmates
of the houses in every direction
around the infected house are
sent to the "Segregation Camp" where
they are detained for 15 to 18 days;
no one is allowed to leave therefrom
except on English grounds, and under
police surveillance. The residents
of an area round the above
bounded by streets or fields are
sent to the "Health Camp" where
they are detained until their
houses and property have been

disinfected, which generally occupies
from 2 to 4 days, and when this
has been notified as having been
done they are allowed to go and
attend to their work from 6 A.M.
to 6.30 P.M., but not to sleep in
their houses, and are obliged to
return to the Health Camp for the
night. This arrangement is kept
up for 15 clear days unless in cases
where inoculation has been undergone.

Grass and twigs are burnt
on all floors, the roof taken off
and rubbish burnt on the spot.
Disinfection with 1 in 1000 perchloride
of mercury is subsequently attended to,
and in some cases the process is
repeated. All parts of the houses
and contents as well as the area
around are thoroughly cleaned.
All the above is frequently modified
in an increasing direction but never
lessened. Persons going to the Health
Camp are first sent to the Disinfection

Station

Station, where kit is put into a
disinfector and steamed for 30
minutes, and the people themselves
are bathed in kerosene and
water. Whenever people are sent
anywhere their number is notified,
whence they came from and the
badge numbers of the police
Sepoys into whose charge they
are given. This paper is receipted
at destination and returned to sender,
with plague cases and corpses a
similar procedure is adopted.

Holders of inoculation
certificates.

Persons holding inoculation Cer-
tificates are not sent to either
Health, Segregation or Observation
Camps. Only their houses and kits
are disinfected. The proportion of
attacks from plague amongst the
inoculated and uninoculated
is about 1 in 15 so far; the
probable ultimate result will
be, it is thought, about 1 in 10.
The inoculation probably protects
only from 4 to 6 weeks, but two

will, if there be an interval of
from 7 to 10 days, probably protect
for from four to six months
when re-inoculation will be
necessary. Since the first out-
break of the epidemic, 11,000
persons (men women and children)
have been twice inoculated, and
5,000 once, and although optional
with the people to submit to it,
the above figures show that the
measure is very freely resorted to,
in preference to segregation as
a prophylactic means for sup-
pressing the disease.

No railway booking from
Hubli is allowed unless by
a pass which, however, does not
exempt from disinfection of person
and kit, and only for some 20
selected persons, nominated by
the Collector, without inoculation
Certificates. For all others these
Certificates are necessary to obtain

Railway Booking &
Passes.

a pass to travel by rail. Passen-
gers without passes enroute for
Mysore, and for Stations between
Hubli and Gadag, are detained
in the railway Observation Camp,
that is, the walled park of the
Health Camp, up to 10 days. They
and their kit are disinfected at
the railway Disinfection depot,
before and after going to the
Observation Camp. The foregoing
has lately, under Government order,
been much modified.

Supervising system
introduced in the City.

The City is divided into 8
districts, over each of which is
a Superintendent, and for blocks
of 100 houses a supervisor is
appointed whose duty it is to
inspect all the inmates of each
house once daily and report arrivals
and departures, etc. The census of
the town is taken weekly. The
Superintendent and the Supervisors
help the Officers who attend to

the Segregation and disinfection work. There are 2 such Officers with 4 European Inspectors under them and a disinfection establishment of 175 Coolies. Stores of disinfectants, pumps, buckets, etc. are kept in places which are used as Offices by the Supervisors in the different districts. One of the British Officers on disinfection work has to issue passes by rail and road and they take it in turn to inspect the trains.

The Hospital Segregation and Health Camps are well organised, complete in every respect and fully equal to all possible calls in each special particular.

Copy.

Henry Clarke
Registrar.

Hospital Segregation
& Health Camps.

1
No 144 of 1898

Organization

A Note by Dr. Reader on plague protective measures.

On the outbreak of plague in a town, the place should be divided up into a certain number of divisions. It will be convenient to refer to the organization lately existing in Poona as an example of the size and population that one officer can administer. In each division of Poona there were roughly 10000 people, and each division was a complete unit with regard to its organization for disinfection, Segregation and hospital transport.

Each district was sub divided amongst six Supervisors, usually one N. C. O. in charge of 5 men. Each man had a subdivision of 20 many houses, roughly a 100, - a Census was made of each house and the house was visited daily and the inhabitants accounted for. Departures were checked

out and arrivals were brought on
the list. A case of sickness was
removed to one of the Observation
hospitals. Several of which were
scattered through the town, and
where a doctor was in attendance.
If the case was diagnosed plague,
the patient was removed to the
General Plague Hospital.

The institution of these observa-
tion hospitals is a matter of
great importance as great objection
was raised to the indiscriminate
admission to a Plague Hospital
even though there be an observation
ward attached to it.

The inmates of an infected
house were placed in Segregation
for ten days. I would advocate
a system of what may be called
open Segregation, under which
people are allowed out during the
day but might return at night.

Segregation.

Such persons are disinfected of
their clothing and cannot spread
the disease, as they are under daily
medical observation, and on the first
sign of fever they would be sent
to hospital. Security might be taken
either from themselves or their friends
for their safe return at night.
This system would get over the hard-
ships which under the old system
undoubtedly prevailed.

Surveillance

All new arrivals should be
placed under surveillance, and under
the Census System this should be
very complete. It is a question
whether surveillance could not be
substituted for Segregation amongst
better class people who occupy good
houses in a spacious compound, and
where huts or tents could be erected.
The infected house and clothing would
of course have to be disinfected.

The first indication of the infection of a town or district by plague is an increase in the death rate.

Plague is a disease of slow progression, and in its initial stage can undoubtedly be efficiently stamped out, but to carry this out an accurate registration of all deaths is of paramount importance.

Registration of deaths as understood in Europe is impossible in India, as not more than 10 or 15 per cent of the people are attended by medical practitioners. The only reliable registration in India is a system of Corpse inspection. Should a high death rate prevail in a town suspected of being infected, and when the overplus of deaths cannot be accounted for in a satisfactory way by the local medical authorities, a corpse inspection should be at once instituted.

A death from the bubonic form of

of plague is easily recognised (85 per cent die of this form), the Pneumonic variety is not so easily detected after death, but with inquiry and care. This variety can also be usually diagnosed after death. An inquiry will usually elicit the fact that a cough has preceded the death. Sputa can usually be seen on the wall, as natives have a habit of getting rid of this sputa in this way. There may be enlargement of some of the lymphatic glands. This form of Pneumonia is usually "pateky" which may be evident on percussion even after death.

The Pneumonic form of plague is the most insidious and infectious variety of the disease, and it is of the utmost importance that the initial cases should be diagnosed for the outbreak to be stamped out early with any degree of success.

Any opposition on the part of the natives to a corpse inspection can invariably be got over by a little

tack and persuasion.

In Rome no class or Creed now
raise any opposition to the System;
at first there was a slight objection
but on the rule being made, that
in the event of a Corpse inspection
being objected to, the inhabitants
of the house would be segregated,
the objection invariably vanished.
High class Brahmins have sometimes
requested that the examination
of a Corpse might be carried out by
a Brahmin doctor. This request
was always acceded to, but the
examination was made in the
presence of a European medical man.
No native practitioner should be
allowed to carry out Corpse inspection,
with such agency it is bound
to be inefficient —

Copy of a Copy

James Clarke
Registrar

2
101 No 144 of 1898

When given for copying _____
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When signed _____

AND AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATE _____
189 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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