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M.L.O. 1-89,000-16-10-39

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	802	Press
		Mis.
Dated	28-6-	1970

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
28th June 1870.*

No. 98. Read the following letter from W. MACKENZIE, Esq., M.D., Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Fort Saint George, 6th June 1870, No. 133 :—

Having in obedience to G. O., No. 591, of the 11th ultimo, placed myself in communication with the Health Officer of Madras, and very attentively considered the whole question referred for remark, I have now the honour to submit, for the consideration of Government, the following observations :—

2. The period during which the Contagious Diseases' Act has been in operation is so short that its working can as yet only be regarded as an experiment, and its apparent results as coincidents, which require to be tested and supported by further experience. Notwithstanding every effort on the part of the Health Officer, I am persuaded that many of those whom the Act was intended to control are not yet borne on that Officer's Register, and that a considerable amount of clandestine prostitution—the greatest source of danger to the public health—has hitherto escaped detection.

3. Although the number of admissions into the Lock-Hospitals has recently been on the decrease, it appears to me that, at present, no reliable conclusions can be formed as to the actual amount of accommodation which may be necessary hereafter.

4. I have contemplated the possibility of amalgamating the two Hospitals, but taking the circumstances above mentioned into consideration, together with the fact that seventy-five per cent. of all the women hitherto examined by the Health Officer have been found diseased, I am of opinion that it would be most unsafe, and that the time has not yet arrived to reduce our Lock-Hospital accommodation.

5. I have also considered the practicability of lowering the pay without reducing the strength of the establishments which are not more than sufficient for the wants of the institutions. The most that could be gained in this way would be from Rupees 35 to 40 per mensem ; and it becomes a question, whether it would be prudent to risk the efficiency of the Hospitals for so small a saving ? I think not.

6. I am decidedly of opinion that both Lock-Hospitals should be continued on their present footing for at least eight or twelve months longer, until further experience has been gained as to the requirements of Madras in this respect.

No. 99. ORDER THEREON, 28th June 1870, No. 802.

Under the strong opinion expressed by the Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department the Government will not insist on any immediate reduction of the establishment of the Lock-Hospitals, but they request Dr. Mackenzie to report on this question after a further experience of six months.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department.
,, Accountant-General.
Exd. J. Wright.

No. 133

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort Saint George,

1870.

From

The Inspector General, Indian Medical Department,

Fort Saint George,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government, Public Dept.
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

Having in obedience to G. O. No 591 of the 11th ultimo placed myself in communication with the Health Officer of Madras, and very attentively considered the whole question referred for remark, I have now the honor to submit for the consideration of Government the following observations.

The period during which the contagious diseases act has been in operation is so short that its working can as yet only be regarded as an experiment, and its apparent results as coincidents, which require to be tested and supported by further experience. Notwithstanding every effort on the part of the Health Officer, I am persuaded that many of those whom the act was intended to control are not yet borne on that Officer's register, and that a considerable amount of clandestine prostitution, the greatest source of danger to the public health, has hitherto escaped detection.

No. 118703

PUBLIC.

To

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF THE
INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
Secy, Govt, Cal.

Dated June 28th.

Yours,

G. O. No. 591 of 11th June 1870, No. 802.

RECEIVED
JUN 29 1870

Starting the from date reduction of the
affairs of the Indian Medical Department,
and regarding the health of the Indian Medical Dept.
in the report on the question after 5 years
experience in the matter.

3 Although the number of admissions into the Lock Hospitals has recently been on the decrease, it appears to me that at present no reliable conclusions can be formed as to the actual amount of accommodation, which may be necessary hereafter.

4 I have contemplated the possibility of amalgamating the two Hospitals, but taking the circumstances above mentioned into consideration, together with the fact, that 75 percent of all the women hitherto examined by the Health Officer have been found diseased, I am of opinion that it would be most unsafe, and that the time has not yet arrived, to reduce our Lock Hospital accommodation.

5 I have also considered the practicability of lowering the pay without reducing the strength of the establishments which are not more than sufficient for the wants of the institutions. The most that could be gained in this way would be from Rs 35 to 40 per month; and it becomes a question, whether it would be prudent to risk the efficiency of the Hospitals for so small a saving? I think not.

6 I am decidedly of opinion that

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that both Lock Hospitals should be continued on their present footing for at least 8 or 12 months longer, until further experience has been gained as to the requirements of Madras in this respect.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

W. Macleise Esq

Inspector General
Indian Medical Department

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No.

From

To

Dated

10. 17. 1900

Mr. J. H. H. H.

The Senate declines
to pass any bill pertaining
to the West. Discontinue
in advance.

And the car brake

General (1869) 80 & 81.

Public

To
The Insp. Genl. Ind. Med. Dept.
Sec.

Date June 20.

Recd.

G. O. 20 June 1870 No. 202

Nos. 98. 99.

Deferring the immediate reduction of the establishments of ~~the~~ Lock Hospitals, and requesting the Insp. Genl. Ind. Med. Dept., to report on this question after a further experience of six months.