

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 16-26
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் _____
 (3) ஆதாரக் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பொது துறை

அரசாணை எண். 423-1924 அச்சகம்
 மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். பலவகை

நாள் : 11-6-1890

199

மடிக்கவேண்டிய கையாளவோ கூடாது.

(19) sheets

ஆவண. கா. 1-18,006-6-9-90.

C No 1013

Office of the Surgeon General
with Government of Madras
Fort St George 31st April 1889

N 306

From
J. A. D. Esq. to D. C. Esq.
Surgeon General with Govt of Madras
Fort St George

The Chief Secretary

Sir,

I have, by

Order of G.O. No 147
14th January 1889
and G.O. No 446 of
22nd May 1889.

noted under the allowance of
His Excellency's

report on the
Presidency and the new full

for the latter the old I would pro
report has been revised to suit war

which some of red sufficient and some
came to hand.

Eye Infirmary Children Hospital. In
during term of new scale has on the
long low by town but the full dies

செப்பனெடுவர் பெயர்
ச. சுவாமிநாதன்
செப்பனெடுவதற்காக எடுத்த
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்
-12-07

செப்பனெடு முடிந்த நாள்
-5-08
சாப்பார்க்கும்
மு. ந. பா. எ.
கையொப்பம்

ஆராய்ச்சி உதவி
யாளர்
கையொப்பம்
19/1/08

the other hand the average daily cost
diet for each patient was annas 4-5 1/2 pice
exclusive of extras, wines and spirits, and
before in excess of the corresponding charge
1888 by about 1/2 pie. Surgeon Major

strongly urges the continuance of

as being convenient

6 1/2 pice the former

European diet

etc.

Medical Officer

Hospital: The

has worked

the required

self diet with

as the diets are in

the cost of

is liberal, afford greater

9 pice against

and are more to the

full diet for

cents. The average cost of

us to have

was 6 annas 10 pice ago

in 1888, and the average

Medical Officer is

native 3 annas 6 pice

scale but this is

the

28
diet and diet insufficient. Dr. B
agrees with ^{3 1/2} to substitute for it
the "English" which embraces daily
sheeting the 6 ounces of rice. This is
used in the formerly given to Burmese
care would have labour, and it was found
the correctness, as they were not able
The heading "Leprosy"
required as in
in accordance
dated 20th Jan
by the new
introduced
effect with
Brigade Surgeon
The Register of
been found as
and a special

more than sufficient for ^{of the new}
therefore suggest that to ^{but the}
modification of it for this ^{to need}
I am unwilling to multiply regards full
would be a greater evil to ^{also suggested}
more than sufficient for ^{diet for}

ick. The new full native ^{and some}

out 3 annas ^{in the Hospital}

1888. The

By Dr. Mac

ying in

under the

The subject
attention I have
soon as possible

ring the

from a

compared

ial year

and that

icers be then

By: Surg. L. Little

Surg. Major E. F. Russell

- do - Mackell

- do - Co

- do -

13ras

the native full ¹⁸ ¹²³⁻⁴ ^{U23-4} ^{therefore} ^{proper} ^{dict} (3) those
scale of his ^{more} ^{on} ^{dict}
allowance of ^{the} ^{total} ^{should}
the amount for daily sick,
^{finders} ^{be} ^{able} ^{to}
that in any ^{whether} ^{there}
to consume it the Remaining
is an exhaustion and the
opinion that in the monthly
by Dr. Cook is ^{forms} ^a ^{double}
institution and at both, it will
more expensive to see also
that the latter attends is
always considerable annas and
in former year Natives, ⁱⁿ
Women and ^{further} ^{check}
institution ^{thousands} ^{of}
given satisfied (2) their

been ¹/₂ annas ¹/₂ pie. I would
11 ³/₄ pie in 1000 was some
the change hospital he adopted.
from a financial scale, but it
formula for outlay a diet
well, but it is ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{scale} of the
possible as yet set in 1889

comparative ^{with} 3 annas ¹/₄ pie
heating mat scale is approved
Officer does not

of forms ^{per} Medical Officer
order of Governor has worked
be reduced. ^{not} respects
page 16 ^{ap} propriety than
following ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} of the

"As ^{reg} ^{each} European
they are not ^{at} ⁶ annas
showing the ^{the} ^{cost} of
including ^{the} ^{cost} of
against 3 annas

5 pie ¹/₂ annas ¹/₂ pie and stimulants. ^{the}
number of ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
made "Throwing Returns" and in view to
Dr. Branford calculations of ingredients
to increase in ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
articles. We are to be ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
which is ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
Keep down the ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
tenders. It ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
likely to be ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
very small ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
rates. Of ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
in working ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
to recomp ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
present ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ
necessary. ^{re} ^{li} ^{king} ^{particulars} ^{given} ⁱⁿ

for the General Hospital
report on the subject of

In my opinion the work ^{the Government}
scale has been fairly success-
ful scheme for natives seem ^{is Medical Officer}
reconsideration, especially as ^{February gives}
diet, being expensive. I ha-
a return to the old scale of ^{a cost per diet}
natives in the Lepers Hospital for all classes
reduction of the full diet ^{aiders that for}
for Women and children ^{tability, the}
of the returns also needs a ^{old. This is}
therefore to suggest that as ^{sterfuges alluded}
a return be prepared sh-
working of the new scale. ^{is the contractor}
financial point of view ^{of his tender.}
with the old for the off-
ending 31st March 1890. ^{Medical Officer}
In the case of
to the
noted off

6P
if any may be
423-4
have the honor to be
Sir
most obedient servant
D. M. B. C. I. E.
Surgeon General
With Govt. of Madras

CN. 1043

Public (1890) Department
From G. Bidie Esq. M.B.C.I.E.
Surgeon General with Fort.
Fort St. George

306

Dated 30 April
Recd 9 April

Subject

Submits a report
on the practical working
of the Presby. Hosp. of
new scale of diets

TH APRIL 1890, No. , PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From G. BIDIE, Esq.; M.B., C.I.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 3rd April 1890; No. 306.

In obedience to the marginally-noted orders, I have the honor to submit to His Excellency the Governor in Council a brief report on the practical working in the Presidency hospitals of the new scale of diets, &c., for the latter 9 months of 1889. This report has been delayed by the late date at which some of the necessary information came to hand.

Eye Infirmary.—The average cost per patient during term of residence was Rs. 2-11-0, being less by 2 annas 3½ pies than in 1888. On the other hand, the average daily cost per diet for each patient was 4 annas 5½ pies inclusive of extras, wines and spirits, and therefore in excess of the corresponding charge in 1888 by about ½ pie. Surgeon-Major Brockman strongly urges the continuance of the present scale, as being more convenient and as not being in excess of the former unsatisfactory scheme of diets.

Lock Hospitals.—The Medical officer considers that the new system has worked well. He gives to natives half-diet with certain extras, and in this way, the cost of each diet has been 2 annas 9 pies against 3 annas 6 pies, the cost of full diet for natives. This arrangement seems to have answered very well.

Leprosy Hospital.—The Medical officer is satisfied with the European scale, but thinks the native full diet insufficient. Dr. Cook therefore proposes to substitute for it a scale of his own, which embraces a daily allowance of 26 ounces of rice. This was the amount formerly given to Burmese prisoners on hard labor, and it was found that, in many cases, they were not able to consume it all. No doubt, leprosy is an exhausting disease, but I am of opinion that the allowance of rice suggested by Dr. Cook is excessive. As this is a special institution and as the new full diet is much more expensive than the old, I would propose that the latter be reverted to, as it was always considered sufficient and convenient in former years.

Women and Children Hospital.—In this institution, the new scale has, on the whole, given satisfaction, but the full diet is more than sufficient for women. I would therefore suggest that, to prevent waste, some modification of it for this hospital be adopted. I am unwilling to multiply scales, but if would be a greater evil to continue a diet more than sufficient for the wants of the sick. The new full native diet in 1889 cost 3 annas 6½ pies, against 3 annas 4½ pies in 1888. The European diet scale is approved of by Dr. Hackett.

Lying-in Hospital.—The Medical officer considers that the revised scale has worked well, as the diets are in most respects more liberal, afford greater variety than before, and are more to the liking of the patients. The average cost of each European

2

diet was 6 annas 10 pies, against 6 annas 5 pies in 1888, and the average cost of each native 3 annas 6 pies, against 3 annas 5 pies. Along with this there is a larger number of returns and calculations to be made throwing more work on the steward. Dr. Branfoot attributes the rise in prices to increase in the contract rates of some articles. He also complains of a trick which is resorted to by all contractors to keep down the general total of their tenders. It consists in pricing articles not likely to be required, or if required in very small quantities, at absurdly low rates. Of course, the assumption is that, in working the contract, the man tries to recoup himself somehow, and to prevent unfair dealing constant vigilance is necessary. This state of matters, of course, entails extra trouble on the hospital staff, but I do not see how it is to be prevented. I am not aware either that the sick suffer from it, and the Government sometimes gains.

General Hospital.—The Senior Medical officer, writing under date the 28th February, gives a statement which shows that, under the new arrangement, the average cost per diet as well as for extras was less for all classes of patients in 1889. He considers that for cheapness, variety and suitability, the new scale is superior to the old. This officer also points out the subterfuges alluded to by Dr. Branfoot, by which the contractor tries to keep down the total of his tender. As regards extras, the Senior Medical officer thinks that the limit of economy in this direction has been reached. In the case of European and Eurasian patients, the reduction in diet charges has been satisfactory; the average cost having been 7 annas 9½ pies, against 8 annas 11½ pies in 1888. In the case of natives, the change has not been so satisfactory from a financial point of view. The formulae for the cooking have worked well, but it has not been found possible as yet to experiment on the comparative cost of coal and wood as heating materials. The Senior Medical officer does not think that the number of forms specified at page 9 of the order of Government under reply can be reduced. As regards the form in page 16, appendix 4, he makes the following remarks:—

“As regards the forms on page 16, they are not complete enough. Besides showing the number of daily sick, including ‘Remaining from the day before and admissions,’ the form should also show (1) the number dieting themselves, (2) those discharged without diet, (3) those dieted on extras alone, (4) those on diet, and (5) a total column. This total should correspond with the total of daily sick, and in your office you would be able to compare the figures to see whether these two totals correspond with the remaining on the last day of the month and the total admissions shown in the monthly returns. This then would form a double check upon the accuracy of both; it will in that case be easy enough to see also that the average cost for patients is within the limited rates of 8 annas and 4 annas for Europeans and natives respectively. By way of further check on the returns, the particulars of (1) number of patients dieted, (2) their diets, and (3) extras and stimulants, should agree with the same particulars given in the ‘Ingredient returns,’ and, in view to checking the calculations of ingredients used in the preparation of diets, &c., some care would have to be bestowed to prove the correctness of the ‘Ingredient statement.’ The heading ‘Section and Ward’ is not required, as it has been done away with in accordance with your letter, No. 3378, dated 20th June 1889, and superseded by the new forms which I have since introduced and which have the same effect with a diminished clerical labor.”

Brigade-Surgeon Sibthorpe also states that the register of perishable articles has not been found suitable for the General Hospital, and a special report on the subject is promised.

2. In my opinion, the working of the new scale has been fairly successful, but the diet scheme for natives seems to need reconsideration, especially as regards full diet, being expensive. I have also suggested a return to the old scale of diet for natives in the Leper Hospital and some reduction of the full diet in the Hospital for Women and Children. The subject of the returns also needs attention. I have therefore to

Brigade-Surgeon C. Sibthorpe.
Surgeon-Major E. F. Brockman.
" Hackett.
" Cook.
" A. M. Branfoot.

suggest that, as soon as possible, a return be prepared showing the working of the new scales from a financial point of view, as compared with the old, for the official year ending 31st March 1890, and that the marginally-noted officers be then

directed to meet and consider what change, if any, may be necessary.

, PUBLIC.

3

Public.

in paragraph 2 of the foregoing letter
will be issued by him. The return
ready, and should not be delayed for

on the whole, somewhat disappointing.

(tract.)

J. P. PRICE
Chief Secretary.

Madras.

, Public.

Home Department, with reference to Mr.

89.

Chief Secretary.

38

9-423-4

Q. 79 May 1890

With reference to his
letter No 306 of 27 April 1890. The

Surgeon General is requested to
report
whether
(1) the tenders submitted by contractors
specify the ^{called for in any} ~~are for~~ for each diet
collectively or for each separate
ingredient ^{making up} the
diet

(2) whether any tender embraces
the supply of more than one
article.

(3) and whether the diet scale
represents issues by the
hospital staff from articles
purchased and stored in
bulk ^{or not} in each institution.

(from orders)
2 May.

Surgeon General
9/5/90

10-423-4 TH APRIL 1890

ORDER—dated April 1890, No.

The suggestions of the Surgeon-Ge
are approved; the necessary subsidiary
should be submitted to Government as
the report of the Committee.

2. The result of the experiment so
(True

To the Surgeon-General with the Government
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

ENDORSEMENT—dated April 1890, No

Copy to the Government of India,
Hewett's letter, No. 272, dated 4th May

F.D.B.
22-4-90

Recd

Exd A. Raitt.

Report on ~~experiments~~
at dietary scale.

I don't understand the allusion
by Dr. Bramford Stubbins to
the tricks by which the contractor
kneads down the totals of their tenders,
unless on the supposition that
the tenders are still for rates
per diet for the supply
of each separate article entering
into the diet. Until the latter
system is introduced ^{expressly} ~~there~~
will never come down. I would
therefore call for an explicit
statement whether the tenders
called for are per diet or not
in any institution. I doubt
any tender embraces the supply
of more than one article.
The diet scales should represent
the issues by the hospital staff
from articles purchased &
stored in bulk.

W.S.

I am for the contractor to be for
all the articles required to make
up the whole of the diet during a
year.

3/5/77

No. 254

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL

WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

Fort St. George, 20th May 1890.

No. 429

From W. Farguhar Esq., M.D.
SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department,

SIR,

In reply to Reference on No. 1043
dated 9th instant, I have the honor to
state that the tenders called for in
any institution are for each separate
ingredient entering into the diet.
2. The tender embraces the supply of
more than one article.
3. The diet scales represent issues by
the hospital staff from articles of
ingredients supplied from time to time
by the Contractor according to require-
ments.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. Farguhar Esq., M.D.
Surgeon-General with the Govt. of Madras.

24

uttered as recorded

From W. Farquhar Esq., M.D.

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Fort St. George.

SECRET

21 MAY 1897

No. 429

Dated 20

Recd. 21

SUBJECT:

6/11 1571
The reply is in evidence that the old contract system is maintaining itself in the form of a rate per day at least in a form which maintains all its evils. The contracts are being day by day each independent of each other. The contracts are made by the contractors in private consultation. There is no buying in bulk, at times when articles are cheap; no strong temptations offered by the hospital staff. The contractors profits are in no way reduced but many of the staff. Under the old contract system is finally fixed up there will be no substantial reduction in cost effected.

Wes
31 May

Submitting report regarding tenders &c called for and reference on No. 1043 of 9th inst.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated

188, No.

Again G.O., dated

188, No.

Current No. 1043

of 1890, dated

3 April

from the Surgeon General with Govt.

Current No. 1611

of 1890, dated

20 May

from — 80 —

Order

The suggestions of the Surgeon General in paragraph 2 of the first letter read above are approved; the necessary subsidiary orders will be issued by him. The return showing the financial results of the change should be submitted to Govt. as soon as it is ready, and should not be delayed for the report of the Committee.

2. With reference to the complaints regarding the subterfuges resorted to.

the Contractors the Govt. is of opinion that the oil will be obviated if in future the tenders called for do not embrace the supply of more than one article for each tender. This system should be introduced without delay. The results of the experiment is witnessed by the subjoined abstract of the Surgeon General's report is somewhat disappointing.

Hospitals	Cost per diem in 1889	as compared with the previous year	Increase +	Decrease -
Rs. As. P.				
General Hospital	0 0 1/2			
Lock Hospital	0 0 9			
Children's Hospital	0 0 27/16			
Natives	0 0 1			
European Hospital	0 0 1			
General Hospital	0 0 1			
European & Native	0 1 2			

Hospitals
Back of Ct 157
as altered
4/13/90
To the Surgeon General & Sanitary Commission
Desp 9 19/6
Copy to the Govt. of India
Home Dep^t with reference to Mr Hewitt's letter No. 272 of 4.5.89
20/5/90

Govt. of 1890 Madras.
 PUBLIC.

13-4234-18

Issued
 Recd. Encl.
 G.O., &c., 11th June 1890,
 Nos. 423, 424.

JUNE.

Diet Scales in Presidency Hospitals.
 Passing orders on the Surgeon-General's report regarding the working of the new —.

806
423, 424 / *Prinf 4/6*
11 TH JUNE 1890, Nos. , PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

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"As regards the forms on page 16, they are not complete enough. Besides showing the number of daily sick, including 'Remaining from the day before and admissions,' the form should also show (1) the number dieting themselves, (2) those discharged without diet, (3) those dieted on extras alone, (4) those on diet, and (5) a total column. This total should correspond with the total of daily sick, and in your office you would be able to compare the figures to see whether these two totals correspond with the remaining on the last day of the month and the total admissions shown in the monthly returns. This then would form a double check upon the accuracy of both; it will in that case be easy enough to see also that the average cost for patients is within the limited rates of 8 annas and 4 annas for Europeans and natives respectively. By way of further check on the returns, the particulars of (1) number of patients dieted, (2) their diets, and (3) extras and stimulants, should agree with the same particulars given in the 'Ingredient returns,' and, in view to checking the calculations of ingredients used in the preparation of diets, &c., some care would have to be bestowed to prove the correctness of the 'Ingredient statement.' The heading 'Section and Ward' is not required, as it has been done away with in accordance with your letter, No. 3378, dated 20th June 1889, and superseded by the new forms which I have since introduced and which have the same effect with a diminished clerical labor."

Brigade-Surgeon Sibthorpe also states that the register of perishable articles has not been found suitable for the General Hospital, and a special report on the subject is promised.

2. In my opinion, the working of the new scale has been fairly successful, but the diet scheme for natives seems to need reconsideration, especially as regards full diet, being expensive. I have also suggested a return to the old scale of diet for natives in the Leper Hospital and some reduction of the full diet in the Hospital for Women

14/2343

and Children. The subject of the returns also needs attention. I have therefore to suggest that, as soon as possible, a return be prepared showing the working of the new scales from a financial point of view, as compared with the old, for the official year ending 31st March 1890, and that the marginally-noted officers be then directed to meet and consider what change, if any, may be necessary.

Brigade-Surgeon C. Sibthorpe.
Surgeon-Major E. F. Brockman.
" Hackett.
" Cook.
" A. M. Branfoot.

Reference, dated 9th May 1890.

With reference to his letter, No. 306, dated 3rd April 1890, the Surgeon-General is requested to report specifically—

- (i) (I) whether the tenders called for in any institution are per diet or for each separate ingredient entering into the diet;
- (ii) (II) whether any tender embraces the supply of more than one article; and
- (iii) (III) whether the diet scales represent issues by the hospital staff from articles purchased and stored in bulk or not.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

From W. FARQUHAR, Esq., M.D., Acting Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 20th May 1890, No. 429.

In reply to reference on No. 1043, dated 9th instant, I have the honor to state that the tenders called for in any institution are for each separate ingredient entering into the diet.

2. The tender embraces the supply of more than one article.

3. The diet scales represent issues by the hospital staff from articles of ingredients supplied from time to time by the contractor according to requirements.

ORDER—dated // June 1890, No. 423, Public.

The suggestions of the Surgeon-General in paragraph 2 of the first letter read above are approved; the necessary subsidiary orders will be issued by him. The return showing the financial results of the change should be submitted to Government as soon as it is ready, and should not be delayed for the report of the Committee.

2. With reference to the complaints regarding the subterfuges resorted to by the contractors, it is evident from the Surgeon-General's letter, dated 20th May 1890, that the old contract system is maintained, if not in the form of a rate per diet, at least in a form which maintains all its evils. The contracts are to supply day by day each ingredient at a certain rate, and the supplies are made by the contractors in small quantities. There is no buying in bulk at times when articles are cheap; no storing and issuing as required by the hospital staff. The contractors' profits are in no way reduced, but merely split up. Until the daily contract system is completely given up, no substantial reduction in cost will be effected.

3. The results of the experiment, as evinced by the subjoined abstract of the Surgeon-General's report, are consequently disappointing:—

Hospitals.	Cost per diet in 1889 as compared with the previous year.		
	Increase +	Decrease -	
	RS.	A.	P.
Eye Infirmary	+ 0	0	1
Lock Hospital	- 0	0	9
Women and Children's Hospital—Natives	+ 0	0	2 1/2
Lying-in Hospital—Europeans	+ 0	0	5
Do. Natives	+ 0	0	1
General Hospital—Europeans and Eurasians	- 0	1	2 1/2

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
„ Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

ENDORSEMENT—dated // June 1890, No. 424, Public.
Copy to the Government of India, Home Department, with reference to Mr. Hewett's letter, No. 272, dated 4th May 1889.

2 June
Chief Secretary.

*Diet-berbman
Hospital*

*15-
423-4*

(From orders)

*Note for the Chief Secy
Part of the revised draft
has been advised from the
Sanitary Commissioner with
a cc. etc.*

*45-
6/6*

16-
11234

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From G. BIDIE, Esq., M.B., C.I.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 3rd April 1890, No. 306.

In obedience to the marginally-noted orders, I have the honor to submit to His Excellency the Governor in Council a brief report on the practical working in the Presidency hospitals of the new scale of diets, &c., for the latter 9 months of 1889. This report has been delayed by the late date at which some of the necessary information came to hand.

Eye Infirmary.—The average cost per patient during term of residence was Rs. 2-11-0, being less by 2 annas $3\frac{1}{2}$ pies than in 1888. On the other hand, the average daily cost per diet for each patient was 4 annas $5\frac{1}{2}$ pies inclusive of extras, wines and spirits, and therefore in excess of the corresponding charge in 1888 by about $\frac{1}{2}$ pie. Surgeon-Major Brockman strongly urges the continuance of the present scale, as being more convenient and as not being in excess of the former unsatisfactory scheme of diets.

Lock Hospitals.—The Medical officer considers that the new system has worked well. He gives to natives half-diet with certain extras, and in this way, the cost of each diet has been 2 annas 9 pies against 3 annas 6 pies, the cost of full diet for natives. This arrangement seems to have answered very well.

Leprosy Hospital.—The Medical officer is satisfied with the European scale, but thinks the native full diet insufficient. Dr. Cook therefore proposes to substitute for it a scale of his own, which embraces a daily allowance of 26 ounces of rice. This was the amount formerly given to Burmese prisoners on hard labor, and it was found that, in many cases, they were not able to consume it all. No doubt, leprosy is an exhausting disease, but I am of opinion that the allowance of rice suggested by Dr. Cook is excessive. As this is a special institution and as the new full diet is much more expensive than the old, I would propose that the latter be reverted to, as it was always considered sufficient and convenient in former years.

Women and Children Hospital.—In this institution, the new scale has, on the whole, given satisfaction, but the full diet is more than sufficient for women. I would therefore suggest that, to prevent waste, some modification of it for this hospital be

adopted. I am unwilling to multiply scales, but it would be a greater evil to continue a diet more than sufficient for the wants of the sick. The new full native diet in 1889 cost 3 annas 6½ pies, against 3 annas 4½ pies in 1888. The European diet scale is approved of by Dr. Hackett.

Lying-in Hospital.—The Medical officer considers that the revised scale has worked well, as the diets are in most respects more liberal, afford greater variety than before, and are more to the liking of the patients. The average cost of each European diet was 6 annas 10 pies, against 6 annas 5 pies in 1888, and the average cost of each native 3 annas 6 pies, against 3 annas 5 pies. Along with this there is a larger number of returns and calculations to be made throwing more work on the steward. Dr. Branfoot attributes the rise in prices to increase in the contract rates of some articles. He also complains of a trick which is resorted to by all contractors to keep down the general total of their tenders. It consists in pricing articles not likely to be required, or if required in very small quantities, at absurdly low rates. Of course, the assumption is that, in working the contract, the man tries to recoup himself somehow, and to prevent unfair dealing constant vigilance is necessary. This state of matters, of course, entails extra trouble on the hospital staff, but I do not see how it is to be prevented. I am not aware either that the sick suffer from it, and the Government sometimes gains.

General Hospital.—The Senior Medical officer, writing under date the 28th February, gives a statement which shows that, under the new arrangement, the average cost per diet as well as for extras was less for all classes of patients in 1889. He considers that for cheapness, variety and suitability, the new scale is superior to the old. This officer also points out the subterfuges alluded to by Dr. Branfoot, by which the contractor tries to keep down the total of his tender. As regards extras, the Senior Medical officer thinks that the limit of economy in this direction has been reached. In the case of European and Eurasian patients, the reduction in diet charges has been satisfactory; the average cost having been 7 annas 9½ pies, against 8 annas 11½ pies in 1888. In the case of natives, the change has not been so satisfactory from a financial point of view. The formulæ for the cooking have worked well, but it has not been found possible as yet to experiment on the comparative cost of coal and wood as heating materials. The Senior Medical officer does not think that the number of forms specified at page 9 of the order of Government under reply can be reduced. As regards the form in page 16, appendix 4, he makes the following remarks:—

“As regards the forms on page 16, they are not complete enough. Besides showing the number of daily sick, including ‘Remaining from the day before and admissions,’ the form should also show (1) the number dieting themselves, (2) those discharged without diet, (3) those dieted on extras alone, (4) those on diet, and (5) a total column. This total should correspond with the total of daily sick, and in your office you would be able to compare the figures to see whether these two totals correspond with the remaining on the last day of the month and the total admissions shown in the monthly returns. This then would form a double check upon the accuracy of both; it will in that case be easy enough to see also that the average cost for patients is within the limited rates of 8 annas and 4 annas for Europeans and natives respectively. By way of further check on the returns, the particulars of (1) number of patients dieted, (2) their diets, and (3) extras and stimulants, should agree with the same particulars given in the ‘Ingredient returns,’ and, in view to checking the calculations of ingredients used in the preparation of diets, &c., some care would have to be bestowed to prove the correctness of the ‘Ingredient statement.’ The heading ‘Section and Ward’ is not required, as it has been done away with in accordance with your letter, No. 3378, dated 20th June 1889, and superseded by the new forms which I have since introduced and which have the same effect with a diminished clerical labor.”

Brigade-Surgeon Sibthorpe also states that the register of perishable articles has not been found suitable for the General Hospital, and a special report on the subject is promised.

2. In my opinion, the working of the new scale has been fairly successful, but the diet scheme for natives seems to need reconsideration, especially as regards full diet, being expensive. I have also suggested a return to the old scale of diet for natives in the Leper Hospital and some reduction of the full diet in the Hospital for Women

and Children. The subject of the returns also needs attention. I have therefore to suggest that, as soon as possible, a return be prepared showing the working of the new scales from a financial point of view, as compared with the old, for the official year ending 31st March 1890, and that the marginally-noted officers be then directed to meet and consider what change, if any, may be necessary.

Brigade-Surgeon C. Sibthorpe.
Surgeon-Major E. F. Brockman.
“ Hackett.
“ Cook.
“ A. M. Branfoot.

Reference, dated 9th May 1890.

With reference to his letter, No. 306, dated 3rd April 1890, the Surgeon-General is requested to report specifically—

- (i) whether the tenders called for in any institution are per diet or for each separate ingredient entering into the diet;
- (ii) whether any tender embraces the supply of more than one article; and
- (iii) whether the diet scales represent issues by the hospital staff from articles purchased and stored in bulk or not.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

From W. FARQUHAR, Esq., M.D., Acting Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 20th May 1890, No. 429.

In reply to reference on No. 1043, dated 9th instant, I have the honor to state that the tenders called for in any institution are for each separate ingredient entering into the diet.

2. The tender embraces the supply of more than one article.
3. The diet scales represent issues by the hospital staff from articles of ingredients supplied from time to time by the contractor according to requirements.

ORDER—dated 11th June 1890, No. 423, Public.

The suggestions of the Surgeon-General in paragraph 2 of the first letter read above are approved; the necessary subsidiary orders will be issued by him. The return showing the financial results of the change should be submitted to Government as soon as it is ready, and should not be delayed for the report of the Committee.

2. With reference to the complaints regarding the subterfuges resorted to by the contractors, it is evident from the Surgeon-General's letter, dated 20th May 1890, that the old contract system is still continued, if not in the form of a rate per diet, at least in a form which maintains all its evils. The contracts are to supply day by day each ingredient at a certain rate, and the supplies are made by the contractors in small quantities. There is no buying in bulk, at times when articles are cheap; no storing and issuing as required by the hospital staff. The contractors' profits are in no way reduced, but merely split up. Until the daily contract system is completely given up, no substantial reduction in cost will be effected.

11TH JUNE 1890, Nos. 423, 424, PUBLIC.

3. The results of the experiment, as evinced by the subjoined abstract of the Surgeon-General's report, are consequently disappointing:—

Hospitals.	Cost per diet in 1889 as compared with the previous year.	
	Increase +	Decrease -
	RS.	A. P.
Eye Infirmary	+ 0	0 1/4
Lock Hospital	- 0	0 9
Women and Children's Hospital—Natives	+ 0	0 2 7/8
Lying-in Hospital—Europeans	+ 0	0 5
Do. Natives	+ 0	0 1
General Hospital—Europeans and Eurasians	- 0	1 2 1/2

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
„ Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

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J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

Ed. A. Raitt.

proof

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9/6

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[Revised Abstract]

Diet Scales in Presidency
Hospitals.

Passing orders on the
Surgeon General's Report regard-
ing the working of the new

25-9-04

28-6-12

16-12-12