I
11/12/82

23-12-0?

CONFIDENTIAL.

[Pub. / 41]
300—27-2-93.

Public (1899) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1362-3

DATED 11. 12. 99.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bacteriological Laboratories – Replying to the proposals of the Govt. of India for the establishment of a central research laboratory for the whole of India with Provincial laboratories at Madras & in other cities in India for the study of health problems.

I
11.12.82

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Ile no	3572 of 99						
" "	192/1900						
G.O 626	Pub	d 3.7.00					
" 693	Finl	d 21.7.00.					

Government (1899) of Madras.

PUBLIC.

Recd. } 1899. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 1362, 11th December 1899.

DECEMBER.

Bacteriological Laboratories.

Replying to the proposals of the Government of India for the establishment of a central research laboratory for the whole of India with Provincial laboratories at Madras and in other cities in India for the study of health problems.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following papers :—

G.O., No. 990, Public, dated 2nd December 1895.

Abstract.—Communicating to the Surgeon-General and to the Sanitary Commissioner, for joint report, resolution of the Government of India regarding a secheme for scuring a trained reserve of Chemical Examiners and for establishing an Imperial Bacteriological Laboratory.

G.O., Nos. 714, 715, Public, dated 8th July 1896.

Abstract.—Calling for information from the Surgeon-General and other officers regarding the measures to be adopted for bacteriological investigation in this Presidency and addressing the Government of India on the subject.

G.O., Nos. 512, 513, Public, dated 5th May 1897.

Abstract.—Ordering that the Government of India be addressed on the question of creating a new appointment for the conduct of bacteriological investigations, &c., and of providing an additional medical officer for the purpose.

G.O., No. 1347, Public, dated 11th October 1897.

Abstract.—Recording, temporarily, correspondence on the subject of the proposal to create the appointment of Government Bacteriologist.

Read—also the following papers :—

From A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., c.s.i., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Medical), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 9th August 1899, No. 1300.

The Government of India have been considering for some time past what would be the best way to supply the great and growing need of an organization for the systematic application of modern scientific methods to the study of diseases in India.

2. The Director-General of the Indian Medical Service has drawn up a scheme which is explained in the memorandum appended to this letter. The scheme contemplates the establishment of a central laboratory of research and provincial laboratories for the study of health problems. The Government of India approve of its general features. The need for a central research laboratory has long been recognized, and the provincial Health Officers will be able to render most important service by investigating aspects of the cause and prevention of disease which the want of men and appliances has hitherto caused to be neglected. As they stand, the proposals of the Director-General are too expensive, and the Government of India have, therefore, considered how their scale can be reduced without altering the general features of the plan.

3. The following is the scheme which the Government of India think might be introduced :—

(1) A central research laboratory to be established, probably at Mukhtesar, in charge of a bacteriological officer with two junior officers to assist him.

(2) Health Officers to be appointed to the charges of laboratories at—

- (*a*) Calcutta, for Bengal and Assam ;
- (*b*) Madras, for the Madras Presidency and Burma ;
- (*c*) Bombay, for the Bombay Presidency (less Sind) and Berar ;
- (*d*) Agra, for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Central Provinces ; and
- (*e*) Lahore, for the Punjab and Sind.

It is proposed that the Lahore officer shall be permitted to undertake anti-rabic inoculation for the Indian Pasteur Institute.

4. The bacteriological department to be formed under this scheme will ordinarily be manned by officers of the Indian Medical Service. It will be necessary to attract good men to the department, and the Government of India propose to grant a staff allowance on the following scale :—

	RS.
Under 5 years' service	300
5 to 12 „ „	350
12 to 20 „ „	400
Over 20 „ „	600

5. The cost of the central laboratory will be met from Imperial and of the provincial laboratories from Provincial Revenues. It is estimated that the former will cost about Rs. 48,000 and each of the latter about Rs. 18,000 a year. This estimate includes medical subordinates, appliances, &c. Against this expenditure must be set-off present expenditure on bacteriological work and anti-rabic inoculation. I am to inquire what is the present expenditure on these objects in Madras.

6. The Government of India will be glad to receive at an early date the opinion of the Government of Madras on the scheme set forth in this letter.

Enclosure.

Note on the Bacteriological requirements for India.

The proposal to establish a Native Chief's Victoria Jubilee Institute of Public Health having come to nothing, it becomes necessary to consider what steps should be taken by the Government of India to bring this country into line with other civilized countries in the matter of scientific investigation of disease problems, the provision of suitable remedies and other means of combating preventible disease.

2. The discovery that the so-called zymotic and many other infectious or contagious diseases are due to low forms of vegetable or animal life, though long suspected, has been proved only of recent years, and it was several years later before the investigations of Pasteur, Koch and others led to any practical result in the treatment of such diseases. Since about 1880 bacteriology has progressed by leaps and bounds, the specific organism of disease after disease being discovered in rapid succession, and in many cases methods enabling the disease to be more or less successfully controlled. Anthrax, rebrine (the disease which threatned to destroy the silk industry of France), swine fever, glanders, diphtheria, rinderpest, enteric fever, and plague may be mentioned, and the results already achieved give promise of great possibilities in the future. The whole subject is in its infancy, but though in no way occult, has already attained such vast dimensions as to have become a specialty requiring the whole time and energy of those who hope to attain to its mastery. No physician occupied by hospital or private practice, no Civil Surgeon engaged in the multifarious duties of his office can ever become an expert; and though it is essential that he should have studied the subject, he cannot be expected to have more than a fair general knowledge of what is being done by those who devote their time to the study, just as every

physician must be acquainted with the drugs he uses, but is not expected to be either a botanist or an expert chemist. Yet day by day he has more need of the expert to help him in the diagnosis of doubtful cases, and the suggestion of means for preventing or treating disease. Bacteriological laboratories have now been established in most parts of the world, and even in England where scientific research has not hitherto received the encouragement from the State which it has enjoyed in Continental countries, there is now hardly a country which has not some means of making bacteriological examinations.

3. In India a beginning in research work was first made in 1869 by the appointments of Messrs. Lewis and Cunningham to investigate the causes of cholera, and in 1891 the North-Western Provinces started a bacteriological laboratory under Mr. Hankin. In 1890 the Revenue and Agriculture Department engaged Dr. Lingard as a specialist to investigate the diseases of cattle and since the outbreak of plague (the microbe of which was discovered by Kitasato of Japan in 1894) research laboratories have been established in Bombay and in Calcutta. In the latter city a small laboratory had been provided in 1883, where Dr. Cunningham had done much good work as Special Assistant to the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, and in which, after his retirement, Major Ronald Ross has made some notable discoveries. The Calcutta Municipality also has had a small laboratory for some years, and the Native Governments of Mysore and Hyderabad have or are getting fairly equipped laboratories. All this, however, is much less than the needs of India require, and in many Provinces bacteriological work is left undone because there is no one to do it. When Principal Medical Officer of the Punjab Command, I frequently found it impossible to trace the sources of enteric fever for want of a laboratory and an expert to conduct the necessary examinations into water, food, soil, &c.; and although Mr. Hankin was most obliging and did a great many investigations for me, he could not undertake a tenth of the work which I should have liked to send him. This difficulty has been partially got over by the appointment of three special officers who are deputed to investigate particular outbreaks of disease, to report on the sanitary condition of cantonments, examine water-supplies, &c. The appliances supplied to them are, however, on the most modest scale and the fact that they are at present all Royal Army Medical Corps officers is a great disadvantage to India, as they will return to England—tour-expired—just as they are becoming most useful.

4. India, therefore, has done something, but as yet no attempt has been made to provide for general bacteriological work on a systematic footing, and it is the object of this note to suggest a scheme for doing so.

The subject naturally divides itself into two branches—

A.—Ordinary bacteriological work in which existing knowledge is applied to every-day problems; and

B.—Original research.

5. The two run into each other to a considerable extent. A man engaged in ordinary work may devote his leisure time to research; but one devoted to original research would have little or no time for ordinary work. The two branches may, therefore, be considered separately.

6. *A.*—For the convenient carrying out of ordinary bacteriological work it is, I think, essential that every Province in India and each of the four Commands should have an officer specially set apart for this work and for no other. His duties would be to conduct all enquiries involving the bacteriological examination of any objects suspected of carrying or causing disease, the determination of the specific nature of disease in doubtful cases, such as enteric fever, diphtheria, rabies, plague, &c., in men; rinderpest, anthrax, glanders, &c., in animals; to furnish reports on the same, and to supply the Medical officers in his Province or Command with the expert assistance which is becoming year by year more necessary in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. He could at the same time, so far as his leisure admits, contribute to original research. He would require a laboratory furnished on a sufficient, though modest, scale with all the necessary appliances of the most approved type, and at least one assistant or understudy capable of carrying on current work in the event of his absence or indisposition. This is essential, as bacteriological investigations require constant attention, and an absence of a few hours may in some cases render a whole series of experiments useless. One or two subordinate assistants would also be required, and a clerk, messenger, water-carrier, sweeper and watchman.

7. The officer selected should, I think, be called Special Health Officer and not Bacteriologist, for, although no vivisection properly so-called is contemplated in these laboratories, the word bacteriologist has come to be connected with vivisection in certain quarters and gives rise to prejudice. He should also, I think, work in connection with the Sanitary Commissioner under the Administrative Medical Officer. He should be, as a rule, an officer of the Indian Medical Service and should form one of the military reserve, as in a national emergency bacteriological work could be in abeyance for a time, and an officer with special experience of sanitary work would be a most useful adjunct to each division of an army in the field. The Indian Medical Service has a very large number of these potential health officers, men who have already acquired a knowledge of the essentials of bacteriology and who only want practice to develop into experts. As members of a service they have learned to carry out orders and are under control. Existing incumbents not in the service might be retained, and the appointments under the Commands might be open to Royal Army Medical Corps officers who are willing to agree to serve for, say, ten or twelve years.

The number of appointments would be twelve, and the cadre of the Indian Medical Service would have to be increased by the number of officers taken from that service.

Bengal.
Madras.
Bombay.
North-Western Provinces.
Punjab.
Assam.
Central Provinces.
Burma.
4 Commands.

8. The question of pay is important and difficult. The work requires some special qualities, and as the officers selected should be amongst our best men and will be debarred from all chance of attaining to any of the prizes of the service to which, if they stuck to the ordinary line, they might legitimately and reasonably aspire, it will be necessary to give them sufficient inducement to accept a special career carrying no extra emoluments. The pay of the Indian Medical Service is based on the assumption that men add to their incomes by private practice, special allowances, &c., and I calculated some years ago that they do so on average to the extent of 50 per cent. on their regimental pay. We must compensate men for the loss of these by extra pay. This should, I think, take the form of a staff salary added to grade pay and might be fixed as noted in the margin. Fourteen hundred and ninety rupees a month after 20 years' service is not extravagant, the scheme for the proposed Imperial University allows Rs. 1,500 a month to its Professors from the first, and the Department of Revenue and Agriculture have raised Dr. Lingard's pay from Rs. 750 at first to Rs. 1,250 after 8 years' service, and Rs. 1,400 on re-employment for the next five years. I think these rates would enable us to secure and retain good men. They would not be eligible for selection as Administrative Medical Officers, but might be considered eligible for the extra pensions of £100 a year as compensation for loss of promotion.

—	Grade pay.	Staff salary.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Under 5 years	300	300	600
5 to 10 "	400	350	750
10 to 12 "	450	350	800
12 to 15 "	640	400	1,040
15 to 20 "	677	400	1,077
20 to 25 "	852	600	1,452
Over 25 "	888	600	1,488

9. The Assistants should be specially selected Assistant Surgeons, civil for the Provincial, and military for the Command laboratories, and should receive special allowances of Rs. 50, Rs. 75, Rs. 100 and Rs. 150 according to their grade in the service, private practice being forbidden. Under them should be one or two selected Hospital Assistants, civil or military, with special allowances of Rs. 10, Rs. 15, Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 according to grade, and the necessary menial servants at market rates.

10. A careful estimate puts the initial cost of the necessary apparatus at about Rs. 5,000, and the up-keep at Rs. 900 per annum. A suitable building must be

provided, but in the first instance at all events it may be found possible to place the laboratories in existing buildings, and in any case details need not be discussed in a preliminary note.

B.—Research work.

11. For this purpose one central laboratory for all India should suffice. It would have to be properly housed, so as to afford accommodation for several workers, and fitted out on a somewhat more elaborate scale than the Provincial laboratories. It would especially require a good reference library containing all the books, magazines, &c., bearing upon the subjects of particular researches—bacteriology, chemistry, medical jurisprudence and allied subjects. The plans for the Chiefs' Institute made provision for every imaginable want at an estimated cost of 2½ lakhs for buildings only. I do not think anything so extensive is required, but a very considerable outlay would be necessary to provide what is really needed. I had come to the conclusion that, on the whole, the best place to have it would be Calcutta, in the immediate vicinity of great hospitals, the Zoological, Botanic and Horticultural Gardens, good libraries, and facilities in the way of gas, ice and electricity: considering that these advantages outweighed those of having it on the hills, the chief of which is that men can work better in a cool climate. Had the laboratory to be started *ab initio*, I should still think so, but since thinking out the scheme I have visited the Imperial laboratory at Muktesar. This laboratory is intended for the investigation of the diseases of animals only. It has been erected and supplied with all the requisite apparatus, including gas-works, &c., on the most liberal scale, and could be utilized for general research into the diseases of men and plants, without any misappropriation or interference with its primary object. As it exists at present, there is ample room for at least four workers without their clashing, and room could be made for four more if a proposal already mooted to build a new house for the Imperial Bacteriologist were carried into effect. All appliances in the way of microscopes, sterilizers, incubators, &c., and the nucleus of an excellent library are already there and a comparatively small expenditure would be necessary to convert the institution which up to the present has cost nearly a lakh and a half from a special to a general research laboratory. The main additional cost would be the provision of quarters for the workers. The estate extends over some 3,000 acres and there are plenty of convenient building sites available. In Paris, Berlin, St. Petersburg, &c., the same institute deals with general bacteriology in relation to men, animals and plants, and the greater part of the work of the Pasteur Institute has reference to agricultural problems. The Department of Revenue and Agriculture insisted when an Indian Medical Service officer succeeded Dr. Lingard that he should confine himself to the latter, and as they had provided the laboratory for their own purposes, this was natural. There would be no necessity to interfere with the arrangement under which the Imperial Bateriologist confines himself to work for the Revenue and Agriculture Department in the investigation of the diseases of animals, and the Revenue and Agriculture Department would benefit under the scheme as a whole by getting local work done for them in the Provincial laboratories.

12. So far, then, as a Central Institute is concerned, it already exists, and the difficulties as to initial cost are eliminated. My idea is that the general management should be under an officer of sufficient administrative ability to be able to conduct the business of the office, sufficient scientific knowledge to be able to intelligently supervise the work of others and sufficient seniority to be able to maintain discipline. He would not himself be expected to do research work. For this we should have two permanent officers, one of whom could be deputed as required to make special investigations into local outbreaks of disease, as is now done in England by the specialists of the Local Government Board. One or two junior officers should be sent to assist and to learn, while the Special Health officers of Provinces might run up from time to time to carry out any special experiments, consult the library, and put themselves *au courant* with the progress of original work. The pay of the permanent officers should be on the scale abovementioned (paragraph 8) with Rs. 100 extra for the manager. The attached officers should get their grade pay *plus* Rs. 150, which would be about equivalent to regimental pay.

13. Such are in outline the essentials of the scheme. It cannot be brought into full operation at once, and Local Governments will have to be consulted as to the best means of adapting it to particular Provinces. I estimate roughly that the cost of each Provincial laboratory will be about Rs. 1,500 a month or Rs. 18,000 a year, and that of the Central Institute about Rs. 40,000 a year, or say 2½ lakhs for the whole. From this will have to be deducted sums already paid for the salaries of M. Haffkine, Mr. Hankin, the Bengal Bacteriologist, and the three Military Health Officers already employed, together with the present cost of the laboratories in which they work.

14. The Bombay laboratory is at present engaged on the special duty of preparing *anti*-plague serum, but it could easily undertake the bacteriological work of the Province at small extra cost. I propose that [illegible] should be placed permanently under the charge of Major Bannerman, who is now running it, and that M. Haffkine on his return from leave should be relieved of the routine work on which he has recently been engaged in connection with the management of the laboratory, and set free for original work at Muktesar. He is wasted over work which prevents his carrying out scientific research. The Provinces whose needs are the greatest are, I think, the Punjab and Assam. Many interesting medical problems wait for solution in both. The Punjab officer could be permitted to undertake the work of *an*[illegible]ic inoculation, which the Central Committee of the Pasteur Institute hope to get started soon. The present temporary arrangements in Bengal might continue till a whole-time specialist is available, and the other Provinces will have to wait until our supply of trained officers is larger. Captain Lamb, now under special training at Netley, will be available about the end of the year, and we have a number of young officers who are already fairly well qualified in bacteriology and only want a little more experience to be able to act as Health Officers. It is very desirable, however, that they should have further training [illegible] being appointed. The scheme under which we hope to have an Indian M[illegible]ervice officer under special instruction at Netley will give us one trained of[illegible]ear, but Professor Wright intimated to me his readiness to take two officers if asked to do so.

15. It is impossible to go into full details in a preliminary note, but if the principle is accepted by the Government of India and Secretary of State that each Province is to have a man trained in the experimental methods of investigating disease as Special Health Officer, an[illegible] research be carried on at a Central Institute, further proposals on the lines of this note will be submitted.

R. HARVEY, Surgn.-Genl.,
Director-General, Indian Medical Service.

2nd May 18[illegible].

Endt. No. 2108.

Referred to the Surgeon-General for favour of early remarks.

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

[illegible] *August* 1899.

From Surgeon-General C. SIBTHORPE, C.B., F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Camp, Ootacamund, 26th August 1899, No. T-8—487.

I have the honour to return your endorsement, No. 2108, dated the 19th August 1899, referring, for my remarks, a letter from the Government of India giving cover to a scheme proposed by the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, on the subject of the need for an organization for the systematic application of modern scientific methods to the study of diseases in India.

2. As Government is aware, this subject has already attracted my attention, and my proposals, submitted from time to time, as per my letters, &c., quoted in the margin, and which are summarised below, are now before Government:—

Letter No. 278-T., dated 13th June 1895.
G.O., No. 662, Public, dated [illegible]d August 1895.
Letter No. 260, dated 9th March 1896.
G.O., No. 714, Public, dated 8th July 1896.
Letter No 516, dated 7th November 1896.
G.O., No. 1497, Public, dated 17th Nov. 1897.

Government (1899) of Madras.

PUBLIC.

Recd. } 1899. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

Letter, No. 1363, 11th December 1899.

DECEMBER.

Bacteriological Laboratories.

Replying to the proposals of the Government of India for the establishment of a central research laboratory for the whole of India with Provincial laboratories at Madras and in other cities in India for the study of health problems.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Letter—from

The CHIEF SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Home Department.

Sir,

I am directed to reply to your letter, No. 1300, dated the 9th August 1899, on the subject of the establishment of laboratories for the study of health problems.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council cordially agrees in the proposal to establish a central research laboratory for the whole of India, with a Provincial laboratory at Madras for the study of health problems connected with this Presidency and with Burma. As the Government of India is aware from the correspondence ending with your letter, No. 766, dated the 19th of July 1897, this Government had already formed the conclusion that the appointment of a specialist in bacteriology is necessary in this Presidency, not only for the study of health problems but also in connection with the requirements of medical education. The latter consideration, it appears, does not form one of the grounds upon which the Government of India's present scheme is based. But His Excellency the Governor in Council presumes that there will be no objection, when the Provincial Health officer is entertained, to assigning to him professorial duties in the local Medical College connected with the subject of bacteriology.

3. There is one point, however, in the proposed scheme in regard to which His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to suggest that further consideration is needed, namely, the method in which it is proposed to select the officers to whom the charge of the laboratories will be entrusted. The Government of India intimates that the Health officers will generally be members of the Indian Medical Service, and Surgeon-General Harvey in his note observes that the Indian Medical Service has already a large number of potential Health officers who, with practice, would develop into experts. His Excellency the Governor in Council is, however, of opinion that the employment of young officers, potentially capable but in need of further training, will, at any rate, at the outset be unsatisfactory, and I am to urge, that unless exceptionally qualified officers are already available, the first heads of the new institutions should be specialists brought out from England who are already trained, and fit for advanced bacteriological work.

4. The Government of India estimates the probable cost of each Provincial laboratory at Rs. 18,000 per annum, and intimates that the charge will fall upon provincial revenues. This expenditure not having been provided for in the assignments under "Medical," as fixed at the settlement of the existing provincial contract, I am to point out that if the scheme is to be brought into immediate effect a corresponding increase in the adjusting assignment under land revenue will be necessary. It has also to be remembered that the Madras laboratory is to undertake work for Burma.

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

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

Fort St. George,
11th December 1899.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

Current No. 18/213 of 1899. 1 Enclo: No. 1 to Letter No. 28/487 d/26/1899

Enclosure No. 3 to Letter No. 325 d/ 31.10.99

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 2265

58

From The Govt of India
(Home)

~~Order~~ Endt No. 2108/19-8-99.

Referred to the Surgeon General for favour of early remarks.

Chief Secretary

Cn
18.8.99

TO BE RETURNED
WITH REPLY.

No. 1300

Dated 9. Augt. 99

Received 16 " "

Registered 17 " "

Enclosures One

Spare copies 7 Each of C & Enclos:

SUBJECT.

Requesting an expression of opinion by the Govt of Madras on the scheme of an organization for the systematic application of modern scientific methods to the study of diseases in India.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	256	Pde.	21.4.99.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

~~Current No. 8/2228/1899~~ 2

Current No. 1449 1899

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 2379

Enclosure No. 1 to Letter No. 325 d/31-10-99

From Surgeon General C. Sibthorpe, C.B., M.R.C.P., Surgeon General with the Govt. of Madras

~~Order~~

CHIEF SECRETARY
28 AUG. 1899
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

No. 8/487

Endt. No. 2218 d/1-9-99

The Surgeon General is requested to reply at an early date to the question in para 5 of the Govt. of India letter.

A. Adnapp.
Under Secy.

1.9.99.

Dated the 26th August

Received 28 "

Registered 29 "

Enclosures 8 (C. No. 2265 Enclosures)

Spare copies. -

SUBJECT

Submitting his remarks on the proposed scheme of an Organisation for the systematic application of modern scientific methods to the study of disease in India -

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No	Department.	Date.
	256	Poll:	21.4.99.
	1497	Pub:	17.11.97
	1347	"	11.10.97 & also
	1200	"	14.9.97
	512.3	"	5.5.97 &c.
	714-5	"	8.7.96 [illegible]

~~FURTHER~~ PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	106	Pub:	22.1.96
	990	"	2.12.95 [illegible]
	571-2	"	13.7.94 &c.

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 3064

Soon

CHIEF SECRETARY
1. NOV. 1899
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Order

From
Surgeon General D. Sinclair, M.B., C.S.I., I.M.S.,
Surgeon General with the Govt: of Madras.

No. 325.

Dated 31st October.

Received
Registered } 1-11-99

Enclosures 5. Pub C Nos: 2379 & 2265 returned

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Returning the Endorsement No. 2218 dated 1st September 1897 and reporting on the question of the cost of establishing a provincial laboratory of research.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[G./24] C 24.11.99 R. 30.11.99 C 18.11.99 R 18.11.99. C 22.11.99 R. 23.11.99 5

250—13-6-99.

6

Public DEPARTMENT.

H.M. & Cir

C. No 2265. From the Govt. of India (Home Dept.), No. 1300, dated 9-8-1899.
„ 2379 „ „ Surgeon General, „ T8/487, „ 26-8-1899.
„ 3064 „ „ do do, „ 325, „ 31-10-1899.
„ „ „ „ 189 .

Note for orders.

0

In C.No.2265 the Govt. of India invites the opinion of this Govt. on a scheme which it puts forward for the establishment of a Central Bacteriological Laboratory for the whole of India, and of 5 local laboratories for the study of health problems. Under this scheme a laboratory would be established at Madras in which the work coming from the Madras Presidency and Burma will be undertaken.

Drft. 13/11/99.

2. In addition to inviting the general remarks of the Govt. of Madras on the proposals now put forward, the Govt. of India enquires what is the present expenditure in this Presidency on bacteriological work or anti-rabic inoculation. It appears

appears that each of the Provincial laboratories is estimated to cost about 18,000 Rs. a year which would be met from Provincial revenues, and the Govt. of India desires to ascertain the present expenditure in order to set it off against the new charges which will be involved.

3. The Govt. of India's letter was referred to the Surgeon General for early remarks, and that officer in replying× referred to certain proposals which he has himself made for the establishment of a local Bacteriologist. He did not, however, answer the question regarding the money at present expended on bacteriological work, and a further reference had therefore to be made to him on this subject. He now replies× that beyond the purchase during several years of late of small quantities of bacteriological appliances for the Hygienic Laboratory at the Medical College there has been no expenditure on bacteriological work in Civil Department. The Hygienic Laboratory will have to be maintained even if a Bacteriologist is appointed and the reply to the Govt. of India on this point may therefore be that the present expenditure is nil. // With regard to the scheme itself no remarks are called for by this Govt. In connection with the establishment of the Central Research Institute, which will be an Imperial undertaking paid for from Imperial funds. The question reduces itself to this-whether this Govt. approves of the proposal to

× cn 2379. P

× cn 3064 M

establish a Provincial Bacteriological Laboratory for which Provincial funds will have to pay about Rs. 18,000 a year.

4. . . That the establishment of a bacteriological laboratory in this Presidency is desirable ~~after~~ has for some time past ~~is~~ been recognised by Govt. Attention is invited to the note by Sir Henry Bliss, at flag XXV, in G.O.No.990, dated 2nd December 1895 and to the note by the Honourable Mr. Grose dated 19th November 1895 in the same G.O. The resolution of the Govt. of India read in the G.O. last quoted, as far as it related to bacteriological work had reference only to the establishment of a Central Imperial Institution. In the letters from the Sanitary Comissioner printed in G.O. No.714, dated 8th July 1896, however, the question of attaching a Bacteriologist to the Provincial staff in this Presidency was raised, and in that G.O. Govt. drew up a sketch of the aspects under which the necessity for a Bacteriologist appeared to present itself, and called for full information as to the practical bacteriological investigations which ~~will~~ would have to be conducted by ~~such a~~ the Bacteriologist if such an officer were appointed. As far as regards original research and education in bacteriology the G.O. stated that no further step in regard to these matters could be taken until the reorganisation

B

reorganisation of the Medical College and the redistribution of work among the chief medical officers in the Presidency Town had been carried out.

5. The replies to this G.O.are contained in G.O.No.512,Public,dated 5th May K 1897.From a perusal of these replies and of the previous papers Govt. formed the opinion that it was impossible to provide satisfactorily for the conduct even of routine bacteriological examinations without setting apart for that purpose the whole time of an officer. Govt. therefore determined to propose to the Govt. of India the creation of a new appointment- that of a Govt. Bacteriologist.Attention is invited to letter No. 513,Public,dated 5th May 1897,flagged K ,which sets out clearly the views of Govt.as to the necessity for such an appointment. The Govt. of India replied in its letter dated 19th July 1897,No. 766,fully sympathising with the views of this Govt. but suggesting that, as L the moment was inopportune for the consideration of any proposals involving an increase ih expenditure, a commencement might be made by relieving the Professor of Hygiene of his hospital and purely medical duties, and employing him on bacteriological work. At the same time the Govt. of India asked that, if this Govt. considered the above proposal impracticable, a proposition statement might be submitted setting forth in detail and completely the cost of this Govt's. proposal, in order that the Govt. of India might be in possession of full information to enable it to deci

---

the scheme should be recommended to the Secretary of State. The Govt. of India's letter was referred to the Surgeon General who considered that a separate Bacteriologist was absolutely necessary. The Director of Public Instruction concurred as regards the needs of the Medical College. The Surgeon General submitted a proposition statement in which he provided for a Bacteriologist on a pay rising from Rs. 700 to 1250, for an assistant whose average cost would be Rs. 267 and for an attender on Rs. 12., the total average cost of the establishment amounting to Rs. 1594 a month. At the time when this letter was received a reference had been made to the Surgeon General as to the general rearrangement of medical appointments in Madras so as to strengthen the staff of the Medical College and General Hospital, and in accordance with the notes in G.O. No.1347 dated 11th October 1897, at flag XXI, the papers regarding provision for bacteriological work were recorded.

6. It thus appears that the proposal to appoint a separate Bacteriologist accords entirely with the views of this Govt. as already expressed to the Govt. of India. The estimated cost of Rs. 18,000 a year is stated to include the cost of appliances etc.required for the Bacteriologist's use. The Govt. of India's scheme is therefore a rather ~~a~~ less expensive one than that originally put forward by this Govt. which, as shown

XXIII

in the Surgeon General's proposition statement in G.O.No.1347, dated 11th October 1897, involves an average monthly expenditure of nearly Rs. 1600 on establishment alone.

7. There is one point, however, to which the special attention of the Govt. of India should, it is submitted, be invited. Dr. Harvey's scheme apparently makes no reference to the necessity for teaching bacteriology. But the original proposal of this Govt. to appoint a Bacteriologist was based to a large extent upon the necessity for including proper tuition in that subject in the Medical College curriculum, and the necessity for providing immediately an officer to teach Practical Bacteriology in that institution has lately been brought to notice by the Educational Dept. This subject has also been discussed in the papers connected with the reorganisation of the Medical College in which ~~it has been~~ as the Honourable Mr. Arundel has noted, that a trained Bacteriologist is required for teaching purposes. These papers are not now available having been sent unofficially to the Surgeon General. But the necessity for providing for bacteriological tuition in the Medical College appears to be established, and it is submitted that in replying to India's letter it may be pointed out that it would be necessary that the officer appointed to perform bacteriological work in Madras should undertake, in addition, professorial duties.

* ade papers separately
[illegible] at the bottom of
the file

Yes
AKA

---

8. In connection with the financial aspect of the present proposal one point arises. Dr. Harvey suggested the establishment of a separate Health Officer for each command in addition to the officers to be appointed to each Presidency. The Govt. of India, however, has omitted this part of Dr. Harvey's scheme and proposes that the Bacteriologist at Madras should undertake work sent to him from the Madras Presidency and from Burma as well, apparently, as that to be done for the Military Dept. As far as the Military work is concerned it is submitted that this Govt. need raise no objection. But in connection with the performance of work for the Govt. of Burma it seems only fair that during the continuance of the present Provincial contract a portion of the cost of the new establishment should be debited to Burma. Orders are requested whether this may be pointed out to the Govt. of India.

15/11/99

17.11.99

Please see amended note.

17.11.99

We shall have to ask for a special assignment in any case. The disposal of work from Burma is an additional reason.

AKA

29.11.99

9 | 12

Public Department.

scheme.

NOTE

The result arrived at in the Draft G.O. on the reorganisation of the Medical College was, that a Bacteriologist was to be provided by taking the Dy. Sanitary Commissioner for the work and giving Dr.King instead, a Senior Asst. Surgeon to act as an Inspector. The reason for the above course was the hopelessness of getting the Secretary of State to sanction the employment of another Commissioned Officer as Bacteriologist. India now offers such an officer. To accept its offer will entirely fit in with our necessities. As to the provision of funds the 13,000 which will be Provincial will, if we fight for it, be provided by India to some degree any way by a special increase of assignment. If not, India will put the charge on Provincial in spite of our protests by reducing the D.P.W. grant in the next Budget. We shall probably get more in this matter by falling in with India's proposals.

I think therefore that without waiting for the disposal of the question of the reorganization of the

Medical

[illegible]

I agree - What is wanted
[illegible] Special training
[illegible]
[illegible]

G.O.

Medical College which, in every way, the creation of this Bacteriological appointment must facilitate, Govt. should at once say that it accepts India's ~~pre sechem~~. scheme.

17.11.

I agree with the foregoing note. The S. G. should be informed U.O. of the proposal as he has the proposals for the reorganization of Medical Coll. & Genl. Hospital before him.

We ought to point out to India that in this Presy. we require the Bacteriologist for professorial duties as well for research & investigation.

I think the weak point in Genl. Harvey's scheme is his proposal for ~~ree~~ appointing & recruiting the special officers. See passages marked in blue pencil paras 7 & 14. No institution in Europe wd. think of starting bacteriological work except with the assistance of trained ~~specially~~ specialists. Young man just out of college "potentially" capable, but in need of "further training" are not the style of man required. Genl. Harvey naturally desires that they should be Commissd. officers in the Indian Medical Service. We have already contested this view in our Despatch to the Secy. of S. and I think we should urge that unless exceptionally qualified officers such as Major Bannerman are already available, the heads of the new institutions should at any rate at the outset be specialists already trained & fit for advanced bacteriological work, and imported for the work from England, & not young officers of the I.M.S.

AA
18. 11. 99

I agree - What is wanted over & above special training is boundless enthusiasm & love of experiment & research

22-11-99.

I accept the Hon. Mr. Arundel's conclusions.

A.E.H.
29.11.99

C Nos 2265
" 2379
" 3064

Tell S. G. D-O about this proposal.

21/11

Draft do please

Submitted.
21/xi/99

Despd 21-11-99

Public Dept

D/O - of 21. 11- 99.

My Dear Surgeon Genl -

With reference to the proposals of the Govt of India the establishment in this Presy of a laboratory for bacteriological research des with in your No S/487 da 26th August last I write to in form you that Govt consider that the Govt of India's sche exactly fitting in, as it does, with the need which has bee so strongly felt by this Govt, for a long time past, for a Commissioned Officer specially appointed for bacteriological work, should be accepted.

It is proposed, therefore, to at once address the Govt of India, strongly endorsing the scheme for the ~~appointment~~ creation of the Bacteriological appointment in this Presy, without waiting for the final disposal of the question of the reorganisa-

-tion of the Medical College, the draft proposals for which are now with you. ~~[illegible]~~

This development ~~may~~ will, of course, to some extent, modify those proposals as they were made, largely, in view of the anticipated difficulty in getting the sanction of the Secy of State to the entertainment of a Commissioned Officer as Bacteriologist.

Yours sincerely

F.W.G.
21/xi/33

[illegible]
21.xi.33

CS The file may now [illegible] ?

[illegible]
21.xi.33

[illegible] file
SD
21/xi/20

[illegible]
21.xi.33.

Copied by Swami Dorai.

Bacteriological Laboratories

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

A letter to the Govt. of India on the subject of the proposed Bacteriological Laboratory is submitted. It is understood that the question of a special assignment from Imperial to meet the cost involved during the present contract should not now be raised. It may, it is submitted, be separately considered when the Govt. of India introduces the scheme now proposed.

[illegible]
11/xii/33

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

A new para has been added in accordance with the H.E.'s orders.

I have consulted the C.A. who suggests that from the point of view of Fin. it is best to assume that the compensation will be made. If this line is taken the reference to Burma will weaken this Govt.'s position; it has therefore been omitted in the draft.

AK
4/xii/48

[G/24]
500-[illegible]-99.

R. 2. 12. 99. R. 8. 12. 99 18 6

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. 990 Pub. d/ 2-12-95.
" 714/5 " " 8- 7-96.
" 572/3 " " 5- 5-97.
" 1347 " " 11-10-97 } = P.

Shows proof
21/12/98

10 B

C. No. 2265 From the Govt. of India, Home Dept., No. 1300, dated 9 - 8 - 1899. = A with A of encl.
Endorsement thereon = A
" 2379 " " Surgeon General " " I.8/487, " 26 - 8 - 1899 = A
Endorsement thereon = A
" 3064 " " do do , " 325, " 31 - 10 - 1899 = A
" " " , " , " 189 .

Issue in MS first

ACA
6.12.99

H.W.
6-12-99

A.S.H.
7.12.99

P.S.

Order:- 1362 d/ 11. 12. 99

The Govt. of India will be addressed.

Please add a paragraph on the financial question vide p. 5 of O. note. If we don't mention it now we shall get nothing. Now the Home Dept. may say it ought to be given and Financial will have to listen. If we have to address Financial afterwards unsupported we shall certainly get nothing.

ACA
2.12.99.

H.M. again.

A para has accordingly been added to the draft.

4/12/99

Letter. 1363 d/ 11. 12. 99.

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of India,
Home Department.

Secy's Dept. 21/12/99
Desp. 11/12/99

Sir,

I am directed to reply to your letter, No. 1300, dated the 9th August 1899, on the subject of the establishment of laboratories for the study of health problems.

2. H.E. the Governor in Council cordially agrees in the proposal to establish a Central Research Laboratory for the whole of India, with a Provincial Laboratory at Madras for the study of health problems connected with this Presidency

19

and with Burma. As the Govt. of India is aware from the correspondence ending with your letter, No. 766, dated the 19th of July 1897, this Govt. had already formed the conclusion that the appointment of a specialist in Bacteriology to ~~was~~ necessary in this Presidency, not only for the study of health problems but also in cennection with the requirements of medical education. The latter consideration, it appears, does not form one of the grounds upon which the Govt. of India's present scheme is based. But H.E. the Governor in Council presumes that there will be no objection, when the Provincial Health Officer is entertained, to assigning to him professorial duties in the local Medical College connected with the subject of Bacteriology.

3. There [was] one point, however, in the proposed scheme in regard to which H.E. the Governor in Council desires to suggest that ~~a~~ further consideration is needed, namely, the method in which it is proposed to select the officers to whom the charge of the laboratories will be entrusted. The Govt. of India intimates that the Health Officers will generally be members of the Indian Medical Service, and Surgeon General Harvey in his note observes that the Indian Medical Service has already a large number of potential Health Officers who, with practice, would devlope into experts. H.E. the Governor in Council is, however, of opinion that the employment of young officers, potentially capable but in need of further training will, at any rate, at

is AH

20 110

the outset be unsatisfactory, and I am to urge, that unless exceptionally qualified officers are already available, the first heads of the new institutions should be specialists brought out from England who are already trained, and fit for advanced bacteriological work.

AH
1/xii/99

1/12

AH 6.12.99

4. The Govt. of India estimates the probable cost of the each provincial laboratory at Rs 15,000 per annum, and intimates that the charge will fall upon Provincial revenues. This expenditure not having been provided for in the assignments under 'Medical', as fixed at the settlement of the existing provincial contract, I am to point out that if the scheme is to be brought into immediate effect a corresponding increase in the adjusting assignment under Land Rev. will be necessary. ×

AH
4/xii/99

4/12

× It has also to be remembered that the Madras laboratory is to undertake work for Burma.

AH

AH
6-12-99

7.12.99