PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(1899)

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Indexd.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Field camps

Recording letters from the Collectors of ~~the~~ certain districts expressing their opinions on the remarks made by the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the ~~camp arrangements in the Anantapur Dt.~~ supervision of people of infected area going into camps

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner,

MADRAS—1899.

Recd. } 1899. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

Proceedings, No. 1130, 25th April 1899.

APRIL.

Health Camps.

Recording the opinions of the Collectors of infected districts on the suggestions of the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the supervision of people who evacuate infected areas and go into —.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

Read—again the following paper :—

Proceedings No. $\frac{321}{26}$, dated 3rd February 1899.

Abstract (paragraph 3).—Inviting the opinions of the Collectors of infected districts on the Sanitary Commissioner's remarks in paragraph 11 of his notes of inspection on certain places in the Bellary district.

Read—also the following papers :—

From R. B. CLEGG, Esq., Collector and District Magistrate, Salem, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 25th February 1899, No. 436-P.

With reference to paragraph 3 of your Proceedings, No. $\frac{321}{26}$, of 3rd February 1899, I have the honour to remark on paragraph 11 of the Sanitary Commissioner's inspection notes as follows.

2. In the Hosúr taluk at Mathigiri and Shulagiri the people made their own arrangements, in some few cases assisted by the plague officers, for evacuating their houses and forming camps, and they were encouraged, as little restriction as could be permitted being imposed upon them. They have a preference, and a very natural one, for building their sheds in their own fields. As for going to a Government health camp if it is possible to avoid it, they will not go. Every day these various camps are perambulated by our preventive circle inspectors and plague supervisors who have each prepared a rough census of the various camps. They report attacks and deaths to the additional medical officer and under his guidance segregate the sick, dispose of the dead, burn down the huts and disinfect the belongings. Where the camp is near the central hospital the sick who are able and willing to be removed are brought into it by the ambulance.

3. At Berikai the people had prepared very good sheds, and as soon as the outbreak occurred, completely evacuated the village of nearly 400 houses. They chose their own camps and we did not interfere with them beyond taking a census and organizing a daily inspection and arrangements in each camp for treating and segregating the sick.

4. At Hosúr where the plague officers are always at hand the people have erected camps on sites approved by the authorities and they are in consequence not so scattered and more accessible. It is desirable to have them within bounds where they can be persuaded. Here also a census has been ordered, a daily inspection has been instituted and arrangements are made as cases occur for all sanitary requirements.

5. As for disinfection of clothing and goods before evacuation, it is impracticable. When the panic begins, the people flock out like sheep and it is the best thing they can do. In fact I have been trying to encourage prompt and speedy evacuation. It has had most excellent results at Berikai. We have not the staff nor the time to disinfect properly before they leave. It is better that they should take all their belongings out with them as at Shulagiri. A good many cases did occur in the fields there but after the District Medical and Sanitary Officer induced them to boil their clothing, burn their rubbish and disinfect generally their belongings the attacks ceased. This can be more easily done in the fields than in the village. As for the tall bamboo flag (yellow ?) and blackboard suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner, I am afraid it would scare the people more than anything else. With the limited resources we have to deal with a large population, we cannot pretend to enforce such a discipline as the Sanitary Commissioner would desire. Before returning to their houses it is essential that all the property should be disinfected before re-introduction, but whether this can be done satisfactorily remains to be seen.

From R. H. CAMPBELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 4th March 1899, D.D. No. 431 P.

With reference to paragraph 3 of your Proceedings, No. 321-26, dated 3rd February 1899, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. I cannot, to begin with, endorse the Sanitary Commissioner's opinion that one large health camp is preferable to a number of huts scattered over the fields, for I hold that the further apart from each other the people live the better it is from a sanitary point of view. Supposing, for argument's sake, that we had established a single large health camp at Peddahottur; looking at the way in which the epidemic of plague continued after the people had left the village, I have little doubt that we should very soon have had to abandon the camp and build another, and this procedure might have had to be repeated several times at enormous cost and inconvenience to the villagers. On the other hand, experience has shown that where cases of plague have occurred in scattered field huts, the disease has not spread to adjoining huts. This immunity has actually been demonstrated in several cases in the Hospet fields. In localities like Hospet and Peddahottur, where there is a vast expanse of open fields available for occupation no better arrangement can, I think, be conceived than a dispersal of the population into separate huts situated far from each other.

3. The Sanitary Commissioner's suggestions in paragraph 11 may be summarized as follows :—

(a) Daily supervision should not be relaxed over the people of infected areas residing in the fields.

(b) People allowed to camp in the fields should not stray from the village revenue boundaries.

(c) Sick persons in the camps should be segregated in the proximity of the chosen sites.

(d) The evacuated village is not to be visited by the inhabitants without a written permit.

(e) Sickness or death or departure from the camp should be reported at a certain spot.

(f) Departure from infected village should not take place without property and clothing being disinfected in the first instance.

(g) A census should be taken of each block of huts.

(a) Is a good suggestion, but one that cannot effectively be carried out without extra establishment. I have recently applied for the additional establishment required for this purpose in Hospet and Alúr.

(b) This is a good suggestion in theory, but in some places natural difficulties stand in the way of its being carried out. In Alúr taluk the absence of drinking water wells makes it impossible for the people to confine themselves to the village limits. In the Molagavalli fields, for instance, no water could be found except in a small well or two. It was no good making the people congregate in large numbers near those small wells and so they were perforce allowed to scatter themselves in different directions even beyond the revenue limits of Molagavalli wherever water could be had. In the Alúr fields too there are no good wells and so people have gone into the limits of adjoining villages for the sake of water. The suggestion can therefore be adopted only where it is practicable.

(*c*) This is being attended to in all the camps.

(*d*) This is practicable in small villages, but cannot be enforced in large towns without a cordon being placed round the town or such portion of it as has been ordered to be evacuated. In big towns or villages people leave a considerable amount of their property behind and will naturally wish to go back at odd intervals to fetch some article of property left behind or simply to see what is being done to their houses and to assure themselves that their grain pits have not been tampered with. All we can do with the limited establishment at our command is to prevent any permanent re-occupation. Moreover, it must be remembered that the evacuation of a village by the inhabitants is voluntary and that a stringent regulation of this kind would probably make it much harder to induce the people to evacuate at all.

(*e*) Cases of sickness, death or departure can only be ascertained by enquiries and no definite rule can be enforced in this respect without an enormous observation staff, the cost of which would be prohibitive. The suggestion in fact is one for an organized camp (which I do not advocate) and not for a collection of scattered huts.

(*f*) If it is utterly impossible to enforce disinfection without regular cordons the establishment of which I do not advocate. All the people in a village or town cannot be disinfected in one day with their clothing and property, and if disinfection is to continue for more than a day there is no guarantee that the disinfected people will not mingle with those that are not disinfected. It generally happens that before the staff arrives for disinfection purposes the people have gone out into the fields, taking clothes and other property with them. I can think of no practicable way of enforcing disinfection either on evacuation or re-occupation of a village. Important as such disinfection undoubtedly is, it can only be looked on as a counsel of perfection to be carried out as far as possible by persuasion and other available means. The Tahsildars of the affected taluks are trying to get clothing in the camps disinfected by the people themselves by boiling or exposure to the sun and I do not see what more can be done.

(*g*) arrangements are being made for taking a regular census of the population in the fields. I do not see the particular use of the bamboo pole and blackboard suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner. They would look all right in a regularly organized health camp but would serve no useful purpose in a colony of scattered huts.

4. In conclusion I would explain that I have criticized the Sanitary Commissioner's suggestions in no hostile spirit, but solely in order to show that though sound in theory they are not in practice suited to local circumstances, and could be carried out in their entirety only in thoroughly disciplined and effectively guarded health camps. The people of this district have set a really splendid example to the whole Presidency in the matter of evacuation, which has been purely voluntary in every case and it would be a fatal mistake to render evacuation unpopular by imposing too many restrictions on it. No doubt the people are docile and law-abiding, but this is no argument for making them uncomfortable and worrying them with a number of sumptuary regulations which are after all of minor importance when compared with that sovereign remedy for plague—evacuation—which we have already secured.

From B. MACLEOD, Esq., Collector of Anantapur, to the Plague Commissioner, dated 5th March 1899, Ref. on C. No. 861-P.

In forwarding herewith copy of letter, Dis. No. 54, dated 24th February 1899, from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Anantapur, as regards the remarks

of the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 11 of his inspection notes embodied in your Proceedings, No. 321—26, dated 3rd February 1899, I have the honour to state as follows.

2. It is no doubt good and convenient from an administrative point of view to select special health camps for the several castes and allow the people to have their huts built there when a village is evacuated. This method was adopted of late in some villages as far as practicable, but it could not be invariably done to perfection for want of a strong system of overseers and owing to people having their own ideas of where it was convenient to camp; further it was feared that any more interference of the kind would go to irritate the people and lead to disturbance.

3. As regards strict segregation and more rigid supervision of these health camps, I agree with the District Medical and Sanitary Officer the villagers would not be interfered with to the extent suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner, and the several methods of conciliation have already been tried. Any more rigid supervision, it is feared, would only tend to more concealment of cases and scattering of people. The villagers do not now generally allow men from infected parts to get into their villages and they have already learnt this lesson; at the same time we cannot shut up all possible ways of communication from place to place without more interference with the liberties of the people and more costly establishments of supervision.

4. The articles in infected houses are generally disinfected before the inmates are sent out to camp, but it is not possible to do so when a whole village or large portions of it have to leave the place within a few hours unless we have strong disinfecting establishment to do it all readily in each and every affected village.

5. Arrangements of flags and words for blocks of huts and the taking of census all mean more system, but they cannot be done without more staff, which means more expenditure. This would also excite the people.

Enclosure.

From Captain R. ROBERTSON, I.M.S., District Medical and Sanitary Officer, to the Collector of Anantapur, dated Guntakal, 24th February 1899, Dis. No. 54.

With reference to Plague Commissioner's Proceedings, No. 321—26, dated 3rd February 1899, paragraph 11 of Sanitary Commissioner's letter, I have the honour to state that I brought to the Sanitary Commissioner's notice the difficulty of dealing with the population of a large village, such as Guntakal, who have been allowed to wander and build huts in their own fields. They are consequently not supervised and seldom found out: owing to growing crops it is quite possible a whole family may die and not be discovered until some one cuts down their crops. I would strongly recommend that fixed camps for different castes be mapped out in future and pressure exerted so that the castes may build their tents in this selected ground. If this be done a great deal of wandering from village to village may be frustrated. A good deal of forethought must be exercised in having the huts built at a fair distance from each other in case the disease spreads amongst them; for, if a second move be decided upon, I am afraid the villagers would doubt our good intentions.

2. As regards the street segregation of sick, I am afraid the Sanitary Commissioner is too optimistic. The villagers will not be interfered with. They prefer their own remedies. On and after a few die in one building the others will not go near it; if pressure is exerted here the next thing is concealment and it is no great exertion to tell a lie in stating that the missing member of the family has gone to the fields whilst he is lying sick or dead covered up with the cholam stalks of the walls. Of the heap, the class of people I have found inclined to wander is the Komati class. They are a moneyed class, and of course will get an opening into any village and so spread the disease.

3. I quite agree with the Sanitary Commissioner that all the household goods should be cleared out with their owners. This I adopted at Guntakal with few exceptions successfully.

4. If huts are numbered, blocked and their census taken, this of course means an augmented staff and also irritation to the people forced from their houses at unseasonable periods of year. I think we could easily find large encampments without a flag and painted blackboard.

5. I quite agree with the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the disinfection of clothes and furniture before the return of villagers, but I do not think this will be the sole means of a recrudescence. I would draw his attention to rats; rats have died in their holes in the houses from plague and have not been found at disinfection. The other rats of the village have gone to camp

with the villagers or shortly after them. These fat and healthy rats now return and meet the dried up remains of their old friends in their runs, and so a second outbreak occurs. I think this mode is far more likely than that of furniture or clothes, as they have been exposed to winds, &c., for two months, probably ere being taken back.

From MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 17th March 1899, Dis. No. 361-P.

Referring to paragraph 3 of your No. 321—26, of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to observe that the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 11 of his inspection notes are as follows :—

(1) that the people in camps should not be allowed to stray from the revenue boundaries of the village ;
(2) that strict segregation of the sick in the proximity of the chosen sites should be enforced ;
(3) that people in camps should not be permitted to visit the village without a written permit ;
(4) that sickness, death or departure should be reported at a certain spot ;
(5) that departure from camp should not be permitted without previous disinfection of property and clothing ;
(6) that each block of huts should be provided with its number, its census should be known and registered and a tall bamboo with a flag and painted black board should be put up ; and
(7) that a rigid course of inspection of property should be required when people return from camp.

2. Regarding suggestions (1) and (3) and the proposal concerning census mentioned in (6), I would invite your attention to my letter, Dis. No. 360-P., dated 17th March 1899.

Suggestion No. (2) may be carried out as it appears to ensure proper control by the Sanitary officers over the patients and thus to minimize the chances of the further spread of the disease.

Suggestion No. (4) is in a way connected with No. (1) so far as the former relates to the departure of persons from a camp ; I think that the proposed restriction that cases of death and illness should be reported at a certain spot may be enforced.

Suggestions Nos. (5) and (7) may be carried out.

With regard to the last portion of No. (6), the District Medical and Sanitary Officer says (and I concur with him) that the fixing of a bamboo and a painted black board cannot but be considered as a very bad sign by the superstitious people who will run away from the locality.

From J. K. BATTEN, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, North Arcot, to the Plague Commissioner, dated Chittoor, 23rd March 1899, Dis. No. 577-P.

With reference to paragraph 3 of your proceedings, No. 321—26, dated 3rd February 1899, I have the honour to state that I have had no personal experience of formal evacuation of villages. But the proposals of the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 11 of his notes seem to me to be impracticable, with the exception of the following :—

(1) Obedience to the order that the village is not to be visited without a written permit.
(2) They should be told that no interference would be made with their treatment of the sick, or with their temporary dwellings. (The proviso that follows, I think, impracticable.)
(3) Before return from the fields to disinfected houses, a rigid disinfection of property brought back should be required.

2. The other proposals would, I think, entail the employment of a very large supervising staff, and would be difficult to enforce without making the people scathe more than ever.

PROCEEDINGS—No. 1130, dated 25th April 1899.

Recorded.

L. E. BUCKLEY,
Plague Commissioner.

To all Collectors (A—H).
,, the Sanitary Commissioner.
,, the Surgeon-General.
,, the President, Municipal Commission, Madras,
with copy of Proceedings, No. 321, dated 3rd February 1899.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Please see the query on pp. 5 & 7 — seen

Proof 27/4/99

28.4.99

~~25-8-98~~ To Spare

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner,

MADRAS—1899.

Correct & strike off

1/5/98

Proof for approval

29/4/98

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Recd. } 1899. Enclosures

Regd. } Spare copies

Proceedings, No. 1130/~~59~~ 57, 25th April 1899.

Why 1130/57? I asked this question before & never got an answer.

1/5

APRIL.

Is this correct. I've never seen it in any other dept. & it does it seem necessary.

1/5

All ~~these~~ proposals are given one consecutive ~~number~~ series of numbers. Those which are printed are given sub numbers also. e.g. 1130 is the general number & 57 is the submember in the printed series.

1/5/98

This office first adopted [illegible] the practice, when they have only one serial number for both M.O.s & printed orders & as I found that certain orders marked for printing were not printed by oversight, I adopted the sub numbers to facilitate checking for printed orders as well as because they had no papers were omitted from the files. The Rev. Dept. have got one series of numbers for printed papers & another for mis. papers.

1/5/98

[illegible] . Anyhow it will be kept up as it is useful [illegible] 1/5/98

The practice would [illegible] & [illegible] better be kept [illegible]

1/5

Field Camps.

Recording letters from the Collectors of certain districts expressing their opinions on the remarks made by the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the supervision of people of infected area going into camps.

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3. The Sanitary Commissioner's suggestions in paragraph 11 may be summarized as follows:—

- (a) Daily supervision should not be relaxed over the people of infected areas residing in the fields.
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ENCLOSURE.

From Captain R. ROBERTSON, I.M.S., District Medical and Sanitary Officer, to the Collector of Anantapur, dated Guntakal, 24th February 1899, Dis. No. 54.

With reference to Plague Commissioner's Proceedings, No. 321—26, dated 3rd February 1899, paragraph 11 of Sanitary Commissioner's letter, I have the honour to state that I brought to the Sanitary Commissioner's notice the difficulty of dealing with the population of a large village such as Guntakal who have been allowed to wander and build huts in their own fields. They are consequently not supervised and seldom found out: owing to growing crops it is quite possible a whole family may die and not be discovered until some one cuts down their crops. I would strongly recommend that fixed camps for different castes be mapped out in future and pressure exerted so that the castes may build their tents in this selected ground. If this be done a great deal of wandering from village to village may be frustrated. A good deal of forethought must be exercised in having the huts built at a fair distance from each other in case the disease spreads amongst them for, if a second move be decided upon, I am afraid the villagers would doubt our good intentions.

2. As regards the street segregation of sick, I am afraid the Sanitary Commissioner is too optimistic. The villagers will not be interfered with. They prefer their own remedies. On and after a few die in one building the others will not go near it; if pressure is exerted here the next thing is concealment and it is no great exertion to tell a lie in stating that the missing member of the family has gone to the fields whilst he is lying sick or dead covered up with the cholam stalks of the walls. Of the heap, the class of people I have found inclined to wander is the Komati class. They are a moneyed class, and of course will get an opening into any village and so spread the disease.

3. I quite agree with the Sanitary Commissioner that all the household goods should be cleared out with their owners. This I adopted at Guntakal with few exceptions successfully.

4. If huts are numbered, blocked and their census taken, this of course means an augmented staff and also irritation to the people forced from their houses at unseasonable periods of year. I think we could easily find large encampments without a flag and painted blackboard.

5. I quite agree with the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the disinfection of clothes and furniture before the return of villagers, but I do not think this will be the sole means of a recrudescence. I would draw his attention to rats; rats have died in their holes in the houses from plague and have not been found at disinfection. The other rats of the village have gone to camp.

with the villagers or shortly after them. These fat and healthy rats now return and meet the dried up remains of their old friends in their runs, and so a second outbreak occurs. I think this mode is far more likely than that of furniture or clothes, as they have been exposed to winds, &c., for two months, probably ere being taken back.

From MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 17th March 1899, Dis. No. 361-P.

Referring to paragraph 3 of your No. 321—26, of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to observe that the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 11 of his inspection notes are as follows :—

(1) that the people in camps should not be allowed to stray from the revenue boundaries of the village ;
(2) that strict segregation of the sick in the proximity of the chosen sites should be enforced ;
(3) that people in camps should not be permitted to visit the village without a written permit ;
(4) that sickness, death or departure should be reported at a certain spot ;
(5) that departure from camp should not be permitted without previous disinfection of property and clothing ;
(6) that each block of huts should be provided with its number, its census should be known and registered and a tall bamboo with a flag and painted black board should be put up ; and
(7) that a rigid course of inspection of property should be required when people return from camp.

2. Regarding suggestions (1) and (3) and the proposal concerning census mentioned in (6), I would invite your attention to my letter, Dis. No. 360-P., dated 17th March 1899.

Suggestion No. (2) may be carried out as it appears to ensure proper control by the Sanitary officers over the patients and thus to minimize the chances of the further spread of the disease.

Suggestion No. (4) is in a way connected with No. (1) so far as the former relates to the departure of persons from a camp ; I think that the proposed restriction that cases of death and illness should be reported at a certain spot may be enforced.

Suggestions Nos. (5) and (7) may be carried out.

With regard to the last portion of No. (6), the District Medical and Sanitary Officer says (and I concur with him) that the fixing of a bamboo and a painted black board cannot but be considered as a very bad sign by the superstitious people who will run away from the locality.

From J. K. BATTEN, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, North Arcot, to the Plague Commissioner, dated Chittoor, 23rd March 1899, Dis. No. 577-P.

With reference to paragraph 3 of your proceedings, No. 321—26, dated 3rd February 1899, I have the honour to state that I have had no personal experience of formal evacuation of villages. But the proposals of the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 11 of his notes seem to me to be impracticable, with the exception of the following :—

(1) Obedience to the order that the village is not to be visited without a written permit.
(2) They should be told that no interference would be made with their treatment of the sick, or with their temporary dwellings. (The proviso that follows, I think, impracticable.)
(3) Before return from the fields to disinfected houses, a rigid disinfection of property brought back should be required.

2. The other proposals would, I think, entail the employment of a very large supervising staff, and would be difficult to enforce without making the people scathe more than ever.

PROCEEDINGS—No. $\frac{1130}{58}$, dated 25th April 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Personal Assistant,
for *Plague Commissioner.*

To all Collectors.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras,
with copy of Proceedings, No. 321, dated 3rd February 1899.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner,

MADRAS—1899.

Abstract

PC. 1130/58 9 25/74

Recd. } 1899. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

Proceedings, No. $\frac{321}{26}$, 3rd February 1899.

FEBRUARY.

Sanitary Commissioner's Inspection Notes.

Passing orders on — on certain places of the Bellary district.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

READ—the following paper :—

No. 160-S.

INSPECTION NOTES OF THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS.

TUNGABADRA RAILWAY INSPECTION CAMP.

Inspected 27*th December* 1898.

The inspection of passengers is carried out with care and discretion, under the direction of Major Hakim, I.M.S. Detention is effected only in the case of persons actually suffering from fever, and hence giving rise to suspicion of plague, or persons who, by reason of the insanitary state of their person and property, are classed sanitarily as suspicious. Disinfection of clothing having been accomplished, all who are capable of giving trustworthy addresses are allowed to proceed.

2. *Disinfection.*—A solution of phenyle (1 per cent.) is poured over the whole body of those whom it is intended to disinfect. Subsequently, they are allowed to bathe in hot water. The contact with the phenyle thus permitted is brief, as it is probable that a 1 per cent. solution would require about five minutes to kill the plague microbe. The skin of the native that has from time to time been saturated with oil in the process of the "oil bath" does not seem well calculated to obtain the maximum of action of the disinfectant, as it simply rolled off the skin of cases watched by me. I think, in future, it would suffice to use the disinfecting bath in the following cases only :—

(1) where the dirty condition of the skin of the traveller is, on inspection, found to be of a decidedly pronounced type;

(2) before discharge from hospital after treatment for plague;

(3) where persons are known to have been in intimate contact with plague cases. In these cases, the bath should be preceded by the use either soap nut or soft soap—both vegetable preparations, and, therefore, unobjectionable. The phenyle solution should not in such cases be washed from the body, until the contact had been continued for not less than five minutes. In all other instances of detention where bathing is prescribed, it would suffice if the body be washed thoroughly in warm water after the body had been lathered with soap nut, or soft soap, coupled with, as usual, steam disinfection of all clothing and property. Bundles of clothing are opened prior to disinfection in the waiting room. So long as the soil is not wet, it would be better to appoint a spot in the open air. When wet, the examination of bundles should be conducted in the bathing shed which could be flushed . . . . .

* * * * *

5. *Equipment.*—In the hospital no equipment has been provided, it being understood that sufficient can be borrowed from the observation sheds, and thus allow time for the procuring of additional stores that may be required. This is perhaps in the presence of sufficient stores for the observation sheds, a sufficiently satisfactory arrangement; but it certainly should not include the provision of shoes, this being a matter that should not be delayed. Not only would they be required in the hospital sheds, but they should be worn by all natives having work to do in connection with the disinfection and waiting sheds . . . .

* * * * *

8. *Molagavalli—Inspected* 31*st December* 1898.—The sepoys engaged here were found actively employed in disinfection duties. At a house about to be disinfected was a hand-cart, with men who had come in from the camps in the fields, to take away their moveable property. This was not disinfected before removal, nor was there any order that this should be done. A perchloride mercury solution was in use, but no Chinese pumps were on the spot for its distribution. Subsequent enquiry showed that only one pump was provided for this staff, and that this was not in working order —although so far as I could ascertain, it but required a little adjustment. The appendix to the Additional Mufassal Regulations requires that each ambulance staff should be provided with five pumps. The men on entering the dwelling at once attacked the walls with the perchloride, instead of the floor first. The distribution over the walls was effected by throwing the perchloride solution with the hands. Constant use in this manner is likely to lead to mercurial poisoning. The store bavildar was provided with a concentrated solution of mercury perchloride and had doubtless been given at the outset correct directions as to the extent of dilution to be practised; but his ideas were decidedly hazy. No marked vessel existed to show the extent of dilution. I afterwards ascertained a tub had been appointed for the purpose, but, on my inspection, I found this filled with stale lime and water. According to the native officer in charge, on the same day as the disinfection by the perchloride, and within two hours of its use, the flooring is dug up and burnt by the kiln method. It would seem unlikely if this account be correct that the burning could be effected with facility. Neither can it be supposed that the use of stale lime is of any utility for disinfecting purposes. The solution of perchloride of mercury is made with common salt. The disinfectants allowed with the equipment of the ambulance staff will show that it was intended that, with reference to the action of perchloride of mercury as to precipitation of albuminoid matter, hydrochloric acid should be employed in the proportion laid down in rule 15 embodied in G.O., No. 522 M., dated 13th March 1897, viz. :—

Perchloride of mercury	oz.	½
Hydrochloric acid	,,	1
Aniline blue	gr.	5
Water	gal.	3

When even this is considered unsuitable, having regard to the difficulty of dealing with mud, the sulphuric acid solution (for which sulphuric acid is duly provided in the list of disinfectants) 1—250 should be employed.

9. Although it is understood that persons encamped in the fields are not to return to, their infected houses there being no guard to enforce the order, they do return. In fact, I found one man passing from the village.

10. The mark used on the houses to distinguish the plague infected is a large P (plague) and the date. I think it would be well to lay down that a uniform system be adopted throughout the Presidency, namely, to denote plague the use of black paint, and of red paint that a house has been disinfected. Both these are provided with the equipment of ambulance staffs. If then a horizontal line, a cubit long and a hand breadth thick, be made on the wall close to the door with the day, month and year (all in figures) immediately above the line, it will be understood that plague was detected on the date quoted; the number of cases could be shown immediately below the line. Above this could be exhibited a red line, of the same size with date showing when the house was disinfected. If the house be attacked more than once, the procedure could be repeated.

11. In respect to the camps in the fields, the arrangement pursued seems to have been throughout that adopted in the Anantapur district, round Guntakal. Beyond attempting at intervals to ascertain how many persons had died, no effort had been made to control these people. The matter is one I pressed on the attention of the Plague Commissioner, and the Collectors of Bellary and Anantapur at a consultation with them lately, and previously. I hold that, notwithstanding the people of a village proceeding to the fields in separate camps—an excellent sanitary method in itself, although by no means so effective from an administrative point as collection

of the population in large health camps—daily supervision should not be relaxed over them. The argument brought against this is that if any such attempt were made, the people would scatter more than they do now. I think I know enough however of the character of the people of the Ceded Districts to be sure that if their supervision were exercised with a very small amount of patience and tact, the discipline required could be obtained. They should be made to understand that their being allowed to remain in the field chosen by them, is contingent upon their not straying from the village revenue boundaries; the strict segregation of the sick in the proximity of the chosen sites; obedience to the order that the village is not to be visited without a written permit; the reporting at a certain spot of sickness or death or departure from the camp. They should be told that no interference would be made with their treatment of the sick or with their temporary dwellings provided they effected sanitary requirements as to the sick and healthy in the camp. The determination by individuals to encamp in the fields is a matter that should be reported by the person concerned to the Plague officer on the spot—so that in no instance should departure take place, without property and clothing being disinfected in the first place. Each block of huts should be provided with its number, its census should be known and be registered. A tall bamboo with a flag and painted blackboard should be provided. Similarly, before return from the fields to the houses lately disinfected be permitted, a rigid course of inspection of property brought back should be required—otherwise the epidemic may again start.

BELLARY,
13th January 1899.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Lieut-Col., I.M.S.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

PROCEEDINGS—No. 321/26, dated 3rd February 1899.

The inspection notes are forwarded to the Collector of Bellary in original for perusal and return.

2. Paragraphs 1, 2, 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the notes will be printed and communicated to all Collectors for information and guidance.

3. The opinion of the Collectors of infected districts is invited on the Sanitary Commissioner's remarks in paragraph 11 of his notes.

4. Instructions have been already issued in the Plague Commissioner's diary for 17th December 1898 for the preparation of an estimate for improving the Tungabhadra Camp.

5. Shoes should at once be provided in all the infected districts as recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 5 of his notes.

L. E. BUCKLEY,
Plague Commissioner.

To the Collector of Bellary (A—H).
„ all other Collectors (A—H).
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

[illegible]

Print

15 P

Read again Progs No 321/26 d/3-2-99
(abstract of para 3)

Read also Cus. 2494, 2885, 2893
3417 & 3624/99. print full

Pro No 1130/99 d 25-4-99

Recorded
[illegible]
[illegible]
24/4/99

To all Collrs (A—H)
1 S. C.
2 S. G.
3 President M. C. Madras with
copy of Progs No 321 d/3-2-99.

Despd 1/5/99 full
with S.C.

~~[illegible] 1-2-7-2.~~

Cus. 2494, 2885, 2893, 3417
& 3624 of 1899.....

Note

In para 3 of Progs No 321/26 of 3 Feby 1899, the opinions of the Collrs of infected districts, were invited to the Sany Commissioner's remarks in para 11 of his notes of inspection of certain places in the Bellary Dt.

2. The Sany Commr's views are briefly:—

(a) Strict supervision over people of infected area, residing in fields so that they may not leave the village boundaries without the knowledge of the authorities.

(b) Property & clothing of the villagers to be thoroughly disinfected before going to the fields and a similar disinfection to be enforced previous to their return to their village

(c) Strict segregation of the sick in the proximity of the chosen sites.

(d) Each block of huts to be provided with its number, its census to be ascertained & registered, and a tall bamboo & painted black-board, to be provided &c.

3. The Collectors consulted are almost unanimously of opinion that the suggestions are good in theory but most of them are impracticable to be carried out in their entirety, especially in the case of larger villages, & without entertaining a large addl staff for the purpose, and expenditure ~~[illegible]~~ of ^which would be met^ money.

[illegible] not Expense to the State

The papers may be recorded.
[illegible]
6/4/89

Recorded
28/4

12/4/89

The Collrs are against putting ^up^ a bamboo with a flag and sign board, which they think would be viewed with suspicion by the people, and will result in a panic. They state that some of the suggestions are already being carried out, as far as it is practicable to do so, with fair results and that any attempt ~~to do~~ more ~~[illegible]~~ would cause irritation to the people without corresponding advantage, and that it would cost more money to the State, with, after all, doubtful results.

4. The replies of the Collrs may, however, be forwarded to the Sany Commr for information & remarks

I Rems 11-3-99
2 Rems to N. Arcot 22-3-99

16

Not P.
Don't Print

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

Replies to 321/26 of 3-2-99

Subject Sany Commis Insp. notes of Bellary Dt.

Serial Number.	Name of District.	Current Number.	Date of Receipt.	Remarks.
1	Anantapur	2993	10-3-99	
2	Arcot, North	3624	27-3-99	
3	Arcot, South			
4	Bellary	2865	7-3-99	
5	Canara			
6	Chingleput			
7	Coimbatore			
8	Cuddapah			
9	Ganjám			
10	Gódávari			
11	Kistna			
12	Kurnool	3417	21-3-99	
13	Madura			
14	Malabar			
15	Nellore			
16	Nilgiris, The			
17	Salem	2494	7-3-99	
18	Tanjore			
19	Tinnevelly			
20	Trichinopoly			
21	Vizagapatam			

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No. 2494

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

From The Ag Collector
Salem

No. 436
Plague

Dated 25 February 1899

P. C.
26 FEB. 1899

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting report on para 11 of the Sanitary Commissioner's Inspection notes on certain places of the Salem Dt.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

---

a No 2494.

SALEM COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

No. 436 26th February 1899.
Plague
Despatched on 25-2-99

FROM
Robert B. Clegg Esq.,
COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Salem.

To
THE ~~SECRETARY TO THE~~ Plague COMMISSIONER, ~~OF~~
Fort Saint George,
Madras.

SIR,

With reference to para 3 of your Proceedings no. $\frac{321}{26}$ of 3rd February 1899 I have the honor to report on para 11 of the Sanitary Commissioner's inspection notes as follows:-

2. In the Hosur Taluk at Mathigiri and Shulagiri the people made their own arrangements, in some few cases assisted by the plague officers, for evacuating their houses and forming camps and they were encouraged, as little restriction as could be permitted being imposed upon them. They have a preference and a very natural one for building their sheds in their own fields. As for going to a Government health Camp if it is possible to avoid it, they will not go. Every day these various Camps are perambulated by our preventive circ

Inspectors and plague Supervisors who have each prepared a rough census of the various camps. They report attacks and deaths to the Additional medical officer and under his guidance segregate the sick, dispose of the dead, burn down the huts and disinfect the belongings. Where the Camp is near the Antal hospital the sick who are able and willing to be removed are brought into it by the Ambulance.

3. At Berikai the people had prepared very good sheds, and, as soon as the outbreak occurred completely evacuated the village of nearly 400 houses. They chose their own camps and we did not interfere with them beyond taking a census and organizing a daily inspection and arrangements in each camp for treating and segregating the sick. [illegible]

4 At Hosur where the Plague officers are always at hand the people have erected camps on sites approved by the authorities and they are in consequence not so scattered and more accessible. It is desirable to have them within bounds where they can be persuaded. Here also a census has been ordered, a daily inspection has been instituted and arrangements are made as cases occur for all sanitary requirements.

5. As for disinfection of clothing and goods before evacuation, it is impracticable. When the panic begins, the people flock out like sheep and it is the best thing they can do. In fact I have been trying to encourage prompt and speedy evacuation. It has had most excellent results at Berikai. We have not the staff nor the time to disinfect properly before they leave. It is better that they should take all their belongings out with them as at Shulagiri. A good many cases did occur in the fields ~~[illegible]~~ there but ~~the~~ after the Dt. medical and Sanitary officer induced them to boil their clothing, burn their rubbish and disinfect generally their belongings the attacks ceased. This c[illegible] more easily done in the fields than in the village. As for the tall bamboo flag (yellow)

and blackboard suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner, I am afraid it would scare the people more than anything else. With the limited resources we have to deal with a large population, we cannot pretend to enforce such a discipline as the Sanitary Commissioner would desire. Before returning to their houses it is essential that all the property should be disinfected before reintroduction, but whether this can be done satisfactorily remains to be seen.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

Recd
25.2

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No. 28

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

From the Acting Collector of Bellary

Dis No. 431 P

Dated 4-3-99

P.C.
7 MAR 1899

Received

Registered 7-3-99.

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting report regarding the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner in para 11 of his inspection notes communicated with Commr's Proceedings 321/26 / 3-2-99

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

C No 2885

BELLARY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.
Dated 4-3- 1899.

D D No. 431 P

FROM R. H. Campbell Esqr.
Ag COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

4 P

TO
THE Plague Commissioner
Madras.

SIR,

With reference to para 3 of your proceedings No: $\frac{321}{26}$ of 3-2-99, I have the honour to report as follows:—

2 I cannot to begin with, endorse the Sanitary Commissioner's opinion that one large health camp is preferrable to a number of huts scattered over the fields, for I hold that the further apart from each other the people live the better it is from a Sanitary point of view. Supposing for argument's sake that we had established a single large health camp at Peddakottur, looking at the way in which the Epidemic of plague continued after the

people had left the village, I have little doubt that we should very soon have had to abandon the camp and build another and this procedure might have had to be repeated several times at enormous cost & inconvenience to the villagers. On the other hand experience has shown that where cases of plague have occurred in scattered field huts, the disease ~~was~~ has not spread to adjoining huts. This immunity has actually been demonstrated in ~~ca~~ several cases in the Hospet fields. In localities like Hospet & Peddakottur, where there is a vast expanse of open fields available for occupation no better arrangement can I think be conceived than a dispersal of the population into separate huts situated far from each other.

3. The Sanitary Commissioner's suggestions in para 11 may be summarized as follows:—

(a) daily supervision should not be relaxed over the people of infected areas residing in the fields.

(b) People allowed to camp in the fields should not stray from the village revenue boundaries.

(c) Sick persons in the camps should be segregated in the proximity of the chosen sites.

(d) The evacuated village is not to be visited by the inhabitants without a written permit.

(e) Sickness or death or departure from the camp should be reported at a certain spot and

(f) departure from infected village should not take place without property and clothing being disinfected ~~in the~~ in the first instance.

(g) a census should be taken of each block of huts.

(a) is a good suggestion but one that cannot effectively be carried out without extra establishment. I have recently applied for the additional establishment required for this purpose in Hospet & Alur.

(b) This is a good suggestion in theory but in some places natural difficulties stand in the way of its being carried out. In Alur Taluk the absence of drinking water wells makes it impossible for the people to confine themselves to the village limits. In the Medagavalli fields for instance no water could be found except in a small well or two. It was no good making the people congregate in large numbers near those small wells and so they were perforce allowed to scatter themselves in different directions even beyond the Revenue limits of Medagavalli ~~wherever~~ wherever water could be had. In the Alur fields too there are no good wells and so people have gone into the limits of adjoining villages for the sake of water. The suggestion can therefore be adopted only where it ~~was~~ is practicable.

(c) This is being attended to in all the camps.

(d) This is practicable in small villages but can not be enforced in large towns without a cordon being placed

placed round the town or such portion of it as has been ordered to be evacuated. In big towns or villages people leave a considerable amount of their property behind and will naturally wish to go back at odd intervals to fetch some article of property left behind or simply to see what is being done to their houses and to assure themselves that their grain pits have not been tampered with. All we can do with the limited establishment at our command is to prevent any permanent reoccupation.

Moreover it must be remembered that the evacuation ~~of~~ a village by the inhabitants is voluntary and that a stringent regulation of this kind would probably make it much harder to induce the people to evacuate at all.

(e) Cases of sickness death or departure can only be ascertained by enquiries and no definite rule can be enforced in this respect without an enormous observation staff, the cost of which would be prohibitive. The suggestion in fact is one for an organized camp (which I do not advocate) & not for a collection of scattered huts.

(f) If it is utterly impossible to enforce disinfection without regular cordon the establishment of which I do not advocate. All the people in a village or town cannot be disinfected in one day with their clothing and property, and if disinfection is to continue for more than a ~~fixed~~ day there is no guarantee that the disinfected people will not mingle with those that are not disinfected. It generally happens that before the staff arrives for disinfection purposes the people have gone out into the fields, taking clothes and other property with them. I can think of no practicable way of enforcing disinfection either on evacuation or reoccupation of a village

?

village. Important as such disinfection undoubtedly is, it can only be looked on as a counsel of perfection to be carried out as far as possible by persuation and other available means. The Tahsildars of the affected taluks are trying to get clothing in the camps disinfected by the people themselves by boiling or exposure to the sun and I do not see what more can be done.

(g) Arrangements are being made for taking a regular census of the population in the fields. I do not see the particular ~~use of the~~ bamboo pole and black board suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner. They would look all right in a regularly organized health camp but would serve no useful purpose in a colony of scattered huts.

4. In conclusion I would explain that I have criticized the Sanitary Commissioner's suggestions in no hostile spirit, but solely in

order to show that, though sound in theory, they are not in practice suited to local circumstances, and could be carried out in their entirety only in thoroughly disciplined and effectively guarded health camps. The people of this district have set a really splendid example to the whole presidency in the matter of evacuation, which has been purely voluntary in every case and it would be a fatal mistake to render evacuation unpopular by imposing too many restrictions on it. No doubt the people are docile & law abiding, but this is no argument for making them uncomfortable & ~~[illegible]~~ worrying them with a number of sumptuary regulations which are after all of minor importance when compared with that sovereign remedy for plague — Evacuation — which we have already secured.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

for ag. Collector

8/3/99

-cuation of [illegible]

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No.

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

From The Collector of Anantapur

Refml No. 861

Dated 5th March 1899

Despd 8th

Received

P. C.
10 MAR. 1899

Registered 6/3/99

Enclosures one

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Expressing his opinion on the migration of rats & the outbreak of plague

BACK PAPERS.

No	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

C No 2 113

ANANTAPUR COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

Refer C No. $\frac{861}{8}$

Dated 5th March 1899.

8P

FROM

Bannatyne Macleod Esq., M.A. Bar at Law
COLLECTOR OF
Anantapur,

TO

THE Plague Commissioner
Madras

SIR,

Enclosures.

In forwarding herewith copy of letter Dis No. $\frac{54}{24.2.99}$ from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer Anantapur as regards the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner in para 11 of his Inspection notes embodied in your Proceedings No $\frac{321}{26}$ d/ 3rd February 99 I have the honour to state as follows:—

2. It is no doubt good and convenient ~~for~~ from an administrative point of view to select special health camps for the several castes and allow the people to have their huts built there when a village is evacuated. This method was adopted of late in some villages as far as practicable ~~th~~ but it could not be invariably done

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

FROM

THE COLLECTOR OF

Anantapur,

TO

THE

Dated
Despatched
Received
189

No.

ENCLOSURES.

SUBJECT.

---

done to perfection for want of a strong system of overseers and owing to people having their own ideas of where it was convenient to camp, further it was feared that any more interference of the kind would go to irritate the people and lead to disturbance.

2. As regards strict segregation & more rigid supervision of these health camps I agree with the Dist Medical & Sanitary Officer the villages would not be interfered with to the extent suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner and the several methods of conciliation have already been tried. Any more rigid supervision it is feared would only tend to more Concealment ~~Concealment~~ of cases and scattering of people. The villagers do not now generally allow men from infected parts to get into their villages & they have already learnt this lesson; at the same time we cannot shut up all possible ways of Communication from place to place without more interference with the liberties of the people & more costly establishment

of Superv

3. The articles in infected houses are generally disinfected before the inmates are sent out to camp, but it is not possible to do so when a whole village or large portions of it to have to leave the place within a few hours unless we have strong disinfecting establishment to do it all readily in each & every affected village

4. Arrangements of flags & wards for blocks of huts & the taking of Census all mean more system, but they cannot be done without more staff which means more expenditure This would also excite the people

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servant
W Macleod
Collector

AH

Dis No 54
24.7.99

Guntakal
24th July 1899

1984

From
Capt. R. Robertson IMS
Dt. Medl & Sanitary Officer

To
The Collector
Anantapur District

Sir

With reference to Plague Commissioner's Proceedings No 371/26 of 3.7.99 para 11 of Sanitary Commissioner's letter, I have the honour to state that I brought to the Sanitary Commissioner's notice the difficulty of dealing with the population of a large village such as Guntakal who have been allowed to wander and build huts in their own fields they are consequently not supervised and seldom found out owing to growing crops it is quite possible a whole family may die and not be discovered until some one cuts down the crops. I would strong recommend that fixed Camps for different Castes be mapped out in future and pressure exerted so that the Castes may build their tents in this selected ground. If this be done a great deal of wandering from village to village may be frustrated. A good deal of forethought must be exercised in having the huts built at a fair distance from each other in case the disease ~~speaks~~ spread amongst them for if a second move be decided upon I am afraid the villagers would doubt our good intentions

2. As regards the strict segregation of sick I am afraid the Sanitary Commissioner is too optimistic. The villagers won't be interfered with. They prefer their own Remedies on. and after a few die in one building the others won't go near it, if pressure is exerted here the next thing is concealment & it is no great exertion to tell a lie in stating that the missing member of the family has gone to the fields whilst he is lying sick or dead covered up with the Cholera [illegible]

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of the heap. The class of people I have found inclined to to wander is the Komati Class. They are a moneyed class, ~~the~~ and of course will get an opening into any village and so spread the disease.

3. I quite agree with the Sanitary Commissioner that all the household goods should be cleared out with their owners. This I adopted at Guntakal with few exceptions successfully.

4. If huts are numbered, blocked and their census taken this of course means an augmented staff & also ~~a~~ irritation to the people forced from their houses at unseasonable periods of year. I think we could easily find large encampments without a flag and painted blackboard

5. I quite agree with the Sanitary Commissioner regarding the disinfection of clothes & furniture before the return of villagers, but I do not think this will be the sa

means

Of a recrudescence. I would draw his attention to rats; rats have died in their holes in the houses from plague & have not been forced at disinfection. The other rats of the village have gone to camp with the villagers or shortly after them. These fat & healthy rats now return and ~~eat~~ mich the dried up remains of their old friends in their rims & so a second outbreak occurs. I think this mode is far more likely than that of furniture or clothes as they have been exposed to sunshine for two months probably ere being taken back.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedt servant
(Signed) R. Robertson
Capt. I.M.S.
Dt. Medl & Sanitary Officer

(True Copy)

H. Macleod
Collector

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1899)

CURRENT No. 3417

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

From The Collector of Kurnool

Dis No. 361/P of 99

Dated 17th March 99

Received P.C. 21 MAR 1899

Registered 21-3-99

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Offering remarks regarding certain Suggestions made by ~~by~~ Sanitary Commissioner in his Inspection Notes on certain places in the Bellary Dist.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

C No 3417

Dis No. $\frac{361}{P}$ of 99

Kurnool COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

Dated 17th March 1899.

FROM

Muhammad Razabba ESQ.,

COLLECTOR, Kurnool.

TO

THE Plague Commissioner,

Madras.

SIR,

Referring to para 3 of your No $\frac{321}{26}$ of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to observe that the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner in para 11 of his Inspection notes are as follows:-

(1) that the people in Camps should not be allowed to stray from the Revenue boundaries of the village.

(2) that strict segregation of the sick in the proximity of the chosen sites should be enforced.

(3) that people in Camps should not be permitted to visit the village

without a written permit.

(4) that sickness, death or departure should be reported at a certain spot.

(5) that departure from camp should not be permitted without previous disinfection of property and clothing.

(6) that each block of huts should be provided with its number, its census should be known and registered and a tall bamboo with a flag and painted black board should be put up.

and (7) that a rigid course of inspection of property should be required when people return from camp.

2. Regarding suggestions (1) and (3) and the proposal concerning census mentioned in (6) I would invite your attention to my letter Dis No. 360/P dated 17.3.99.

Suggestion No. (2) may be carried out as it appears to ensure proper control by the Sanitary officers over the patients and thus to minimize the chances of the furth. spread of the disease.

Suggestion No. (4) is in a way connected with No. (1) so far as the former relates to the departure of persons from a camp; I think that the proposed restriction that cases of death and illness should be reported at a certain spot may be enforced.

Suggestions Nos: (5) & (7) may be carried out.

With regard to the last portion of No. (6), the District Medical and Sanitary officer says (and I concur with him) that the fixing of a bamboo and a painted black board cannot but be considered as a very bad sign by the superstitious people who will run away from the locality.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Collector
18/3/99

From

The Collector.

To

The

Dated

Despatched 189

Received

No.

Enclosures.

Subject

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(189)

CURRENT No. 3624

Progs.
Letter
Ref.

From The Collector of North Arcot

His No. 577 / M. R.

Dated 23-3-99

P. C.
26 MAR. 1899

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that the proposals of the Sanitary Commissioner in para 4 of his inspection notes of ~~Bellary dt~~ certain places of the Bellary dt is impracticable with certain exceptions.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

Plague

NORTH ARCOT, COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
Chittoor. dated 23. march 1899
Ds No. 577 of 1899.
P

148

FROM
J. K. Batten Esqr.
Ag COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
North Arcot,

TO
THE Plague Commissioner
Madras.

SIR,

With reference to para 3 of your proceedings No. 321/26, dated 3-2-99, I have the honor to state that I have had no personal experience of formal evacuation of villages. But the proposals of the Sanitary Commissioner in para 11 of his notes seem to me to be impracticable, with the exception of the following.

(1) obedience to the order that the village is not to be visited without a written permit.

(2). They should be told that no interference would be made with their treatment of the sick or with their temporary dwellings. (The proviso that follows I think impracticable).

(3). Before return from the fields to disinfected houses, a rigid disinfection of property brought back should be required.

2. The other proposals would I think entail the employment of a very large, supervising staff, and would be difficult to enforce without making the people irritated more than ever.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

[illegible] Collector

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25 MAR. 1899

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Read again No. 321/26 dated 3-2-99 — abstract of para 3 only — A

Similarly the opinions of the Collectors of infected Dts to the Sany. Commr. & remarks in para 11 of his note on inspection of certain places in the Bellary Dt. — A

189

Current No. 2694, 2885, 2993, 3417 & 3626.

Enclosures to G. No.

N.B.—
A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.