

T. & M.
1893-1911 AD.

Local & Munl. (189) Department.

INDEXED, *CR*

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 221M

DATED 26th Jan 98

DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Cantonments

Communicating to the Lieutenant General
Commanding the forces, Madras, and to the
Dist^{ts} Magistrates of Bellary, Chingleput,
the Nilgiris, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam
for information and guidance, letter
from the Govt of India, Military Dept^t
to the Quarter Master General in India
on the subject of the future treatment
of venereal diseases in —.

BACK PAPERS.

Government {1898} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 221 M., 26th January 1898.

JANUARY.

Cantonments.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From R. NATHAN, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, 15th December 1897, No. 2659.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of a letter * addressed to the Quartermaster-General in India on the subject of the future treatment of venereal diseases in cantonments.

* No. 5465-D., dated the 20th November 1897.

ENCLOSURE.

From Major-General P. J. MAITLAND, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Quartermaster-General in India, dated Simla, 20th November 1897, No. 5465-D.

In the despatch No. 25, dated 26th March 1897, from the Secretary of State, regarding the prevalence of venereal disease in the British Army in India, it is stated that Her Majesty's Government cannot acquiesce in the continuance of the present state of things which has led to a disastrous increase in venereal disease among the British troops in India, and requires the immediate adoption of remedial measures.

2. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Secretary of State, a new set of rules has been issued under the Cantonments Act, 1889, superseding the rules issued in G.G.O. No. 460, dated 3rd May 1895, and making further provision for dealing with contagious and infectious diseases, and for the enforcement of public order and decency in cantonments.

3. To give full effect to these rules, Act V of 1895 has been repealed by Act XV of 1897, and it therefore becomes desirable to state explicitly the policy of the Government of India with respect to the future treatment of venereal disease in cantonments.

4. The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that venereal diseases should, as far as possible, be dealt with on the same lines as other infectious and contagious diseases. It must be expressly understood that the new rules do not in any way revive the system which was in force up to 1888. They do not authorise the provision of prostitutes for the troops or the compulsory examination of prostitutes, or any scheme of registration and licensing for the purpose of prostitution. If a prostitute is suspected of being diseased and of being a source of danger to other persons, she may be required to be examined, and if she refuses to be examined, she may be required to quit the cantonment. Her refusal to be examined will entail no other penalty, and no prostitute, therefore, will be examined against her will. If she is found to be diseased, and submits to treatment, any further examination that may be necessary will be determined by the medical requirements of the case, and will depend on considerations similar to those which would apply in the case of any other infectious or contagious disease.

Although there is to be no compulsory examination of women, medical officers may make arrangements to carry out from time to time the examination of women who voluntarily present themselves.

5. The Governor-General in Council desires to impress on those concerned that the success of the measures now adopted will depend very much on the manner in which the new rules are put in force.

Rule 9 empowers the medical officer in charge of a cantonment hospital, if he has *prima facie* grounds for believing that any person living in the cantonment is suffering from an infectious or contagious disorder, to require, by notice in writing, that such person shall attend at the hospital or dispensary at a time to be specified in the notice and not to quit it without his permission; unless and until, he is satisfied, by examination if necessary, that such person is not in fact suffering, or is no longer suffering, from such disorder.

Rule 10 empowers the Commanding Officer of a cantonment, if the medical officer in charge of a hospital or dispensary reports in writing that any person having received a notice as provided

for in rule 9 has refused or omitted to attend at the hospital or dispensary, or that such person having attended at the hospital or dispensary, has quitted it without his permission, to direct by order in writing, if he thinks it expedient, such person to remove from the cantonment within 24 hours and prohibit such person from remaining longer in, or re-entering, it without his written permission.

6. It should be carefully borne in mind by those concerned that the powers conferred by these rules are *permissive*, and that if a medical officer should have *prima facie* grounds for believing that any person living in the cantonment is suffering from an infectious or contagious disorder, he should, in order to prevent, as far as possible, the infliction of hardships on the more respectable inhabitants of the cantonment, personally satisfy himself regarding the condition and general environment and circumstances of the sick person, in order to ascertain whether the case does not admit of the exercise of the discretion conferred on him by rule 9 to give such other directions in the matter, apart from attendance at, or detention in, the hospital or dispensary, as may seem to him most expedient for the purpose of preventing the spread of the disorder. The powers conferred must be exercised with discretion. It is not the intention of the Government that they should be exercised in the cases of respectable persons, who can arrange for private medical attendance, and who are willing to take any necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the disease. It is the danger of the spread of the disease to others that justifies the interference of the medical officer.

7. His Excellency in Council trusts that the measures which will now come into force may alike tend to remove temptation from young soldiers, and to diminish the prevalence of this terrible disease. These measures will also alleviate the sufferings of the women who have contracted venereal disorders, by providing them with medical care and treatment which would not be denied to them in the case of any other infectious or contagious disease.

8. In conclusion, I am to ask that, under the orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the necessary steps may be taken for making known the views of the Government of India on this question to all military officers concerned.

Copy forwarded to—

The Home Department } for such further action as may be necessary.
„ Foreign Department }

(By order.)

(Signed) F. G. CARDEW, Capt.,
Offg. Dy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Endt. No. 96.

Transferred to the Local and Municipal Department.

(Signed) M. E. COUCHMAN,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

14th January 1898.

ORDER—No. 221 M., dated 26th January 1898.

Communicated to the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras, and to the District Magistrates of Bellary, Chingleput, the Nilgiris, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
District Magistrate of Bellary.

„ „ of Chingleput.
„ „ of the Nilgiris.
„ „ of Trichinopoly.
„ „ of Vizagapatam.

Exl. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

Government of Madras
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL

G.O. No. 221 M., 26th January 1898.

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Proof

Proof 9/2
7/2

Government {1898} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval.

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Enclosures

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1898.

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In the despatch No. 25, dated 26th March 1897, from the Secretary of State, regarding the prevalence of venereal disease in the British Army in India, it is stated that Her Majesty's Government cannot acquiesce in the continuance of the present state of things which has led to a disastrous increase in venereal disease among the British troops in India, and requires the immediate adoption of remedial measures.

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3. To give full effect to these rules, Act V of 1895 has been repealed by Act XV of 1897, and it therefore becomes desirable to state explicitly the policy of the Government of India with respect to the future treatment of venereal disease in cantonments.

4. The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that venereal diseases should, as far as possible, be dealt with on the same lines as other infectious and contagious diseases. It must be expressly understood that the new rules do not in any way revive the system which was in force up to 1888. They do not authorise the provision of prostitutes for the troops or the compulsory examination of prostitutes, or any scheme of registration and licensing for the purpose of prostitution. If a prostitute is suspected of being diseased and of being a source of danger to other persons, she may be required to be examined, and if she refuses to be examined, she may be required to quit the cantonment. Her refusal to be examined will entail no other penalty, and no prostitute, therefore, will be examined against her will. If she is found to be diseased, and submits to treatment, any further examination that may be necessary will be determined by the medical requirements of the case, and will depend on considerations similar to those which would apply in the case of any other infectious or contagious disease.

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Rule 9 empowers the medical officer in charge of a cantonment hospital, if he has *prima facie* grounds for believing that any person living in the cantonment is suffering from an infectious or contagious disorder, to require, by notice in writing, that such person shall attend at the hospital or dispensary at a time to be specified in the notice and not to quit it without his permission; unless and until, he is satisfied, by examination if necessary, that such person is not in fact suffering, or is on longer suffering, from such disorder.

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6. It should be carefully borne in mind by those concerned that the powers conferred by these rules are *permissive*, and that if a medical officer should have *prima facie* grounds for believing that any person living in the cantonment is suffering from an infectious or contagious disorder, he should, in order to prevent, as far as possible, the infliction of hardships on the more respectable inhabitants of the cantonment, personally satisfy himself regarding the condition and general environment and circumstances of the sick person, in order to ascertain whether the case does not admit of the exercise of the discretion conferred on him by rule 9 to give such other directions in the matter, apart from attendance at, or detention in, the hospital or dispensary, as may seem to him most expedient for the purpose of preventing the spread of the disorder. The powers conferred must be exercised with discretion. It is not the intention of the Government that they should be exercised in the cases of respectable persons, who can arrange for private medical attendance, and who are willing to take any necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the disease. It is the danger of the spread of the disease to others that justifies the interference of the medical officer.

7. His Excellency in Council trusts that the measures which will now come into force may alike tend to remove temptation from young soldiers, and to diminish the prevalence of this terrible disease. These measures will also alleviate the sufferings of the women who have contracted venereal disorders, by providing them with medical care and treatment which would not be denied to them in the case of any other infectious or contagious disease.

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(True Extract.)

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.
District Magistrate of Bellary.

" " " of Chingleput.
" " " of the Nilgiris.
" " " of Trichinopoly.
" " " of Vizagapatam.

Exd. C. M. Thunbuswamy.

L & M
Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. *151 N*
734

From *the G. of S.*

Home Dep't

Order
Serial No. 96, dated 14 Jan'y. 1898

Transferred to
the Local & Municipal
Department

No. 2659

Dated 15th December 1897

Mr Coulman: Received 21st — do —

Ag. Asst Secy Registered 22nd — do —

Enclosures 1 *10/1/98*

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SUBJECT.

For warding copy of a letter
addressed to the Quarter Master General
in India on the subject of the
future treatment of venereal
diseases in Cantonment

To

The L & M Dept. (with s.c. of
y. of S. letter)

*Presup papers
Complete
10/1/98*

48
 Recd No. 221 M. 8 26-1-98

Communicated to the Lieutenant General Commanding the forces, Madras, and to the District Magistrate of Bellary, Chingleput, the Nilgiris, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam for information and guidance.

V.A.
 24/1/98
 9/5 1998

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
427-28	297	Sanitary India	6/10/97
		Part II Page 941-1041	11/1/98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

To
 The Deputy Assistant Quarter Master
 Madras Coy. 1/6
 " District Magistrate of Bellary 1/6
 " " Chingleput 1/6
 " " the Nilgiris 1/6
 " " Trichinopoly 1/6
 " " Vizagapatam 1/6
 Wm. 12/2/98

CURRENT MUNICIPAL DEPT.

15/1 M

No. 2659

CHIEF SECRETARY
 21. DEC. 1897
 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

FROM

R. NATHAN, Esq.,
 Under Secretary to the Govt. of India,

To

The Chief Secy to the Govt. of Madras.

Home Department.
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Calcutta, the 15th December 1897.

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I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. Nathan

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No 22 of 97

Mily Dept

Simla 5

28/11

Sanitary.

Cantonment Hospitals.

No. 5465-D.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Simla, the 20th November 1897.

To

THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL IN INDIA.

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It is requested that the above heading, with number and date of this communication, may be quoted in any subsequent correspondence on this subject.

Not of course
Suzette 27-2-97
Part I. Reg 921
May 10

in writing, that such person shall attend at the hospital or dispensary at a time to be specified in the notice and not to quit it without his permission; unless and until, he is satisfied, by examination if necessary, that such person is not in fact suffering, or is no longer suffering, from such disorder.

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(Sd.) P. J. MAITLAND,

Secretary to the Government of India.

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The Foreign Department. }

By order,

(Sd.) F. G. CARDEW,

Offg. Depy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

1897

Pub. Dept.

Vol. No. 1

4931

15/11/1897

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26-1-98

signature.

11-2-98

despatched in print.

12-2-98

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189

PRINT No.

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ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

do - A. Proof. MR 26.1.98

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DUTTO.

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