

Marine (1899) Department.

G.O., No. 545 Marine

DATED 20th June 1899.

R

[Despatch Abstract.]

Pilgrims returning from the Hedjaz.

Pro: L & M Dept, recording copy of Govt of India's letter to the Govt of Bombay in regard to the procedure to be adopted in the case of —, communicated to the Presidency Port Officer.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	864	Marine	15. 9. 99				

Government (1899) of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd. 71526- } 1899. Enclosures
Regd. Spare copies

G.O., No. 851 P., 3rd June 1899.

Communicated to the
JUNE. Presidency Post office.

R.S.

Hubert

To
The P. O.

19. h. 11

28/1/99

Pilgrims returning from the Hedjaz.

Recording copy of Government of India's letter to the Government of Bombay regarding the procedure to be adopted in the case of —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 1492 M., dated 29th June 1897.

READ—also the following papers:—

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary), to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 9th April 1898, No. 810.

Following telegram, dated 4th, received from Consul, Jeddah. Begins—200 destitute pilgrims return Bombay steamer Zobieda to-day—Ends. Jeddah and Bombay both being infected precautions must be adopted similar to last year. See Bombay Government telegram 272 P., dated 4th May, and subsequent correspondence and my telegram 1695, dated 16th June. Pilgrims should be sent off by special trains from Bombay without mixing with population and arrangements described in my telegram of 16th June should be adopted to prevent them from introducing plague from Jeddah. Consul, Jeddah, has been asked to telegraph classification of pilgrims according to Bombay Government telegram of 4th May. If necessary, Commissioner, Police, may pay for tickets. Local Governments and Administrations to which pilgrims belong should be informed and given lists of pilgrims in order that watch may be kept over them for few days after arrival destination.

From A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary—Plague), to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 17th May 1899, No. 1709.

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 1802, dated the 28th April last, regarding the return of pilgrims from the Hedjaz.

2. The Government of India agree with the Government of Bombay that in the case of healthy vessels the proper course is to disinfect the clothing and baggage of the pilgrims and then to despatch them at once to their destination without communication with the city, and they approve the issue of orders to the Commissioner of Police to pay the fares of those pilgrims, who it is ascertained have no funds.

3. Should, however, a plague-infected vessel arrive from the Hedjaz, the Governor-General in Council thinks that it would be unwise to neglect the precautions prescribed during the past two seasons. The majority of the pilgrims belong to classes specially likely to spread the infection of plague, and the Venice Convention (Chapter II, Section VIII) permits the adoption of special precautions with regard to vessels carrying such persons. It would, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, be dangerous to allow pilgrims who have been exposed to the risk of plague infection to disperse to their homes without having been subjected to ten days' observation. This precaution and the remaining precautions prescribed in the telegrams from this department noted in the margin do not go beyond the measures admissible under the inward vessels inspection rules of the Government

No. 1695, dated the 16th June 1897.

No. 810, dated the 9th April 1898.

the measures admissible under the inward vessels inspection rules of the Government

of Bombay; nor are they inconsistent with the travellers' inspection rules, for paragraph 13 of the Resolution of the Government of Bombay, No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898, authorizes the adoption of special precautions with regard to dangerous classes of travellers.

No. 1710.

Copy, with copy of the letter to which it is a reply (and enclosure), forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information.

R. NATHAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURE.

From R. B. STEWART, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Bombay Castle, 28th April 1899, No. 1802.

With reference to the orders of the Government of India noted in the margin, regarding the segregation, etc., of pilgrims returning in an infected ship from the Hedjaz, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, No. 452, dated the 1st March 1899, suggesting arrangements for the treatment this year of such pilgrims.

2. I am to invite attention to the Resolution of this Government No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898 (a copy of which was forwarded to the Government of India with the Chief Secretary's letter No. 5904-P., dated 18th October 1898), and to state that as the policy of Government with regard to travellers has been changed since the existing orders for the treatment of returning pilgrims were issued, it would, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, be more economical to adopt the suggestions of the Port Health Officer, viz., to disinfect the clothing and baggage of all pilgrims leaving Bombay and to despatch them at once to their destinations without communication with the city. It appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council that even if the ship is infected no more risk is run in despatching a passenger from it up-country, after medical examination and disinfection, than in allowing an ordinary resident of Bombay to go up-country as is done at present. His Excellency does not, however, consider that an exemption certificate should be given to pilgrims and would allow them to be examined at the various inspecting stations like ordinary passengers.

3. With regard to destitute pilgrims, orders will be issued to the Commissioner of Police to pay their fares in cases where it has been ascertained that the men really have no funds.

4. I am to request the early orders of the Government of India on the arrangements proposed as the return pilgrim season commences early in June next.

From Major JOHN CRIMMIN, V.C., I.M.S., Acting Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, to the Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay, dated 1st March 1899, No. 452.

With reference to the accompanying correspondence ending with your letter No. 146-B. of 10th January 1899, I have the honour to state that the Port Observation Camp is only large enough for the observation of small batches of returning pilgrims, say about 100 at a time.

2. The Government of India has ordered the detention in quarantine for ten days of pilgrims who arrive on an infected ship but since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, the policy of Government with regard to quarantine has changed.

3. As long as plague exists in Bombay and the Mofussil, I do not see any necessity for the segregation of pilgrims from an infected ship more especially as the residents of the infected city of Bombay are allowed to travel all over the country after they have passed a medical examination and submitted any suspicious baggage to disinfection.

4. As local circumstances have changed since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, and as the next return pilgrim season commences early in June, which is about the date on which the rains set in, I would venture to suggest that the Port Health Officer be granted permission to rent from the Port Trust the shed to the East of the present pilgrim shed for such time as is absolutely necessary in order to enable him to deal with the returning pilgrims.

5. As long as plague continues in Bombay and in any part of Arabia, which is in close relation with the port of Jedda, returning pilgrims should be dealt with as follows:—

All pilgrims to be examined on arrival. Plague cases to be sent to the most convenient plague hospital. Suspicious cases to be detained in the Port Observation Camp. The pilgrims should then be classed into—

- (a) Those who reside or want to remain in the city.
- (b) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are willing and able to pay their railway fare.
- (c) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are unable or unwilling to pay their railway fare.

As long as plague exists in Bombay class (a) need no further treatment beyond Medical examination.

Class (b) should have their baggage, clothes and bedding disinfected. They should then be provided with a certificate which would exempt them from further disinfection on the Railway and the Police should take them direct from the disinfection shed to the train without allowing them to have any unnecessary communication with the city.

Class (c) may be dealt with as Government may think advisable.

6. If Government consider it advisable that persons beyond the frontier should be subjected to 10 days' observation in the event of their coming off an infected ship, I would suggest that the segregation be enforced in one of the railway camps where accommodation is not so expensive as it is in Bombay.

ORDER—No. 851 P., dated 3rd June 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

A. Edgington
for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Public Department.
„ the Marine Department.
„ all Collectors (A, F, G. H).
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.

Erd. P. Seetharam.

394 Mar of 5-5-99
342 Mar of 24-4-99
243 Mar of 14-3-99 re
130 Mar of 8-2-99
311 Mar of 26-4-99
167 E of 19-3-99
190 Mar of 14-3-99
131 E of 25-2-99
142 E of 25-2-99
114 Mar of 12-2-99

Maine Department

Government (1899) of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 851 P., 3rd June 1899.

No. 545 Mar 20-6-99

Communicated to the
JUNE. Presidency Port Officer

(d) W. B. de W.

2.

19. 6. 99.

The P. P. O.

Pilgrims returning from the Hedjaz.

Recording copy of Government of India's letter to the Government of Bombay regarding the procedure to be adopted in the case of —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., No. 1492 M., dated 29th June 1897.

READ—also the following papers :—

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary), to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 9th April 1898, No. 810.

Following telegram, dated 4th, received from Consul, Jeddah. Begins—200 destitute pilgrims return Bombay steamer Zobieda to-day—Ends. Jeddah and Bombay both being infected precautions must be adopted similar to last year. See Bombay Government telegram 272 P., dated 4th May, and subsequent correspondence and my telegram 1695, dated 16th June. Pilgrims should be sent off by special trains from Bombay without mixing with population and arrangements described in my telegram of 16th June should be adopted to prevent them from introducing plague from Jeddah. Consul, Jeddah, has been asked to telegraph classification of pilgrims according to Bombay Government telegram of 4th May. If necessary, Commissioner, Police, may pay for tickets. Local Governments and Administrations to which pilgrims belong should be informed and given lists of pilgrims in order that watch may be kept over them for few days after arrival destination.

From A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary—Plague), to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 17th May 1899, No. 1709.

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 1802, dated the 28th April last, regarding the return of pilgrims from the Hedjaz.

2. The Government of India agree with the Government of Bombay that in the case of healthy vessels the proper course is to disinfect the clothing and baggage of the pilgrims and then to despatch them at once to their destination without communication with the city, and they approve the issue of orders to the Commissioner of Police to pay the fares of those pilgrims, who it is ascertained have no funds.

3. Should, however, a plague-infected vessel arrive from the Hedjaz, the Governor-General in Council thinks that it would be unwise to neglect the precautions prescribed during the past two seasons. The majority of the pilgrims belong to classes specially likely to spread the infection of plague, and the Venice Convention (Chapter II, Section VIII) permits the adoption of special precautions with regard to vessels carrying such persons. It would, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, be dangerous to allow pilgrims who have been exposed to the risk of plague infection to disperse to their homes without having been subjected to ten days' observation. This precaution and the remaining precautions prescribed in the telegrams from this department noted in the margin do not go beyond the measures admissible under the inward vessels inspection rules of the Government

No. 1695, dated the 16th June 1897.

No. 810, dated the 9th April 1898.

the measures admissible under the inward vessels inspection rules of the Government

Marine Department

Government {1899} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Enclosures

1899.

Regd.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 851 P., 3rd June 1899.

No. 545 Mar of 20-6-99

Communicated to the
JUNE. Presidency Port Officer.

(sd) W. B. deW.

19. 6. 99.

The P. O.

Pilgrims returning from the Hedjaz.

Recording copy of Government of India's letter to the Government of Bombay regarding the procedure to be adopted in the case of —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 1492 M., dated 29th June 1897.

READ—also the following papers:—

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary), to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 9th April 1898, No. 810.

Following telegram, dated 4th, received from Consul, Jeddah. Begins—200 destitute pilgrims return Bombay steamer Zobieda to-day—Ends. Jeddah and Bombay both being infected precautions must be adopted similar to last year. See Bombay Government telegram 272 P., dated 4th May, and subsequent correspondence and my telegram 1695, dated 16th June. Pilgrims should be sent off by special trains from Bombay without mixing with population and arrangements described in my telegram of 16th June should be adopted to prevent them from introducing plague from Jeddah. Consul, Jeddah, has been asked to telegraph classification of pilgrims according to Bombay Government telegram of 4th May. If necessary, Commissioner, Police, may pay for tickets. Local Governments and Administrations to which pilgrims belong should be informed and given lists of pilgrims in order that watch may be kept over them for few days after arrival destination.

From A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., c.s.i., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary—Plague), to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 17th May 1899, No. 1709.

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 1802, dated the 28th April last, regarding the return of pilgrims from the Hedjaz.

2. The Government of India agree with the Government of Bombay that in the case of healthy vessels the proper course is to disinfect the clothing and baggage of the pilgrims and then to despatch them at once to their destination without communication with the city, and they approve the issue of orders to the Commissioner of Police to pay the fares of those pilgrims, who it is ascertained have no funds.

3. Should, however, a plague-infected vessel arrive from the Hedjaz, the Governor-General in Council thinks that it would be unwise to neglect the precautions prescribed during the past two seasons. The majority of the pilgrims belong to classes specially likely to spread the infection of plague, and the Venice Convention (Chapter II, Section VIII) permits the adoption of special precautions with regard to vessels carrying such persons. It would, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, be dangerous to allow pilgrims who have been exposed to the risk of plague infection to disperse to their homes without having been subjected to ten days' observation. This precaution

No. 1695, dated the 16th June 1897.

No. 810, dated the 9th April 1898.

and the remaining precautions prescribed in the telegrams from this department noted in the margin do not go beyond the measures admissible under the inward vessels inspection rules of the Government

of Bombay; nor are they inconsistent with the travellers' inspection rules, for paragraph 18 of the Resolution of the Government of Bombay, No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898, authorizes the adoption of special precautions with regard to dangerous classes of travellers.

No. 1710.

Copy, with copy of the letter to which it is a reply (and enclosure), forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information.

R. NATHAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURE.

From R. B. STEWART, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Bombay Castle, 28th April 1899, No. 1802.

With reference to the orders of the Government of India noted in the margin, regarding the segregation, etc., of pilgrims returning in an infected ship from the Hedjaz, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, No. 452, dated the 1st March 1899, suggesting arrangements for the treatment this year of such pilgrims.

2. I am to invite attention to the Resolution of this Government No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898 (a copy of which was forwarded to the Government of India with the Chief Secretary's letter No. 5904-P., dated 18th October 1898), and to state that as the policy of Government with regard to travellers has been changed since the existing orders for the treatment of returning pilgrims were issued, it would, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, be more consistent and it would certainly be far more economical to adopt the suggestions of the Port Health Officer, viz., to disinfect the clothing and baggage of all pilgrims leaving Bombay and to despatch them at once to their destinations without communication with the city. It appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council that even if the ship is infected no more risk is run in despatching a passenger from it up-country, after medical examination and disinfection, than in allowing an ordinary resident of Bombay to go up-country as is done at present. His Excellency does not, however, consider that an exemption certificate should be given to pilgrims and would allow them to be examined at the various inspecting stations like ordinary passengers.

3. With regard to destitute pilgrims, orders will be issued to the Commissioner of Police to pay their fares in cases where it has been ascertained that the men really have no funds.

4. I am to request the early orders of the Government of India on the arrangements proposed as the return pilgrim season commences early in June next.

From Major JOHN CRIMMIN, V.C., I.M.S., Acting Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, to the Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay, dated 1st March 1899, No. 452.

With reference to the accompanying correspondence ending with your letter No. 146-B. of 10th January 1899, I have the honour to state that the Port Observation Camp is only large enough for the observation of small batches of returning pilgrims, say about 100 at a time.

2. The Government of India has ordered the detention in quarantine for ten days of pilgrims who arrive on an infected ship but since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, the policy of Government with regard to quarantine has changed.

3. As long as plague exists in Bombay and the Mofussil, I do not see any necessity for the segregation of pilgrims from an infected ship more especially as the residents of the infected city of Bombay are allowed to travel all over the country after they have passed a medical examination and submitted any suspicious baggage to disinfection.

4. As local circumstances have changed since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, and as the next return pilgrim season commences early in June which is about the date on which the rains set in, I would venture to suggest that the Port Health Officer be granted permission to rent from the Port Trust the shed to the East of the present pilgrim shed for such time as is absolutely necessary in order to enable him to deal with the returning pilgrims.

5. As long as plague continues in Bombay and in any part of Arabia, which is in close relation with the port of Jedda, returning pilgrims should be dealt with as follows:—

All pilgrims to be examined on arrival. Plague cases to be sent to the most convenient plague hospital. Suspicious cases to be detained in the Port Observation Camp. The pilgrims should then be classed into—

- (a) Those who reside or want to remain in the city.
- (b) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are willing and able to pay their railway fare.
- (c) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are unable or unwilling to pay their railway fare.

As long as plague exists in Bombay class (a) need no further treatment beyond Medical examination.

Class (b) should have their baggage, clothes and bedding disinfected. They should then be provided with a certificate which would exempt them from further disinfection on the Railway and the Police should take them direct from the disinfection shed to the train without allowing them to have any unnecessary communication with the city.

Class (c) may be dealt with as Government may think advisable.

6. If Government consider it advisable that persons beyond the frontier should be subjected to 10 days' observation in the event of their coming off an infected ship, I would suggest that the segregation be enforced in one of the railway camps where accommodation is not so expensive as it is in Bombay.

ORDER—No. 851 P., dated 3rd June 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Public Department.

„ the Marine Department.

„ all Collectors (A, F, G, H).

„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.

„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

„ the Surgeon-General.

Exd. P. Seetharam.

of Bombay; nor are they inconsistent with the travellers' inspection rules, for paragraph 13 of the Resolution of the Government of Bombay, No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898, authorizes the adoption of special precautions with regard to dangerous classes of travellers.

No. 1710.

Copy, with copy of the letter to which it is a reply (and enclosure), forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information.

R. NATHAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURE.

From R. B. STEWART, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Bombay Castle, 28th April 1899, No. 1802.

With reference to the orders of the Government of India noted in the margin, regarding the segregation, etc., of pilgrims returning in an infected ship from the Hedjaz, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, No. 452, dated the 1st March 1899, suggesting arrangements for the treatment this year of such pilgrims.

2. I am to invite attention to the Resolution of this Government No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898 (a copy of which was forwarded to the Government of India with the Chief Secretary's letter No. 5904-P., dated 18th October 1898), and to state that as the policy of Government with regard to travellers has been changed since the existing orders for the treatment of returning pilgrims were issued, it would, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, be more consistent and it would certainly be far more economical to adopt the suggestions of the Port Health Officer, viz., to disinfect the clothing and baggage of all pilgrims leaving Bombay and to despatch them at once to their destinations without communication with the city. It appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council that even if the ship is infected no more risk is run in despatching a passenger from it up-country, after medical examination and disinfection, than in allowing an ordinary resident of Bombay to go up-country as is done at present. His Excellency does not, however, consider that an exemption certificate should be given to pilgrims and would allow them to be examined at the various inspecting stations like ordinary passengers.

3. With regard to destitute pilgrims, orders will be issued to the Commissioner of Police to pay their fares in cases where it has been ascertained that the men really have no funds.

4. I am to request the early orders of the Government of India on the arrangements proposed as the return pilgrim season commences early in June next.

From Major JOHN CRIMMIN, V.C., I.M.S., Acting Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, to the Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay, dated 1st March 1899, No. 452.

With reference to the accompanying correspondence ending with your letter No. 146-B. of 10th January 1899, I have the honour to state that the Port Observation Camp is only large enough for the observation of small batches of returning pilgrims, say about 100 at a time.

2. The Government of India has ordered the detention in quarantine for ten days of pilgrims who arrive on an infected ship but since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, the policy of Government with regard to quarantine has changed.

3. As long as plague exists in Bombay and the Mofussil, I do not see any necessity for the segregation of pilgrims from an infected ship more especially as the residents of the infected city of Bombay are allowed to travel all over the country after they have passed a medical examination and submitted any suspicious baggage to disinfection.

4. As local circumstances have changed since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, and as the next return pilgrim season commences early in June which is about the date on which the rains set in, I would venture to suggest that the Port Health Officer be granted permission to rent from the Port Trust the shed to the East of the present pilgrim shed for such time as is absolutely necessary in order to enable him to deal with the returning pilgrims.

5. As long as plague continues in Bombay and in any part of Arabia, which is in close relation with the port of Jedda, returning pilgrims should be dealt with as follows:—

All pilgrims to be examined on arrival. Plague cases to be sent to the most convenient plague hospital. Suspicious cases to be detained in the Port Observation Camp. The pilgrims should then be classed into—

- (a) Those who reside or want to remain in the city.
- (b) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are willing and able to pay their railway fare.
- (c) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are unable or unwilling to pay their railway fare.

As long as plague exists in Bombay class (a) need no further treatment beyond Medical examination.

Class (b) should have their baggage, clothes and bedding disinfected. They should then be provided with a certificate which would exempt them from further disinfection on the Railway and the Police should take them direct from the disinfection shed to the train without allowing them to have any unnecessary communication with the city.

Class (c) may be dealt with as Government may think advisable.

6. If Government consider it advisable that persons beyond the frontier should be subjected to 10 days' observation in the event of their coming off an infected ship, I would suggest that the segregation be enforced in one of the railway camps where accommodation is not so expensive as it is in Bombay.

ORDER—No. 851 P., dated 3rd June 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Public Department.
„ the Marine Department.
„ all Collectors (A, F, G, H).
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.

Exd. P. Seetharam,

Government {1899} of Madras. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd.

1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 851 P., 3rd June 1899.

JUNE.

Pilgrims returning from the Hedjaz.

Recording copy of Government of India's letter to the Government of Bombay regarding the procedure to be adopted in the case of —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 1492 M., dated 29th June 1897.

READ—also the following papers:—

Telegram from the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary), to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 9th April 1898, No. 810.

Following telegram, dated 4th, received from Consul, Jeddah. Begins—200 destitute pilgrims return Bombay steamer Zobieda to-day—Ends. Jeddah and Bombay both being infected precautions must be adopted similar to last year. See Bombay Government telegram 272 P., dated 4th May, and subsequent correspondence and my telegram 1695, dated 16th June. Pilgrims should be sent off by special trains from Bombay without mixing with population and arrangements described in my telegram of 16th June should be adopted to prevent them from introducing plague from Jeddah. Consul, Jeddah, has been asked to telegraph classification of pilgrims according to Bombay Government telegram of 4th May. If necessary, Commissioner, Police, may pay for tickets. Local Governments and Administrations to which pilgrims belong should be informed and given lists of pilgrims in order that watch may be kept over them for few days after arrival destination.

From A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary—Plague), to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, dated Simla, 17th May 1899, No. 1709.

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 1802, dated the 28th April last, regarding the return of pilgrims from the Hedjaz.

2. The Government of India agree with the Government of Bombay that in the case of healthy vessels the proper course is to disinfect the clothing and baggage of the pilgrims and then to despatch them at once to their destination without communication with the city, and they approve the issue of orders to the Commissioner of Police to pay the fares of those pilgrims, who it is ascertained have no funds.

3. Should, however, a plague-infected vessel arrive from the Hedjaz, the Governor-General in Council thinks that it would be unwise to neglect the precautions prescribed during the past two seasons. The majority of the pilgrims belong to classes specially likely to spread the infection of plague, and the Venice Convention (Chapter II, Section VIII) permits the adoption of special precautions with regard to vessels carrying such persons. It would, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, be dangerous to allow pilgrims who have been exposed to the risk of plague infection to disperse to their homes without having been subjected to ten days' observation. This precaution and the remaining precautions prescribed in the telegrams from this department noted in the margin do not go beyond the measures admissible under the inward vessels inspection rules of the Government

No. 1695, dated the 16th June 1897.

No. 810, dated the 9th April 1898.

of Bombay; nor are they inconsistent with the travellers' inspection rules, for paragraph 13 of the Resolution of the Government of Bombay, No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898, authorizes the adoption of special precautions with regard to dangerous classes of travellers.

No. 1710.

Copy, with copy of the letter to which it is a reply (and enclosure), forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information.

R. NATHAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURE.

From R. B. STEWART, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, General Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Bombay Castle, 28th April 1899, No. 1802.

With reference to the orders of the Government of India noted in the margin, regarding the segregation, etc., of pilgrims returning in an infected ship from the Hedjaz, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the

Telegram No. 1695, Sanitary, dated the 16th June 1897.
Telegram No. 810, dated the 9th April 1898.

Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, No. 452, dated the 1st March 1899, suggesting arrangements for the treatment this year of such pilgrims.

2. I am to invite attention to the Resolution of this Government No. 5772-5864-P., dated the 17th October 1898 (a copy of which was forwarded to the Government of India with the Chief Secretary's letter No. 5904-P., dated 18th October 1898), and to state that as the policy of Government with regard to travellers has been changed since the existing orders for the treatment of returning pilgrims were issued, it would, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, be more consistent and it would certainly be far more economical to adopt the suggestions of the Port Health Officer, viz., to disinfect the clothing and baggage of all pilgrims leaving Bombay and to despatch them at once to their destinations without communication with the city. It appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council that even if the ship is infected no more risk is run in despatching a passenger from it up-country, after medical examination and disinfection, than in allowing an ordinary resident of Bombay to go up-country as is done at present. His Excellency does not, however, consider that an exemption certificate should be given to pilgrims and would allow them to be examined at the various inspecting stations like ordinary passengers.

3. With regard to destitute pilgrims, orders will be issued to the Commissioner of Police to pay their fares in cases where it has been ascertained that the men really have no funds.

4. I am to request the early orders of the Government of India on the arrangements proposed as the return pilgrim season commences early in June next.

From Major JOHN CRIMMIN, V.C., I.M.S., Acting Health Officer of the Port of Bombay, to the Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay, dated 1st March 1899, No. 452.

With reference to the accompanying correspondence ending with your letter No. 146-B, of 10th January 1899, I have the honour to state that the Port Observation Camp is only large enough for the observation of small batches of returning pilgrims, say about 100 at a time.

2. The Government of India has ordered the detention in quarantine for ten days of pilgrims who arrive on an infected ship but since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, the policy of Government with regard to quarantine has changed.

3. As long as plague exists in Bombay and the Mofussil, I do not see any necessity for the segregation of pilgrims from an infected ship more especially as the residents of the infected city of Bombay are allowed to travel all over the country after they have passed a medical examination and submitted any suspicious baggage to disinfection.

4. As local circumstances have changed since the issue of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 4552, dated 24th August 1897, and as the next return pilgrim season commences early in June which is about the date on which the rains set in, I would venture to suggest that the Port Health Officer be granted permission to rent from the Port Trust the shed to the East of the present pilgrim shed for such time as is absolutely necessary in order to enable him to deal with the returning pilgrims.

Marine (1899) Department.

4

No. 851 P., 3RD JUNE 1899.

5. As long as plague continues in Bombay and in any part of Arabia, which is in close relation with the port of Jedda, returning pilgrims should be dealt with as follows:—
All pilgrims to be examined on arrival. Plague cases to be sent to the most convenient plague hospital. Suspicious cases to be detained in the Port Observation Camp. The pilgrims should then be classed into—

- (a) Those who reside or want to remain in the city.
- (b) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are willing and able to pay their railway fare.
- (c) Those whose homes are up-country or beyond the frontier and who are unable or unwilling to pay their railway fare.

As long as plague exists in Bombay class (a) need no further treatment beyond Medical examination.

Class (b) should have their baggage, clothes and bedding disinfected. They should then be provided with a certificate which would exempt them from further disinfection on the Railway and the Police should take them direct from the disinfection shed to the train without allowing them to have any unnecessary communication with the city.

Class (c) may be dealt with as Government may think advisable.

6. If Government consider it advisable that persons beyond the frontier should be subjected to 10 days' observation in the event of their coming off an infected ship, I would suggest that the segregation be enforced in one of the railway camps where accommodation is not so expensive as it is in Bombay.

ORDER—No. 851 P., dated 3rd June 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Public Department.
„ the Marine Department.
„ all Collectors (A, F, G, H).
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.