Public Works (1898) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 210. Rly

DATED 5th Feby 1898.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague

Pros. Ld Dept, recording letter from the Govt of Bengal forwarding copy of the Plague Regulations issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, recorded

Indexed. 1/3

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

(Railway)

Public Works (1897) Department.

Ry CURRENT No. 210



Ry

From

The Local & Municipal Deptt.

Order. No. 210. Ry dated 5/12/98.

Recorded.

No. 2763 M. mis

CMR

Dated 10-12-97

DR.

Received } 14-12-97

Registered }

Enclosures

Spare copies

Telepd out to Govt 22/12/97

SUBJECT.

Bubonic Plague.

Agent Madras Ry
S.I. Ry
Nilgiri Ry
Contr Store Ry
Madura S.C. Ry

Recording letter from the Govt. of ~~Bombay~~ Bengal forwarding copy of the Plague Regulations issued under Sec. 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

7/12/97
DR
17/12/97

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION—No. 8.

Darjeeling, the 26th June 1897.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, Home Department, No. 302, dated the 4th February 1897, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to direct that persons travelling by the East Cost Railway in the direction of Puri shall be inspected at the station of Khurda Road. The provisions of Plague Notification No. 2, dated the 10th February 1897, shall apply to all such inspections.

H. H. Risley,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

E. J. H.—Reg. No. 5976C—200—2-12-97.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

DARJEELING, THE 10TH NOVEMBER 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 1465T.—M.

READ—

A letter from the Indian Medical Association, dated the 23rd March 1897, submitting certain suggestions for arresting the spread of the bubonic plague.

A memorial without date from certain Muhammadan gentlemen, suggesting modifications in the draft rules framed by the Government of Bengal under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

An extract from the *Statesman* newspaper of the 4th September 1897, reporting the proceedings of an informal meeting held at the Bengal Council Chamber on the 2nd September 1897, for the purpose of discussing certain draft rules under the Epidemic Diseases Act.

Read again—

Plague Notifications Nos. 1, 4 and 5, dated the 10th February 1897, and Nos. 6 and 7, dated the 12th March 1897.

Several months ago the Government of Bengal took into consideration the question of modifying some of the Regulations issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, in the light of the experience gained in combating plague in Western India. That experience seems to show that the distinction between isolated cases and a well-defined outbreak, which was recognised when the Bengal Regulations were framed, cannot be safely maintained, and that whatever precautions may be authorised by law must be brought into force directly a single case occurs. Although Regulations Nos. 6 and 7 of the 12th March are not based on this distinction, they are not as comprehensive as Regulations Nos. 4 and 5, and in respect of segregation they are far more severe. It is also for many reasons desirable that the Regulations should conform as closely as possible to those in force in neighbouring Provinces.

2. Representations were at the same time received from the Muhammadan community and the Indian Medical Association on the subject of these Regulations, and it came in various ways to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice that some alarm had been caused among both Hindus and Muhammadans by the prospect of the existing Plague Regulations, especially those relating to segregation, being brought into force. In order to allay the apprehensions of the native community, without abating the stringency of the measures necessary to combat the plague successfully in this Province, the Lieutenant-Governor caused a fresh set of rules to be drafted and circulated to a number of representative Muhammadan gentlemen for opinion. A deputation of Muhammadans was at the same time received by the President of the Medical Board, who on two occasions discussed with them and with the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality the points which they considered open to objection in the draft rules. They afterwards submitted the memorial which is referred to in the preamble. The views of the Hindu community were believed to be expressed in the letter from the Indian Medical Association. These memorials were fully considered by Government, and the requests therein made were as far as practicable given effect to in the draft Regulation, rule 31 of which admitted in a modified form the system of home-segregation of sick persons, provided that suitable accommodation were available, and that the expenses of isolation, including watch and ward, medical attendance and complete disinfection were deposited with the Health Officer beforehand.

3. Just as the Regulation was ready for publication, Dr. Lowson, who had worked at Hongkong during the outbreak of plague at that place, and had

acquired further experience of the disease as Joint Plague Commissioner with the Government of Bombay, arrived in Bengal, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie thought it right to consult him on the subject. After making a thorough inspection of Calcutta and Howrah with reference to the facilities for combating an outbreak of plague in either town, Dr. Lowson expressed his opinion that the system of home-segregation authorised by rule 31 of the draft Regulation as it then stood was likely to prove absolutely ineffectual in the event of even a few cases of plague occurring, and that to proceed on those lines would be to court disaster. The Lieutenant-Governor fully recognised the social objections to enforcing immediate removal to hospitals and segregation camps, and at first declined to modify the rule; but after once more personally discussing the question with Dr. Lowson, His Honour was driven to the conclusion that no system of home-segregation could be successfully worked in Calcutta. It seemed to him unwise to reject the teachings of experience in a matter of this importance, more especially as Dr. Lowson attributed much of the mortality in Bombay to futile efforts to carry out home-segregation in the early stages of the epidemic, and to the failure to realise the imperative necessity of isolating all sources of infection as soon as possible. Rule 31 of the Regulation was therefore amended in consultation with Dr. Lowson, so as to stand thus:—

"If on examination of a sick person the Health Officer suspects that such person is suffering from or infected with plague, he may cause such person to be removed to a hospital, and may arrange for his detention, dieting and medical treatment therein. He may also cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days.

"When particular castes or classes of the community have constructed at their own cost private hospitals and segregation camps, the site and plan of which have been approved by the Health Officer, and have arranged, to that officer's satisfaction, for the medical administration of such hospitals and camps, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire and if accommodation is available, be removed to the private hospital or segregation camp constructed for the use of the caste or class to which they belong, instead of to a public hospital or camp.

"In both public and private camps and hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and in the case of a female who by the custom of the country does not appear in public, her *parda* shall be strictly preserved both in removal to the camp or hospital and during her stay there. The friends and servants of sick persons shall be permitted to accompany them to hospital, but shall be subject to the same rules as regards segregation as if they were sick themselves."

In the meantime the great diminution of plague in the Bombay Presidency had made the danger to Calcutta remote, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie considered it unnecessary to excite alarm among the Native residents of Calcutta by publishing a rule, which it might never be necessary to enforce. The Regulation was accordingly held in abeyance.

4. The position has since undergone a change for the worse. Plague has revived in Bombay and Puna, and has spread to several other places in that Presidency, and it has also appeared at Madras and in the neighbourhood of Jalandhar in the Punjab and Hardwar in the North-Western Provinces. The Officiating Lieutenant-Governor cannot avoid the conclusion that the persistence of the disease in Western India, and the fact of its having shown itself further eastward than it has hitherto done, and on the main lines of communication with Northern and Southern India, constitute a real source of danger to Bengal, and render it necessary to adopt further precautions for the protection of the Province, and more especially of the city of Calcutta. His Honour has therefore again considered the official correspondence on the subject of the draft Regulation and the papers cited in the preamble. The letter of the Indian Medical Association has special value in relation not only to the problem of warding off or suppressing an outbreak of plague without doing unnecessary violence to the feelings of the people, but also to the larger question of the sanitation of Calcutta and municipal towns generally. The Association lay stress on the "utterly insanitary condition of Calcutta" and its "unprepared state," * * * * "a state of things which hygienically may be said to invite epidemic disease, and subsequently to harbour it for an almost undefined and unlimited period." As regards segregation, they admit "the absolute necessity of the most strenuous carrying out of the recent enactment of the Government of India with regard to segregation." They refer with approval to the proposal that "the wealthy members of each sect of Indians should provide their

own separate and special segregation hospitals, wherein arrangements could be made for zanana and *parda-nashin* ladies, their attendants and relatives, on a style that would be quite in keeping with their caste and religious usages." In the absence of such arrangements, they suggest that, "so far as the wealthier classes of Hindus and Muhammadans are concerned, domestic segregation of a special kind might be adopted. For example, we find the houses of our great Indian cities are large, and all are provided with expansive flat roofs or terraces. When plague breaks out in a house of this sort, it is possible to isolate the sufferer by transferring him or her to a specially erected thatched room on the terrace, with a special attendant; and such arrangements could be made so as to shut off all communication with the terrace and other parts of the buildings." The Muhammadan memorialists referred to above, while objecting generally to segregation as such, ask that, in all cases where patients cannot be segregated in their own houses, they may be segregated in buildings or huts close by. The wishes and sentiments of both communities in respect of this subject were recently fully expressed at the Conference presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Glass, which was attended by the leaders of Hindu and Muhammadan society in Calcutta. His Honour entirely sympathises with their desire that, in guarding against the great calamity of an outbreak of plague in Calcutta, as little violence as possible should be done to the social traditions and usages of the upper classes of Natives, and he is anxious to make every concession that is consistent with the paramount duty of preventing the spread of the disease. With this object rule 31 of the draft Regulation (46 of that now published) has been further amended to the following effect:—

46. *Segregation.*—(1) If on examination of any person the Health Officer suspects that such person is suffering from or infected with plague, he may cause such person to be removed to a hospital, and may arrange for his detention, dieting and medical treatment therein. He may also cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days. In the case of *parda-nashin* ladies, a lady doctor shall conduct the examination.

(2) When private plague hospitals or segregation camps have been provided and fully equipped by or for particular castes, classes, joint-familes, or associations of families, and the Health Officer, or in Calcutta two members of the Plague Commission empowered for this purpose by the President, have in writing approved of the site, plan, furniture and arrangements for medical administration of such hospitals and camps, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire and if accommodation is available, be removed to the private hospital or segregation camp constructed for the use of the caste, class or family to which they belong, instead of to a public hospital or camp.

(3) In both public and private camps and hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and in the case of a female who by the custom of the country does not appear in public, her *parda* shall be strictly preserved, both in removal to the camp or hospital and during her stay there.

(4) The relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids*, and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them during the day time, subject only to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(5) Members of the family of a sick person who are in attendance on him may also be admitted to the hospital, whether public or private, provided that they shall sleep in the compound in suitable accommodation provided for the purpose, and not in the hospital itself.

Explanation 1.—It is not necessary that hospitals provided in accordance with this rule should be constructed in remote or inconvenient situations.

Explanation 2.—In Calcutta, persons desirous of taking advantage of clause (2) should at once communicate with the Plague Commission, and satisfy that body of their ability to provide adequate hospitals and camps when plague breaks out. In other places, application should be made to the Health Officer.

Explanation 3.—In Calcutta, private hospitals and camps may be closed by order of the Plague Commission, if the Health Officer reports that medical attendance and segregation are not maintained to his satisfaction, or that the conditions on which such camps or hospitals were sanctioned are not complied with. In other places, the power of closing private hospitals and camps will be exercised by the Magistrate of the district on the report of the Health Officer.

It will be seen that, following the analogy of the second clause* of rule 12 of Regulation No. 4 of the 10th February 1897, which was based upon a suggestion made by a Native gentleman to the President of the Medical Board, the system of caste and class hospitals, which

* "Provided that when the Medical Board is satisfied that suitable and sufficient accommodation for the complete segregation of infected and suspected persons and efficient medical attendance have been provided by an association of families, it may exempt such families from the provisions of this Regulation. This exemption may be withdrawn if the Health Officer reports that medical attendance and segregation are not maintained to his satisfaction."

has worked successfully in Bombay, has been extended under certain conditions to joint-families or associations of families. This concession will render it possible for the upper classes of the Native community to secure for themselves and their families complete privacy in the event of their being attacked by plague, and being required in the interests of the general public to submit themselves to segregation. The question is one merely of organisation and of expense; and the cost will be nominal in comparison with the heavy losses which a prolonged visitation of plague would entail upon all residents of Calcutta, whether house-owners, traders or professional men. On such an occasion, the poorer members of these classes may fairly expect the richer members to assist them in preserving their social usages intact by providing special hospitals and camps for them to take refuge in. This is what has been done by Native gentlemen in Bombay, and Mr. Stevens hopes that the Native gentlemen of Bengal will not be backward in following their example. The Marwari traders of Calcutta have already expressed their readiness to provide a special hospital for themselves; and the fact that a donation of Rs. 2,000 has recently been received from Hajee Moosajee Ahmed Salajee for the purpose of providing additional comforts for Muhammadan gentlemen who may be detained at Khana, encourages the Lieutenant-Governor to believe that wealthy Muhammadans will also come forward to assist the poorer members of their faith. His Honour thinks it probable that the provisions of clause (2) of rule 46 will be very largely resorted to, and hopes that persons intending to take advantage of that clause will lose no time in communicating with the Plague Commission. When plague actually breaks out, it will be too late to make any but the simplest arrangements, and persons who have not organised their private hospitals beforehand will find themselves compelled to resort to those provided for the public.

5. The remaining requests of the memorialists have been met as far as possible in the rules. They are mistaken in supposing that rule 52 empowers the Health Officer to give directions as to the method of burial. The rule refers only to the method of removing the corpse. In order, however, to concede as much as possible to the feelings of the memorialists, the Chairman of the Corporation will be directed to ascertain what method of preventing risk of infection in the process of removing a corpse will be least open to ceremonial objections, and that method will be prescribed for observance. In the matter of the use of disinfectants, it will be for the Committee appointed under rule 32 to see that a reasonable practice is followed. The question of maintaining dependants while the working member of a family is undergoing segregation, is provided for by rules 49 and 55.

6. In order to secure the prompt and concerted action which the experience of other Provinces has shown to be indispensable in dealing with plague, the powers conferred by the Regulation in respect of Municipalities and Cantonments are vested in District or Cantonment Magistrates, and, in Calcutta, in the Chairman of the Corporation. Such powers are of two classes. Some come into operation at once, and the rest remain in abeyance until a case of plague occurs in the Municipality or Cantonment concerned, or in a place near enough to cause risk of infection. The former class comprises—

(*a*) Power to point a Health Officer and staff for Municipalities or groups of Municipalities (rule 24).
(*b*) Power to appoint committees of inspection (rule 32).
(*c*) Power to carry out certain general sanitary precautions (rule 33).
(*d*) Power to deal with insanitary premises and blocks of huts, overcrowded dwellings, rag-picking and rag stores (rules 34-36).
(*e*) Power to provide hospitals and segregation camps (rules 37 and 38).

It will be for Magistrates to decide, in consultation, if necessary, with the Plague Commission, what action should be taken at once under each of these heads. In some of the larger Municipalities general sanitary precautions have already been carried out in accordance with instructions issued by Government earlier in the year. The Regulation will enable these operations to be continued in a more systematic manner and at less cost to the municipal funds. In other places, it is believed that comparatively little has been done. The attention of the Magistrates of Hooghly, Howrah and the 24-Parganas is directed to the condition of the small Municipalities on either bank of the river Hooghly near Howrah and Calcutta. These are a source of special danger by

reason of their position and surroundings, and the number of mill hands and other labourers who reside in them under conditions peculiarly liable to promote the rapid dissemination of plague. It will probably be found desirable to form these Municipalities into groups for the purposes of action under rules 24, 33, 34 and 35.

7. In respect of the construction of hospitals and segregation camps and the provision of medical staff, beds, furniture, medicines, disinfectants and the other machinery for combating an actual outbreak of plague, it should be clearly understood that no large expenditure need be immediately incurred. In view of the fact that an outbreak may, under favourable circumstances, be warded off by prompt isolation of sporadic cases not of local origin, it is essential that some hospital accommodation for such cases should be made available everywhere. But this may be of the cheapest type, and in many places it may be possible to make use of the infectious wards of existing hospitals or dispensaries. As regards the further and more elaborate measures requisite for dealing with an actual outbreak, it will be sufficient at present to make such arrangements as will render it possible to take effective action at a moment's notice. Every District Magistrate should, therefore, at once prepare, for all municipal towns in which he considers such a precaution is called for, a scheme based upon the memorandum by the Sanitary Commissioner on Plague Hospitals and Segregation Camps, which is appended to this Resolution, and should submit it to the Secretary to the Plague Commission for examination and approval with any explanation of local circumstances that may be necessary. In the case of Calcutta, it is understood that a scheme has already been prepared by the Chairman. This should now be revised, if necessary, with reference to the memorandum, and submitted to the Plague Commission. Given a definite plan of operations, showing exactly what is to be done and how it is to be done, the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that it will be found possible, in the event of occasion arising, to organise the measures requisite with the minimum of delay.

8. The occurrence of an ascertained case of plague should be reported, by telegram, if necessary, to the Local Government, the Secretary to the Plague Commission, the Sanitary Commissioner, and, in places outside Calcutta, to the Commissioner of the Division.

9. The opportunity has been taken to add to the numbers of the Medical Board appointed by the Government Resolution No. 937T.—M., dated 10th October 1896, to define its functions more precisely, and to change its designation, which has given rise to some misapprehension, from "Medical Board" to "Plague Commission."

10. The probable working of the Regulation has been very carefully considered, and the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that all classes of the community will assist the Government in its efforts to prevent the spread of plague in these Provinces.

ORDER.—Ordered that copies of the Resolution, with copies of the Rules, be forwarded to the members of the Plague Commission, Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, all Commissioners of Divisions, all Magistrates (direct), for information and communication to the Municipalities and District Boards in their jurisdiction, Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, Sanitary Commissioner, Officers Commanding Cantonments, Deputy Adjutant-General, Bengal, for the information of the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Bengal; all Departments of Government; also to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Trades' Association, Calcutta.

Ordered, also, that the Resolution with the revised Rules be communicated to the Government of India, Home Department.

Ordered, further that the Resolution with the Rules be communicated to newspapers and published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. H. RISLEY,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Circular No. 10T.—M.

Copy of the Resolution, with copy of the Rules, forwarded to

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

B. FOLEY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Darjeeling,
The 10th November 1897.

T. N. B.—Reg. No. 5936C—500—1-12.97.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION—No. 9.

Darjeeling, the 10th November 1897.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (*1*) of section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department, No 302, dated 4th February 1897, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased to prescribe the following Regulation for preventing the spread of the bubonic plague, in supersession of the Regulations prescribed by Plague Notifications Nos. 1, 4 and 5, dated the 10th February, and Nos. 6 and 7, dated the 12th March :—

Part I.—Appointment of Plague Commission.

1. The following gentlemen are appointed to form a Plague Commission for the purpose of advising the Government, the district and railway officials, heads of departments, Municipalities and District Boards, as to the measures to be taken in order to prevent the outbreak and check the spread of bubonic plague within the territories subject to the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and of discharging such further duties as may hereafter be assigned to them :—

The Hon'ble H. H. Risley, C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Medical Department	*President.*
The Hon'ble Sir Patrick Playfair, KT., C.I.E.	*Members.*
The Hon'ble M. C. Turner	
The President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce ...	
The Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department	
The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal	
The Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal	
The Principal of the Medical College, Calcutta	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Sanders ...	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. O'Brien	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Joubert ...	
Brigade-Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Russell ...	
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lewtas	
Surgeon-Major A. W. D. Leahy	
The Inspector-General of Police, Bengal	
The Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta	
Dr. Mohendra Lall Sircar	
Dr. Koilash Chunder Bose	
Maulavi Zuhir-ud-din Ahmed, Honorary Assistant Surgeon to His Excellency the Viceroy	
Mr. W. Banks Gwyther, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department	*Secretary.*

Part II.—Rules relating to Villages and Non-Municipal Towns.

2. *Appointment of plague authorities.*—In every local area where there is danger of plague, the District Magistrate, subject to the general instructions of the Commissioner, may appoint special officers, either by name or by virtue of office, to devise and carry out, under the District Magistrate's general directions all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the plague. The special officers appointed for any local area under these rules shall be known as plague authorities.

3. *Duties of proprietors of lands.*—Every village headman, every owner and occupier of land and the agent thereof, and every person employed in the collection of revenue by Government or the Court of Wards, shall use his best endeavours to secure full compliance with the following provisions as to the immediate reporting to the nearest police-station of the occurrence of each case of plague on his property, as to the segregation of the sick and their attendants, as to the disinfection of the houses of persons who have suffered from plague, and as to the disposal, in accordance with the customs of their religion, of the bodies of those who have died.

4. *Duties of Station and Outpost Officers, Rural Police and Chaukidari Panchayats.*—Every rural policeman (chaukidar) shall forthwith report to his police-station or outpost the name of every person who has arrived in his village from any area declared to be infected with bubonic plague, together with the name of the householder with whom he resides, and shall also report fresh arrivals as they occur. Members of chaukidari panchayats are required to see that the above duty is faithfully performed. The names so reported, with dates, will be entered in a *Special List* to be kept at police-stations and outposts. The Station Officer shall also enter in the *Special List* the names and addresses of travellers from infected areas which are reported to him by the Railway Police under rule 13. He shall also, for the space of ten days next following after the persons shown in the *Special List* arrived in his jurisdiction, cause the state of health of such persons to be specially reported to him.

5. Every rural policeman shall report any excessive mortality among rats or monkeys that may occur.

6. Every rural policeman shall be liable, on the requisition of the police-station or outpost officer, to do 24 hours duty at any railway station situated within the police-station or outpost jurisdiction, and to perform there such duties as shall hereafter be prescribed by circular or departmental orders.

7. *Rural Policemen to be present at Railway Stations.*—The District Superintendent of Police, in consultation with the District Magistrate, will arrange that two or, if necessary, more than two chaukidars shall be present throughout the 24 hours at such railway stations in his district as shall hereafter be notified from time to time. This arrangement will be made under his orders by the police-station or outpost officer, who will be held responsible that each pair or batch of chaukidars is regularly relieved after 24 hours' duty, and that each man receives subsistence allowance at the rate of two annas a day. This subsistence allowance will be paid from District Board or other District Funds under arrangements to be made by the Magistrate.

8. *Inquiry to be made when death reported of person entered in Special List.*—On receiving intimation of the illness or death of any person entered in the *Special List* referred to in rule 4 or of any person residing in the same household, the station or outpost officer shall institute inquiry to ascertain whether the deceased has or had symptoms of plague as described in the memorandum annexed, and shall report his action by an entry in red ink in the Station Diary. He shall also inform the nearest plague authority.

9. *Increased mortality in villages to be inquired into.*—Whenever the deaths reported from any village are more numerous than usual, and especially sudden deaths due to fever, the station or outpost officer shall forthwith make enquiries in order to ascertain whether the symptoms of bubonic plague existed, and will, when forwarding "The weekly statement of deaths to the Civil Surgeon," prescribed by Bengal Police Circular No. 2 of March 1897, call the Civil Surgeon's attention to the increased rate of mortality.

10. *Results of enquiry under preceding rules to be reported to Civil Surgeon.*—The station or outpost officer shall forthwith report to the Civil Surgeon and to the nearest plague authority the result of the enquiries made under either of the last two preceding rules, and shall make an entry in red ink for the information of the District Superintendent and Magistrate in the Station Diary which is despatched daily.

11. *Magistrates and superior Police Officers required to supervise.*—Magistrates and the superior police officers should, whenever practicable, attend the weekly muster parades at which all the rural policemen are assembled, so as to be able by interrogation and by enquiry to satisfy themselves that the rules laid down in this Regulation are being duly carried out.

12. *District and Rural Police to assist plague authorities.*—The District and Rural Police shall give to the plague authorities any assistance they may require to enable them to carry out the duties they have to perform under this Regulation.

13. *Duties of Railway Police.*—Assistant Inspectors-General of the Railway Police are required to work in cordial co-operation with the District Police. It is their duty to arrange, on the arrival of trains, that the railway police prepare lists containing the names and residences of travellers from infected areas; these lists, after being checked from the tickets collected, will be forwarded to the station police. When there is reason to suspect that a traveller has given either a wrong name or wrong residence, one of the chaukidars referred to in rule 7 will be sent with him to verify the information given. A small itinerant staff will be sanctioned for each Assistant Inspector-General to ensure that the rules prescribed for observance at railway stations are being strictly carried out, and that travellers are not evading examination and observation by alighting at intermediate stations and taking fresh tickets.

14. *Breaking railway journey.*—In the event of a traveller from an infected area alighting at an intermediate station with the object of obtaining a fresh ticket, so as to conceal the fact that he comes from an infected area, the Railway Police will take down his name and the number of the fresh ticket issued, and will send information down the line so that he may, on alighting, be placed under observation.

15. *Duties of plague authorities.*—Immediately on receiving information under the preceding rules, or whenever he thinks house visitation necessary, the plague authority shall go to the place indicated, and if the place be a house or dwelling-place, and if the occupants thereof do not (on his demand) allow him to enter and give him reasonable facilities for ascertaining whether any of the inmates are suffering from the plague, such authority is empowered to enter into such house or any part thereof by force, and to detain, for the purpose of medical examination, any person found therein to be suffering or suspected to be suffering from the plague, or in his opinion likely to have been infected, *e.g.*, owing to his having lived in the same house with a plague patient. Such plague authority, if he be not himself a medical officer, shall without delay send word to the nearest medical officer in the service of Government or of any local authority, and such medical officer, whether appointed a plague authority for the locality or not, shall be bound to come to the place indicated and examine and report on the case If the case prove to be one of plague, the plague authority may, in his discretion, proceed under rules 43 to 52 inclusive so far as they are applicable.

16. A plague authority is empowered to have the cause of death inquired into in every case, and, unless satisfied, to treat the case as one of plague.

17. Every medical officer appointed under these rules as a plague authority is empowered to examine all persons whom he discovers, or about whom he receives information under the provisions of the preceding rules, and to detain and segregate persons suffering or

suspected by him to be suffering from the plague, in such places as may be appointed by the District Magistrate or officer specially deputed by him in this behalf for the accommodation of such persons respectively. For the purpose of segregating people, the District Magistrate, or officer specially authorised by him in this behalf may take possession of and occupy any vacant ground or building, such compensation being afterwards made to the owner or occupier thereof as may be fixed under rule 55.

18. If a medical officer appointed under these rules as a plague authority has reason to believe that any building used or intended to the used as a dwelling is or has been occupied by a sufferer from the plague, or if it appears to him that any such building is in such an insanitary condition as to be unfit for human habitation, he may prohibit by a written order the further use of such building as a dwelling-house. When any such prohibition has been made, no owner or occupier of such building shall use, or suffer the same to be used, for human habitation until the said officer gives him written permission in this behalf. For the purpose of enforcing this rule, the said officer may, if necessary, forcibly remove, or cause to be removed, any person from such building.

19. If a medical officer appointed under these rules as a plague authority consider it necessary that the inhabitants of the village in which bubonic plague is prevalent should be located in a temporary settlement at a distance from the village, in the manner indicated in rule 50, he shall make a report to that effect to the Magistrate of the district, and the latter may direct the inhabitants to vacate their houses accordingly. The houses shall in this case not be again occupied till they are certified by a medical officer to have been thoroughly disinfected.

20. Should plague appear in a village, the people of surrounding villages should be warned to have no communication with the infected village until the disease has completely disappeared.

21. *Duties of the Public.*—Every person to whom an order is given by any plague authority with regard to his segregation, the disinfection of his house or personal property, or with regard to any other matter falling under these rules, shall duly obey that order.

Part III.—Rules relating to Municipal Towns and Cantonments.

22. The following rules apply to every Municipality and to every Cantonment. Rules 23 to 42 and 55 to 57 inclusive, and rule 46, so far as it relates to the preparation of schemes for private hospitals and camps and their approval by the Plague Commission or the Health Officer, as the case may be, shall come into force at once They shall forthwith be translated into the vernacular of the district, and deposited in the office of the District Magistrate, the Cantonment authority, and the Municipal Commissioners, and a copy shall be posted up in a conspicuous position at such office and in such other public places as the Magistrate of the district, the Cantonment authority or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may direct. And a public proclamation shall be made throughout the Municipality or Cantonment by beat of drum, notifying that such copy has been so posted up, and that the original is open to inspection in the office of the Municipal Commissioners or Cantonment authority. The remaining rules shall come into force in any Municipality or Cantonment as soon as the Magistrate of the district or the Cantonment authority or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, is satisfied that a case of plague has occurred in that Municipality or Cantonment, or in a place near enough to cause risk of the infection spreading. In every such case the rules shall be published in the manner prescribed above.

23. *Health Officer defined.*—The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of the district, and include a Civil Medical Officer, a Military Medical Officer in charge of a Cantonment, an Assistant Surgeon in medical charge of a district or subdivision or a municipal dispensary, and a Medical Officer appointed by the District Magistrate under rule 24. In Calcutta, Health Officer means the Health Officer of Calcutta, and includes an Assistant Health Officer.

24. *Appointment of Health Officers.*—In every Municipality or Cantonment where there is danger of plague, the District Magistrate, subject to the general instructions of the Commissioner, may appoint a Health Officer, either by name or by virtue of office to devise and carry out, under the District Magistrate's general directions, all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the plague, and may fix his pay. He may also appoint such subordinate staff to assist the Health Officer in carrying out his duties as he may consider necessary, and may fix their pay. For the purposes of this rule, the District Magistrate may group Municipalities and Cantonments, and may appoint a Health Officer and staff for the combined area. In Calcutta these powers shall be exercised by the Chairman of the Corporation, subject to the instruction of the Local Government.

25. *Duties of Town Police at Railway Stations.*—When a railway station is situated within or close to municipal boundaries, the railway police, in co-operation with the town police, will arrange to meet trains on arrival and to prepare lists containing the names and residences of travellers from infected areas who may alight. These lists, after being checked against the tickets collected, will then be sent to the town police-stations. When a traveller is suspected of giving a wrong name or wrong residence, one of the town policemen present will be sent with him to verify the information given.

26. *Town Police to report arrivals from infected parts and to keep them under observation.*—The town police are required to report at once to the police-station the name of every person

arriving from parts of the country infected with the bubonic plauge who take up their temporary or permanent residence within the limits of their beats. The names so obtained, together with those referred to in the preceding rule, with dates of entry, will be entered in the *Special List* to be kept at town police-stations. A copy of this *Special List* will be sent to the District or Cantonment Magistrate and to the Health Officer, all new names being notified to them without delay. The town police are required to submit daily reports regarding the health of all the persons in the *Special List*, until a period of ten days from date of arrival has expired. In Calcutta the list shall be sent and reports shall be made to the Commissioner of Police and Health Officer

27. *Duties of Railway Police when travellers from infected areas break their journey and take fresh tickets.*—In the event of a traveller from infected areas alighting at an intermediate station with the object of obtaining a fresh ticket so as to conceal the fact that he is a traveller from an infected area, the Railway Police will take down his name and the number of the fresh ticket issued, and will send information down the line, so that he may, on alighting, be brought under observation.

28. *Town Police to report illness or death from bubonic plague.*—On receiving information of illness or death from bubonic plague, the officer in charge of a town police-station shall forthwith report the matter to the District or Cantonment Magistrate, and shall also make an entry in red ink in the Station Diary for the information of the District Superintendent and Magistrate. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Commissioner of Police and Health Officer.

29. *Unless otherwise specially authorised, duties of Town Police confined to reporting.*—Beyond reporting the fact of illness or death, no police officer shall take any action under the rules in this Part except under a written order of the executive or sanitary authority, which he shall be bound to show on the application of the head of the house.

30. *Magistrates and superior police officers required to supervise.*—Magistrates and superior officers of police are required to satisfy themselves by frequent personal inspection that the above rules prescribing the duties of the police are strictly carried out.

31. *Police required to assist the Health Officer.*—All police officers are required to give to the Health Officer such assistance as he may consider necessary in carrying out the rules of this Notification. In Calcutta such assistance shall be given by the Commissioner of Police on the requisition of the Chairman of the Corporation.

32. *Committees of Inspection.*—In every Municipality and Cantonment, Committees of inspection may be appointed by the Magistrate of the district or the Cantonment Magistrate for the purpose of assisting the Health Officer in performing his duties under these rules. Each Committee should usually consist of four members, two Hindus and two Muhammadans, for each ward of a Municipality or definite portion of a Cantonment; and their most important duties will be to accompany the Health Officer on his rounds of inspection, to explain the necessity of the sanitary measures adopted, to assist in causing these to be carried out, and to bring to notice any complaints that may be made or abuses that they may discover. At least one Hindu and one Muhammadan on each Committee shall, if possible, be medical men. In Calcutta the Committees may be appointed by the Chairman of the Corporation in consultation with the Commissioner of Police. In places where a large proportion of the population consists of persons other than Hindus or Muhammadans, the Committees shall, if possible, comprise representatives of the races and religions chiefly affected by the rules in each ward.

33. *General sanitary precautions.*—In any Municipality or Cantonment the Magistrate of the district, or any Magistrate authorized by him in this behalf, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may issue general orders that by a certain specified date certain sanitary precautions of a simple nature, such as the lime-washing of houses, the cleaning of latrines, the removal of filth and rubbish, and of partitions which obstruct light and ventilation, shall be carried out within any specified area, and all persons residing within such area shall be bound to give effect to these orders. In Calcutta these powers shall be exercised by the Chairman of the Corporation. If within such time such persons fail to carry out the operations specified in the notice, the Health Officer may, with the sanction of the Magistrate of the district or of the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, enter upon the premises at any time between sunrise and sunset, after giving such notice of his intention as shall under the circumstances appear to him to be reasonable, and carry out the measures specified above: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall give at least one hour's notice of his intention to enter such apartment, and shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing from such portion of the apartment as he may desire to enter. The expenses incurred may be recovered in the manner provided in sections 120 to 129, both inclusive, of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or as a rate under Chapter VI of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, as the case may be, from the persons who, in the opinion of the Magistrate of the district, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, may fairly be held responsible.

34. *Insanitary premises and blocks of huts.*—When any premises or any block of huts are in such an insanitary state as in the opinion of the Health Officer to make the inmates thereof especially liable to an attack of the bubonic plague, he may require the owner by notice to have the whole or any portion of such premises cleansed within a specified time in such manner as may appear to him necessary, and may in consultation, if necessary, with a competent engineer, direct the owner to remove all structures, partitions, erections or portions of house-walls which obstruct light and ventilation. If within such time the owner fails to

carry out the operations specified in the notice, the Health Officer may, with the sanction of the Magistrate of the district or of the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, enter upon the premises at any time between sunrise and sunset, after giving such notice of his intention as shall, under the circumstances, appear to him to be reasonable, and carry out the measures specified above: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall give at least one hour's notice of his intention to enter such apartment, and shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing from such portion of the apartment as he may desire to enter. The expenses incurred may be recovered in the manner provided in sections 120 to 129, both inclusive, of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or as a rate under Chapter VI of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, as the case may be, from the owner or from the persons who, in the opinion of the Magistrate of the district, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, may fairly be held responsible.

35. *Overcrowded dwellings.*—When a dwelling is so overcrowded as, in the opinion of the Health Officer, to make the inmates thereof especially liable to an attack of the bubonic plague, the Magistrate of the district or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairmain of the Corporation, may, by a notice posted on some conspicuous part of the dwelling, require the owner or the occupier, if actually residing in the dwelling, or the tenants or the actual inmates thereof, to abate the overcrowding within 24 hours by reducing the number of lodgers, tenants or other inmates of the said dwelling as prescribed in the notice, or to vacate the dwelling. In default of compliance with the requisition in the said notice, the Magistrate of the district or Cantonment Magistrate or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may summarily eject all the inmates, or reduce the number of inmates in such manner and to such extent as may appear necessary. The inmates so ejected shall be provided, when necessary, with temporary accommodation.

36. *Prohibition of rag-picking.*—No person, except municipal or cantonment servants, shall pick up rags or other refuse in the streets or elsewhere; nor shall rags or refuse be transported, except under such conditions as may be prescribed by the Health Officer. Any person picking up rags or other refuse in the streets or elsewhere shall be liable to be arrested by the police. The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may disinfect or at his discretion destroy any collection of rags in rag-pickers' houses or rag stores.

37. *Provision of hospitals.*—It shall be lawful for the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, to select a site and erect a hospital thereon, or to convert any building, not being a place of worship, into a hospital for the isolation of patients suffering from the plague, in any locality which, in the opinion of the Health Officer, may be suitable for the purpose. In such hospital separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, having regard to their rank and station in life. The owner or lessee of such site or building shall not be entitled to claim from the Magistrate, Cantonment Magistrate or Chairman anything beyond a reasonable rent for the period during which the site or building may remain in his occupation. Before vacating the building, the Magistrate, Cantonment Magistrate or Chairman shall cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected, both externally and internally.

38. *Provision of accommodation.*—It shall be lawful for the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, to select a site and erect thereon temporary accommodation, or to convert any building, not being a place of worship, into accommodation for the segregation of persons suspected to be infected with plague, or for the residence of persons compelled to vacate their houses under these Regulations. The owner or lessee of such site or building shall not be entitled to claim from the Magistrate, Cantonment authority or Chairman anything beyond a reasonable rent for the period during which the site or building may remain in his occupation. Before vacating the building, the Magistrate, Cantonment Magistrate or Chairman shall cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected both internally and externally.

39. *Reports from factories.*—Every occupier of a factory shall, on employing in his factory any person who has come from any area declared to be infected with bubonic plague, immediately report in writing to the Magistrate of the district the fact of such employment and the name and address of the person employed. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Chairman of the Corporation.

The word "factory" used in this rule means any premises wherein is carried on any process for, or incidental to, making, altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing or otherwise adapting for use or sale any article or part of an article, and wherein steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of any such process.

40. *Report by householder.*—If in any house a person suffers from sudden fever, glandular swellings in the neck, armpits or groin, pain in the chest with cough and feeling of oppression, or delirium, or dies from such fever or with any of the foregoing symptoms, the owner of such house, or, if the owner be non-resident, the occupier, or the person who collects rent for the house or any part of it, shall forthwith report the occurrence of such illness or death at the nearest police-station. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Health Officer or at the nearest police-station by any person who would be bound, under section 186 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, to give information of a death in the house.

41. If there is or has been resident in any house a person who has come from any area declared to be infected with bubonic plague, the owner of such house or, if the owner be non-resident, the person who collects the rent of the house or any part of it, shall report at the nearest police-station (1) the illness of any person in such house, or (2) the death of any person in such house, immediately such illness is apparent or death occurs. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Health Officer or at the nearest police-station by any person who would be bound under section 186 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, to give information of a death in the house.

42. *Report by medical practitioner.*—Any medical practitioner who attends in any house a case which he has reason to believe to be a case of bubonic plague shall forthwith report such illness to the nearest police-station. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Health Officer.

43. *Disinfection, cleansing, etc., by householder.*—The owner and occupier of any house in which a case of plague has occurred, and the head of any family resident therein, shall comply with any direction that may be issued by the Health Officer with regard to the disinfection and cleansing of the house, the disinfection or destruction of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, the improvement of the sanitary condition of the premises, the removal, in consultation with a competent engineer, of all partitions, erections or portions of house walls which obstruct light and ventilation, and other sanitary matters; and shall permit the Health Officer (who shall endeavour to procure the attendance of a member of the Committee appointed under rule 32) to enter his house or permises for the purpose of inspection: Provided that, when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall not enter such an apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw. In such inspections the Health Officer shall, if possible, always be accompanied by a male member of the family.

44. *Disinfection, cleansing, etc., by Health Officer.*—The Health Officer shall, if he considers it necessary, himself take measure for the disinfection of the house and for the other matters referred to in the preceding rule. Should the Health Officer think it necessary and practicable to burn or otherwise destroy any non-masonry and inflammable structure, he will report the case to the Magistrate of the district or Cantonment Magistrate, or in Calcutta to the Chairman of the Corporation, and act on his orders. The Magistrate of the district, or in his absence the Magistrate in charge of his duties, or the Cantonment Magistrate, and in Calcutta the Chairman of the Corporation, may order the burning or destruction of any hut or other temporary structure, if disinfection cannot be satisfactorily effected otherwise, awarding compensation to persons who are so poor as to be unable to replace at their own expense the structure that has been burnt or destroyed.

45. *Right of entry and examination.*—The owner and occupier of any house shall permit the Health Officer to enter his premises and examine any person whom such Health Officer, has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic plague. If the person be a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the examination shall be made through a female doctor, female hospital assistant or other female agency.

46. *Segregation.*—(1) If on examination of any person under the last preceding rule the Health Officer suspects that such person is suffering from or infected with plague, he may cause such person to be removed to a hospital, and may arrange for his detention, dieting and medical treatment therein. He may also cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days.

(2) When private plague hospitals or segregation camps have been provided and fully equipped by or for particular castes, classes, joint families or associations of families, an the Health Officer, or, in Calcutta, not less than two members of the Plague Commission empowered thereto by the President, have in writing approved of the site, plan, furniture and arrangements for isolation and medical administration of such hospitals and camps, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire and if accommodation is available, be removed to the private hospital or segregation camp constructed for the use of the caste, class or family to which they belong, instead of to a public hospital or camp.

(3) In both public and private camps and hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and in the case of a female who by the custom of the country does not appear in public, her *parda* shall be strictly preserved, both in removal to the camp or hospital and during her stay there.

(4) The relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids* and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them during the day-time, subject only to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(5) Members of the family of a sick person who are in attendance on him may also be admitted to a hospital, whether public or private, provided that they shall sleep in the compound in suitable accommodation provided for the purpose, and not in the hospital itself.

Explanation 1.—It is not necessary that hospitals provided in accordance with this rule should be constructed in remote or inconvenient situations.

Explanation 2.—In Calcutta, persons desirous of taking advantage of clause (2) should at once communicate with the Plague Commission, and satisfy that body of their ability to provide adequate hospitals and camps when plague breaks out. In other places application should be made to the Health Officer.

Explanation 3.—In Calcutta private hospitals and camps may be closed by order of the Plague Commission, if the Health Officer reports that medical attendance and segregation are not maintained to his satisfaction, or that the conditions on which such camps or hospitals were sanctioned are not complied with. In other places this power of closing private hospitals and camps will be exercised by the Magistrate of the district on the report of the Health Officer.

47. If in any case a person removed to a public or private hospital is accompanied by friends or attendants, the Health Officer may require so many of them as are not in personal attendance on the patient to live in the immediate neighbourhood of the hospital in segregation huts or tents provided for the purpose, and to remain in such place until they receive permission from the Health Officer to depart.

48. If a person is attacked with bubonic plague while so segregated, the Health Officer shall remove such person to a public or private hospital, and may treat his friends and attendants as provided in the preceding rule.

49. Upon the death of a sick person from bubonic plague, the Health Officer may cause the other occupants of the house in which the person was ill or in which his death took place to be removed to a segregation camp and detained there for ten days. Provided that this rule shall not apply to any medical practitioner, *hakim* or *baid* who may at any time attend upon a sick person, or to professional corpse-bearers, mourners and friends who have not been in attendance on the deceased. The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may grant subsistence allowance at rates suitable to their station in life, to persons detained under this rule.

50. *Evacuation of street or quarter.*—If bubonic plague has become prevalent in a portion of a Municipality or Cantonment, the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, with the sanction of Government, direct the inhabitants of any street, muhalla or other locality to vacate their houses and to remove to a temporary settlement at a distance from the infected quarter. The District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, when necessary, provide such persons with temporary accommodation. Each householder shall be permitted to make suitable arrangements for the care of his house and property during his absence, and the Municipal Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrate, as the case may be, will arrange for the watch and ward of the empty houses. After evacuation, the Health Officer shall arrange for the thorough disinfection and cleansing of the empty premises, and the inhabitants shall not be permitted to return until the premises have been certified to be free from infection.

51. *Duty of compliance.*—A person dealt with under the foregoing rules, and any person who may be removed to a hospital by order of the Military Medical authorities or of the Health Officer of the Port of Calcutta shall comply with any directions that may be given to him by the Health Officer with regard to his removal to, and residence in, an observation shed, public or private hospital or place of segregation, and with respect to disinfecting or burning of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, or with respect to any other sanitary matter. He shall not depart from any such place without the written permission of the Health Officer.

52. *Disposal of dead.*—The friends of the deceased shall be permitted to dispose of the corpse by cremation or burial in accordance with their religious practices, but they shall obey the directions of the Health Officer or other sanitary or executive authority as to the time, route and method of removing the corpse to the burial or cremation place. In the event of the failure or refusal of relatives or friends of the deceased to dispose of the body, the Health Officer shall dispose of it in accordance with the religion of the deceased. The corpses of Europeans or Muhammadans who die of plague shall be buried, if possible, at least six feet deep. The place of burial, if not an authorized cemetery, should be far from habitations, and should be so situated that there may be no risk of contaminating sources of water-supply. The coffin and cloth used to cover the corpse, when not interred with the corpse, shall be destroyed. In cases where cremation is the custom, the body shall be completely burned at the usual burning ghât or other isolated locality in accordance with custom, the cloths brought in contact with the body being either burnt according to custom or disinfected.

53. *Ambulances.*—The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, shall provide suitable conveyances, painted in a conspicuous manner, for the free carriage of persons suffering, or suspected to be suffering, from the plague, and it shall be lawful to drive or carry such conveyances through any public or private thoroughfare.

54. *Disinfection of public conveyances.*—Any conveyance, public or private, that has been used by a person infected with, or suspected of being infected with, plague shall be thoroughly disinfected and exposed to air and sunlight for not less than twenty-four hours before being again used, and all articles of furniture belonging to it, which in the opinion of the Health Officer cannot be properly disinfected, shall be destroyed by fire.

Part IV.—Rules of General Application.

55. *Compensation.*—The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under these regulations; provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever. In deciding claims to compensation, the Magistrate, or the

Large glazed earthen gumlahs are necessary for the steeping of soiled clothes in antiseptic solutions.

Staff of hospital containing 60 beds—

1 Civil Surgeon or Civil Medical Officer.
2 Or more Hospital Assistants.
1 Compounder.
6 European nurses, if possible.
2 Ayahs.
10 Ward boys (sepoys make admirable ward orderlies).
2 Cooks, Hindu.
1 Cook, Muhammadan.
2 Dhobies.
10 Mehters and domes.

Principal medicines required—

Calomel and epsom salts.
Bromide of potash.
Opium preparations.
Liquor hydrargyri perchloridi.
Mustard and turpentine.
Stropanthus.
Digitalis.
Strychnine.
Iron preparations.
Ether and ammonia.
Iodoform.
Antiseptic dressings.

The rest to be left to the medical officer concerned. The use of antipyretics, such as antifebrin, phenacetin, should be avoided, as they produce unfavourable results in plague cases.

Stimulants.—Good commissariat rum will be found the cheapest and best; brandy is too expensive to be used on a large scale. A few drops of pippermint-oil should be added to each bottle of rum, to prevent its being purloined by the ward boys.

Antiseptics—

Percloride of mercury.
Quick-lime.
Chloride of lime.
Carbolic acid.
These should be employed for important disinfections.
Phenyle and the coal-tar derivatives can be used for flushing drains, etc.
Sulphur can be employed in fumigating houses.
Chinese pumps must be used when the corrosive sublimate solution is being employed as a disinfectant, as it destroys metals.

Composition of a search party—

1 Medical officer.
1 Lady doctor or skilled nurse.
Members of the Ward Committee,
1 Locksmith.
A guard of 20 police or sepoys.
Ambulances, doolies and bearers.

Composition of a disinfecting party—

2 Sub-Inspectors.
2 Jamadars.
50 Coolies.

Central offices—

Each sanitary circle must possess a Central Office. The staff should consist of—
1 Head clerk.
2 or more under clerks.
1 Chaukidar.

Three to six ambulances (doolies) should be kept at the Central Office. Also bullock carts for the conveyance of the relatives of the sick to hospital.

Segregation Camps—Are of two kinds, one belonging to the Government or Municipality, the other established by sections of the native community for their own use.

The following are the details of a Government camp in Bombay :—

The enclosure measured 150′ × 140′, and was surrounded by mat walls 4′ high. Inside were barracks for single males, females, and families. Moveable screens were also provided to form compartments inside.

Separate quarters were provided for the nurse and Assistant Surgeon. There was also a dispensary building and office.

There were good pattern latrines, hydrants, and bathing platforms, with half section glazed drainage pipes leading from them, lamps and lamp-posts, and separate cook-sheds for Hindus and Musalmans.

The staff was as follows :—

1 Hospital Assistant.
1 European nurse.
2 Brahmin cooks.
Police and sepoy guards.
Sweepers and ayahs.

Every person's temperature was taken once daily, and, if necessary, twice.

Free rations and aerated waters were supplied. The adults were provided with cheap playing cards, and the children with marbles. In one of the private segregation camps the inhabitants were supplied by their co-religionists with *pan supari*, sweetmeats, fruit and *cheroots*.

H. J. Dyson,
Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal.

The 8th November 1897.

T. N. R.—Reg. No 5936C—500—1-12-97.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL—No. 4981.

CALCUTTA, THE 29TH NOVEMBER 1897.

FROM H. H. RISLEY, ESQ., C.I.E.,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

SIR,

IN accordance with the instructions contained in the letter from the Government of India in the Home Department, No. $\frac{6.\text{Sany.}}{604}$, dated the 20th February 1897, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, a copy of the Plague Regulations noted in the margin, which have been issued by this Government under section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

Plague Notification No. 8, dated 26th June 1897.
Ditto No. 9, dated 10th November 1897.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

H. H. RISLEY,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Local and Municipal Department.

Order, No. 2763 in this, dated 10th December 1897.

Recorded.

(True Extract)

Actg. Secretary to Govt.

Copy to the Public Works Deptt. (Railway Branch).
" " " Surgeon-General.
" " " Sanitary Commnr.

E. J. H.—Reg. No. 5828C—98—29.11.97.

G.O., Mis. No. 2763 M., Local and Municipal, dated 10th December 1897.

Read—the following papers :—

From H. H. RISLEY, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras (Municipal Department), dated Calcutta, 29th November 1897, No. 4981, Medical.

In accordance with the instructions contained in the letter from the Government of India in the Home Department, No. $\frac{6\text{-Sany.}}{604}$, dated the 20th February 1897, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, a copy of the Plague Regulations noted in the margin, which have been issued by this Government under section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

Plague Notification No. 8, dated 26th June 1897.
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ORDER—Mis. No. 2763 M., Local and Municipal, dated 10th December 1897.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION, No. 8.

Darjeeling, the 26th June 1897.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India, Home Department, No. 302, dated the 4th February 1897, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to direct that persons travelling by the East Coast Railway in the direction of Puri shall be inspected at the station of Khurda Road. The provisions of Plague Notification No. 2, dated the 10th February 1897, shall apply to all such inspections.

(Signed) H. H. RISLEY,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

Darjeeling, the 10th November 1897.

Resolution—No. 1465 T.—M.

READ—

A letter from the Indian Medical Association, dated the 23rd March 1897, submitting certain suggestions for arresting the spread of the bubonic plague.

A memorial without date from certain Muhammadan gentlemen, suggesting modifications in the draft rules framed by the Government of Bengal under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

An extract from the *Statesman* newspaper of the 4th September 1897, reporting the proceedings of an informal meeting held at the Bengal Council Chamber on the 2nd September 1897, for the purpose of discussing certain draft rules under the Epidemic Diseases Act.

Read again—

Plague Notifications Nos. 1, 4 and 5, dated the 10th February 1897, and Nos. 6 and 7, dated the 12th March 1897.

Several months ago the Government of Bengal took into consideration the question of modifying some of the regulations issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, in the light of the experience gained in combating plague in Western India. That experience seems to show that the distinction between isolated cases and a well-defined outbreak, which was recognised when the Bengal Regulations were framed, cannot be safely maintained, and that whatever precautions may be authorized by law must be brought into force directly a single case occurs. Although Regulations Nos. 6 and 7 of the 12th March are not based on this distinction, they are not as comprehensive as regulations Nos. 4 and 5, and in respect of segregation they are far more severe. It is also for many reasons desirable that the Regulations should conform as closely as possible to those in force in neighbouring Provinces.

2. Representations were at the same time received from the Muhammadan community and the Indian Medical Association on the subject of these Regulations, and it came in various ways to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice that some alarm had been caused among both Hindus and Muhammadans by the prospect of the existing Plague Regulations, especially those relating to segregation, being brought into force. In order to allay the apprehensions of the native community, without abating the stringency of the measures necessary to combat the plague successfully in this province, the Lieutenant-Governor caused a fresh set of rules to be drafted and circulated to a number of representative Muhammadan gentlemen for opinion. A deputation of Muhammadans was at the same time received by the President of the Medical Board, who on two occasions discussed with them and with the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality the points which they considered open to objection in the draft rules. They afterwards submitted the memorial which is referred to in the preamble. The views of the Hindu community were believed to be expressed in the letter from the Indian Medical Association. These memorials were fully considered by Government, and the requests therein made were, as far as practicable, given effect to in the draft Regulation, rule 31, of which admitted in a modified form the system of home-segregation of sick persons, provided that suitable accommodation were available, and that the expenses of isolation, including watch and ward, medical attendance and complete disinfection were deposited with the Health Officer beforehand.

3. Just as the Regulation was ready for publication, Dr. Lowson, who had worked at Hongkong during the outbreak of plague at that place, and had acquired further experience of the disease as Joint Plague Commissioner with the Government of Bombay, arrived in Bengal, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie thought it right to consult him on the subject. After making a thorough inspection of Calcutta and Howrah with reference to the facilities for combating an outbreak of plague in either town, Dr. Lowson expressed his opinion that the system of home-segregation authorised by rule 31 of the draft Regulation as it then stood was likely to prove absolutely ineffectual in the event of even a few cases of plague occurring, and that to proceed on those lines would be to court disaster. The Lieutenant-Governor fully recognised the social objections to enforcing immediate removal to hospitals and segregation camps, and at first declined to modify the rule; but after once more personally discussing the question with Dr. Lowson, His Honour was driven to the conclusion that no system of home-segregation could be successfully worked in Calcutta. It seemed to him unwise to reject the teachings of experience in a matter of this importance, more especially as Dr. Lowson attributed much of the mortality in Bombay to futile efforts to carry out home-segregation in the early stages of the epidemic, and to the failure to realise the imperative necessity of isolating all sources of infection as soon as possible. Rule 31 of the Regulation was therefore amended in consultation with Dr. Lowson, so as to stand thus:—

"If on examination of a sick person the Health Officer suspects that such person is suffering from or infected with plague, he may cause such person to be removed to a hospital, and may arrange for his detention, dieting and medical treatment therein. He may also cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days.

"When particular castes or classes of the community have constructed at their own cost private hospitals and segregation camps, the site and plan of which have been approved by the Health Officer, and have arranged, to that officer's satisfaction, for the medical administration of such hospitals and camps, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire, and if accommodation is available, be removed to the private hospital or segregation camp constructed for the use of the caste or class to which they belong, instead of to a public hospital or camp.

"In both public and private camps and hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and in the case of a female who, by the custom of the country, does not appear in public, her *parda* shall be strictly preserved both in removal to the camp or hospital and during her stay there. The friends and servants of sick persons shall be permitted to accompany them to hospital, but shall be subject to the same rules as regards segregation as if they were sick themselves."

In the meantime the great diminution of plague in the Bombay Presidency had made the danger to Calcutta remote, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie considered it unnecessary to excite alarm among the native residents of Calcutta by publishing a rule, which it might never be necessary to enforce. The Regulation was accordingly held in abeyance.

4. The position has since undergone a change for the worse. Plague has revived in Bombay and Poona, and has spread to several other places in that Presidency, and it has also appeared at Madras and in the neighbourhood of Jalandhar in the Punjab and Hardwar in the North-Western Provinces. The Officiating Lieutenant-Governor cannot avoid the conclusion that the persistence of the disease in Western India, and the fact of its having shown itself further eastward than it has hitherto done, and on the main lines of communication with Northern and Southern India, constitute a real source of danger to Bengal, and render it necessary to adopt further precautions for the protection of the Province, and more especially of the city of Calcutta. His Honour has therefore again considered the official correspondence on the subject of the draft Regulation and the papers cited in the preamble. The letter of the Indian Medical Association has special value in relation not only to the problem of warding off or suppressing an outbreak of plague without doing unnecessary violence to the feelings of the people, but also to the larger question of the sanitation of Calcutta and municipal towns generally. The Association lay stress on the "utterly insanitary condition of Calcutta" and its "unprepared state," * * * * "a state of things which hygienically may be said to invite epidemic disease, and subsequently to harbour it for an almost undefined and unlimited period." As regards segregation, they admit "the absolute necessity of the most strenuous carrying out of the recent enactment of the Government of India with regard to segregation." They refer with approval to the proposal that "the wealthy members of each sect of Indians should provide their own separate and special segregation hospitals, wherein arrangements could be made for zanana and *parda-nashin* ladies, their attendants and relatives, on a style that would be quite in keeping with their caste and religious usages." In the absence of such arrangements, they suggest that, "so far as the wealthier classes of Hindus and Muhammadans are concerned, domestic segregation of a special kind might be adopted. For example, we find the houses of our great Indian cities are large, and all are provided with expansive flat roofs or terraces. When plague breaks out in a house of this sort, it is possible to isolate the sufferer by transferring him or her to a specially erected thatched room on the terrace, with a special attendant; and such arrangements could be made so as to shut off all communication with the terrace and other parts of the buildings." The Muhammadan memorialists referred to above, while objecting generally to segregation as such, ask that, in all cases where patients cannot be segregated in their own houses, they may be

segregated in buildings or huts close by. The wishes and sentiments of both communities in respect of this subject were recently fully expressed at the conference presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Glass, which was attended by the leaders of Hindu and Muhammadan society in Calcutta. His Honour entirely sympathises with their desire that, in guarding against the great calamity of an outbreak of plague in Calcutta, as little violence as possible should be done to the social traditions and usages of the upper classes of Natives, and he is anxious to make every concession that is consistent with the paramount duty of preventing the spread of the disease. With this object rule 31 of the draft Regulation (46 of that now published) has been further amended to the following effect:—

46. *Segregation.*—(1) If on examination of any person the Health Officer suspects that such person is suffering from or infected with plague, he may cause such persons to be removed to a hospital, and may arrange for his detention, dieting and medical treatment therein. He may also cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days. In the case of *parda-nashin* ladies, a lady doctor shall conduct the examination.

(2) When private plague hospitals or segregation camps have been provided and fully equipped by or for particular castes, classes, joint-families, or associations of families, and the Health Officer, or in Calcutta two members of the Plague Commission empowered for this purpose by the President, have in writing approved of the site, plan, furniture and arrangements for medical administration of such hospitals and camps, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire, and if accommodation is available, be removed to the private hospital or segregation camp constructed for the use of the caste, class or family to which they belong, instead of to a public hospital or camp.

(3) In both public and private camps and hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and in the case of a female who, by the custom of the country, does not appear in public, her *parda* shall be strictly preserved, both in removal to the camp or hospital and during her stay there.

(4) The relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids*, and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them during the day time, subject only to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(5) Members of the family of a sick person who are in attendance on him may also be admitted to the hospital, whether public or private, provided that they shall sleep in the compound in suitable accommodation provided for the purpose, and not in the hospital itself.

Explanation 1.—It is not necessary that hospitals provided in accordance with this rule should be constructed in remote or inconvenient situations.

Explanation 2.—In Calcutta, persons desirous of taking advantage of clause (2) should at once communicate with the Plague Commission, and satisfy that body of their ability to provide adequate hospitals and camps when plague breaks out. In other places, application should be made to the Health Officer.

Explanation 3.—In Calcutta, private hospitals and camps may be closed by order of the Plague Commission, if the Health Officer reports that medical attendance and segregation are not maintained to his satisfaction, or that the conditions on which such camps or hospitals were sanctioned are not complied with. In other places, the power of closing private hospitals and camps will be exercised by the Magistrate of the district on the report of the Health Officer.

It will be seen that, following the analogy of the second clause* of rule 12 of Regulation No. 4 of the 10th February 1897, which was based upon a suggestion made by a Native gentleman to the President of the Medical Board, the system of caste and class hospitals, which has worked successfully in Bombay, has been extended under certain conditions to joint-families or associations of families This concession will render it possible for the upper classes of the Native community to secure for themselves and their families complete privacy in the event of their being attacked by plague, and being required in the interests of the general public to submit themselves to segregation. The question is one merely of organisation and of expense; and the cost will be nominal in comparison with the heavy losses which a prolonged visitation of plague would entail upon all residents of Calcutta, whether house-owners, traders or professional men. On such an occasion, the poorer members of these classes may fairly expect the richer members to assist them in preserving their social usages intact by providing special hospitals and camps for them to take refuge in. This is what has been done by Native gentlemen in Bombay, and Mr. Stevens hopes that the Native gentlemen of Bengal will not be backward in following their example. The Marwari traders of Calcutta have already expressed their readiness to provide a special hospital for themselves; and the fact that a donation of Rs. 2,000 has recently been received from Hajee Moosajee Ahmed Salajee for the purpose of providing additional comforts for Muhammadan gentlemen who may be detained at Khana, encourages the Lieutenant-Governor to believe that wealthy Muhammadans will also come forward to assist the poorer members of their faith. His Honour thinks it probable that the provisions of clause (2) of rule 46 will be very largely resorted to, and hopes that persons intending to take advantage of that clause will lose no time in communicating with the Plague

* "Provided that when the Medical Board is satisfied that suitable and sufficient accommodation for the complete segregation of infected and suspected persons and efficient medical attendance have been provided by an association of families, it may exempt such families from the provisions of this Regulation. This exemption may be withdrawn if the Health Officer reports that medical attendance and segregation are not maintained to his satisfaction."

Commission. When plague actually breaks out, it will be too late to make any but the simplest arrangements, and persons who have not organised their private hospitals beforehand will find themselves compelled to resort to those provided for the public.

5. The remaining requests of the memorialists have been met as far as possible in the rules. They are mistaken in supposing that rule 52 empowers the Health Officer to give directions as to the method of burial. The rule refers only to the method of removing the corpse. In order, however, to concede as much as possible to the feelings of the memorialists, the Chairman of the Corporation will be directed to ascertain what method of preventing risk of infection in the process of removing a corpse will be least open to ceremonial objections, and that method will be prescribed for observance. In the matter of the use of disinfectants, it will be for the Committee appointed under rule 32 to see that a reasonable practice is followed. The question of maintaining dependants while the working member of a family is undergoing segregation, is provided for by rules 49 and 55.

6. In order to secure the prompt and concerted action which the experience of other Provinces has shown to be indispensable in dealing with plague, the powers conferred by the Regulation in respect of Municipalities and Cantonments are vested in District or Cantonment Magistrates, and, in Calcutta, in the Chairman of the Corporation Such powers are of two classes. Some come into operation at once, and the rest remain in abeyance until a case of plague occurs in the Municipality or Cantonment concerned, or in a place near enough to cause risk of infection. The former class comprises—

(*a*) Power to appoint a Health Officer and staff for Municipalities or groups of Municipalities (rule 24).
(*b*) Power to appoint committees of inspection (rule 32).
(*c*) Power to carry out certain general sanitary precautions (rule 33).
(*d*) Power to deal with insanitary premises and blocks of huts, over-crowded dwellings, rag-picking and rag stores (rules 34–36).
(*e*) Power to provide hospitals and segregation camps (rules 37 and 38).

It will be for Magistrates to decide, in consultation, if necessary, with the Plague Commission, what action should be taken at once under each of these heads. In some of the larger Municipalities general sanitary precautions have already been carried out in accordance with instructions issued by Government earlier in the year. The Regulation will enable these operations to be continued in a more systematic manner and at less cost to the municipal funds. In other places, it is believed that comparatively little has been done. The attention of the Magistrates of Hooghly, Howrah and the 24 Parganas is directed to the condition of the small Municipalities on either bank of the river Hooghly near Howrah and Calcutta. These are a source of special danger by reason of their position and surroundings, and the number of mill hands and other labourers who reside in them under conditions peculiarly liable to promote the rapid dissemination of plague. It will probably be found desirable to form these Municipalities into groups for the purposes of action under rules 24, 33, 34 and 35.

7. In respect of the construction of hospitals and segregation camps and the provision of medical staff, beds, furniture, medicines, disinfectants and the other machinery for combating an actual outbreak of plague, it should be clearly understood that no large expenditure need be immediately incurred. In view of the fact that an outbreak may, under favourable circumstances, be warded off by prompt isolation of sporadic cases not of local origin, it is essential that some hospital accommodation for such cases should be made available everywhere. But this may be of the cheapest type, and in many places it may be possible to make use of the infectious wards of existing hospitals or dispensaries. As regards the further and more elaborate measures requisite for dealing with an actual outbreak, it will be sufficient at present to make such arrangements as will render it possible to take effective action at a moment's notice. Every District Magistrate should, therefore, at once prepare, for all municipal towns in which he considers such a precaution is called for, a scheme based upon the memorandum by the Sanitary Commissioner on Plague Hospitals and Segregation Camps, which is appended to this Resolution, and should submit it to the Secretary to the Plague Commission for examination and approval with any explanation of local circumstances that may be necessary. In the case of Calcutta, it is understood that a scheme has already been prepared by the Chairman. This should now be revised, if necessary, with reference to the memorandum, and submitted to the Plague Commission. Given a definite plan of operations, showing exactly what is to be done and how it is to be done, the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that it will be found possible, in the event of occasion arising, to organise the measures requisite with the minimum of delay.

8. The occurrence of an ascertained case of plague should be reported, by telegram, if necessary, to the Local Government, the Secretary to the Plague Commission, the Sanitary Commissioner, and, in places outside Calcutta, to the Commissioner of the Division.

9. The opportunity has been taken to add to the numbers of the Medical Board appointed by the Government Resolution No. 937 T.—M., dated 10th October 1896, to define its functions more precisely, and to change its designation, which has given rise to some misapprehension, from "Medical Board" to "Plague Commission."

10. The probable working of the Regulation has been very carefully considered, and the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that all classes of the community will assist the Government in its efforts to prevent the spread of plague in these Provinces.

ORDER.—Ordered that copies of the Resolution, with copies of the Rules, be forwarded to the members of the Plague Commission, Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, all Commissioners of Divisions, all Magistrates (direct), for information and communication to the Municipalities and District Boards in their jurisdiction, Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, Sanitary Commissioner, Officers Commanding Cantonments, Deputy Adjutant-General, Bengal, for the information of the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Bengal; all Departments of Government; also to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Trades' Association, Calcutta.

Ordered, also, that the Resolution with the revised Rules be communicated to the Government of India, Home Department.

Ordered, further, that the Resolution with the Rules be communicated to newspapers and published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

(By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.)

(Signed) H. H. RISLEY,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Circular No. 10 T.—M.

Copy of the Resolution, with copy of the Rules, forwarded to

(By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.)

DARJEELING,
10th November 1897.

(Signed) B. FOLEY,
Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PLAGUE NOTIFICATION, No. 9.

Darjeeling, the 10th November 1897.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 302, dated 4th February 1897, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased to prescribe the following Regulation for preventing the spread of the bubonic plague, in supersession of the Regulations prescribed by Plague Notifications Nos. 1, 4 and 5, dated the 10th February, and Nos. 6 and 7, dated the 12th March :—

PART I.—APPOINTMENT OF PLAGUE COMMISSION.

1. The following gentlemen are appointed to form a Plague Commission for the purpose of advising the Government, the district and railway officials, heads of departments, Municipalities and District Boards, as to the measures to be taken in order to prevent the outbreak and check the spread of bubonic plague within the territories subject to the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and of discharging such further duties as may hereafter be assigned to them :—

The Hon'ble H. H. Risley, C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Medical Department	*President.*
The Hon'ble Sir Patrick Playfair, KT., C.I.E.	*Members.*
The Hon'ble M. C. Turner	
The President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce	
The Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department	
The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal	
The Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal	
The Principal of the Medical College, Calcutta	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Sanders	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. O'Brien	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Joubert	
Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Russell	
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lewtas	
Surgeon-Major A. W. D. Leahy	
The Inspector-General of Police, Bengal	
The Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta	
Dr. Mohendra Lall Sircar	
Dr. Koilash Chunder Bose	
Maulavi Zuhir-ud-din Ahmed, Honorary Assistant Surgeon to His Excellency the Viceroy	
Mr. W. Banks Gwyther, Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department	*Secretary.*

Part II.—Rules relating to Villages and Non-Municipal Towns.

2. *Appointment of plague authorities.*—In every local area where there is danger of plague, the District Magistrate, subject to the general instructions of the Commissioner, may appoint special officers, either by name or by virtue of office, to devise and carry out, under the District Magistrate's general directions all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the plague. The special officers appointed for any local area under these rules shall be known as plague authorities.

3. *Duties of proprietors of lands.*—Every village headman, every owner and occupier of land and the agent thereof, and every person employed in the collection of revenue by Government or the Court of Wards, shall use his best endeavours to secure full compliance with the following provisions as to the immediate reporting to the nearest police-station of the occurrence of each case of plague on his property, as to the segregation of the sick and their attendants, as to the disinfection of the houses of persons who have suffered from plague, and as to the disposal, in accordance with the customs of their religion, of the bodies of those who have died.

4. *Duties of Station and Outpost Officers, Rural Police and Chaukidari Panchayats.*—Every rural policeman (chaukidar) shall forthwith report to his police-station or outpost the name of every person who has arrived in his village from any area declared to be infected with bubonic plague, together with the name of the householder with whom he resides, and shall also report fresh arrivals as they occur. Members of chaukidari panchayats are required to see that the above duty is faithfully performed. The names so reported, with dates, will be entered in a *Special List* to be kept at police-stations and outposts. The Station Officer shall also enter in the *Special List* the names and addresses of travellers from infected areas which are reported to him by the Railway Police under rule 13. He shall also, for the space of ten days next following after the persons shown in the *Special List* arrived in his jurisdiction, cause the state of health of such persons to be specially reported to him.

5. Every rural policeman shall report any excessive mortality among rats or monkeys that may occur.

6. Every rural policeman shall be liable, on the requisition of the police-station or outpost officer, to do 24 hours' duty at any railway station situated within the police-station or outpost jurisdiction, and to perform there such duties as shall hereafter be prescribed by circular or departmental orders.

7. *Rural Policemen to be present at Railway Stations.*—The District Superintendent of Police, in consultation with the District Magistrate, will arrange that two or, if necessary, more than two chaukidars shall be present throughout the 24 hours at such railway stations in his district as shall hereafter be notified from time to time. This arrangement will be made under his orders by the police-station or outpost officer, who will be held responsible that each pair or batch of chaukidars is regularly relieved after 24 hours' duty, and that each man receives subsistence allowance at the rate of two annas a day. This subsistence allowance will be paid from District Board or other District Funds under arrangements to be made by the Magistrate.

8. *Inquiry to be made when death reported of person entered in Special List.*—On receiving intimation of the illness or death of any person entered in the *Special List* referred to in rule 4, or of any person residing in the same household, the station or outpost officer shall institute inquiry to ascertain whether the deceased has or had symptoms of plague as described in the memorandum annexed, and shall report his action by an entry in red ink in the Station Diary. He shall also inform the nearest plague authority.

9. *Increased mortality in villages to be inquired into.*—Whenever the deaths reported from any village are more numerous than usual, and especially sudden deaths due to fever, the station or outpost officer shall forthwith make enquiries in order to ascertain whether the symptoms of bubonic plague existed, and will, when forwarding "The weekly statement of deaths to the Civil Surgeon," prescribed by Bengal Police Circular No. 2 of March 1897, call the Civil Surgeon's attention to the increased rate of mortality.

10. *Results of enquiry under preceding rules to be reported to Civil Surgeon.*—The station or outpost officer shall forthwith report to the Civil Surgeon and to the nearest plague authority the result of the enquiries made under either of the last two preceding rules, and shall make an entry in red-ink for the information of the District Superintendent and Magistrate in the Station Diary which is despatched daily.

11. *Magistrates and superior Police Officers required to supervise.*—Magistrates and the superior police officers should, whenever practicable, attend the weekly muster parades at which all the rural policemen are assembled, so as to be able by interrogation and by enquiry to satisfy themselves that the rules laid down in this Regulation are being duly carried out.

12. *District and Rural Police to assist plague authorities.*—The District and Rural Police shall give to the plague authorities any assistance they may require to enable them to carry out the duties they have to perform under this Regulation.

13. *Duties of Railway Police.*—Assistant Inspectors-General of the Railway Police are required to work in cordial co-operation with the District Police. It is their duty to arrange, on the arrival of trains, that the railway police prepare lists containing the names and residences of travellers from infected areas; these lists, after being checked from the tickets collected, will be forwarded to the station police. When there is reason to suspect that a traveller has given either a wrong name or wrong residence, one of the chaukidars referred to in rule 7 will be sent with him to verify the information given. A small itinerant staff will be sanctioned for each Assistant Inspector-General to ensure that the rules prescribed for observance at railway stations are being strictly carried out, and that travellers are not evading examination and observation by alighting at intermediate stations and taking fresh tickets.

14. *Breaking railway journey.*—In the event of a traveller from an infected area alighting at an intermediate station with the object of obtaining a fresh ticket, so as to conceal the fact that he comes from an infected area, the Railway Police will take down his name and the number of the fresh ticket issued, and will send information down the line so that he may, on alighting, be placed under observation.

15. *Duties of plague authorities.*—Immediately on receiving information under the preceding rules, or whenever he thinks house visitation necessary, the plague authority shall go to the place indicated, and if the place be a house or dwelling-place, and if the occupants thereof do not (on his demand) allow him to enter and give him reasonable facilities for ascertaining whether any of the inmates are suffering from the plague, such authority is empowered to enter into such house or any part thereof by force, and to detain, for the purpose of medical examination, any person found therein to be suffering or suspected to be suffering from the plague, or in his opinion likely to have been infected, *e.g.*, owing to his having lived in the same house with a plague patient. Such plague authority, if he be not himself a medical officer, shall without delay send word to the nearest medical officer in the service of Government or of any local authority, and such medical officer, whether appointed a plague authority for the locality or not, shall be bound to come to the place indicated and examine and report on the case. If the case prove to be one of plague, the plague authority may, in his discretion, proceed under rules 43 to 52 inclusive so far as they are applicable.

16. A plague authority is empowered to have the cause of death inquired into in every case, and, unless satisfied, to treat the case as one of plague.

17. Every medical officer appointed under these rules as a plague authority is empowered to examine all persons whom he discovers, or about whom he receives information under the provisions of the preceding rules, and to detain and segregate persons suffering or suspected by him to be suffering from the plague, in such places as may be appointed by the District Magistrate or officer specially deputed by him in this behalf for the accommodation of such persons respectively. For the purpose of segregating people, the District Magistrate, or officer specially authorised by him in this behalf may take possession of and occupy any vacant ground or building, such compensation being afterwards made to the owner or occupier thereof as may be fixed under rule 55.

18. If a medical officer appointed under these rules as a plague authority has reason to believe that any building used or intended to be used as a dwelling is or has been occupied by a sufferer from a plague, or if it appears to him that any such building is in such an insanitary condition as to be unfit for human habitation, he may prohibit by a written order the further use of such building as a dwelling-house. When any such prohibition has been made, no owner or occupier of such building shall use, or suffer the same to be used, for human habitation until the said officer gives him written permission in this behalf. For the purpose of enforcing this rule, the said officer may, if necessary, forcibly remove, or cause to be removed, any person from such building.

19. If a medical officer appointed under these rules as a plague authority consider it necessary that the inhabitants of the village in which bubonic plague is prevalent should be located in a temporary settlement at a distance from the village, in the manner indicated in rule 50, he shall make a report to that effect to the Magistrate of the district, and the latter may direct the inhabitants to vacate their houses accordingly. The houses shall in this case not be again occupied till they are certified by a medical officer to have been thoroughly disinfected.

20. Should plague appear in a village, the people of surrounding villages should be warned to have no communication with the infected village until the disease has completely disappeared.

21. *Duties of the public.*—Every person to whom an order is given by any plague authority with regard to his segregation, the disinfection of his house or personal property, or with regard to any other matter falling under these rules, shall duly obey that order.

Part III.—Rules relating to Municipal Towns and Cantonments.

22. The following rules apply to every Municipality and to every Cantonment. Rules 23 to 42 and 55 to 57 inclusive, and rule 46, so far as it relates to the preparation of schemes for private hospitals and camps and their approval by the Plague Commission or the Health Officer, as the case may be, shall come into force at once. They shall forthwith be translated into the vernacular of the district, and deposited in the office of the District Magistrate, the Cantonment

authority, and the Municipal Commissioners, and a copy shall be posted up in a conspicuous position at such office and in such other public places as the Magistrate of the district, the Cantonment authority or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may direct. And a public proclamation shall be made throughout the Municipality or Cantonment by beat of drum, notifying that such copy has been so posted up, and that the original is open to inspection in the office of the Municipal Commissioners or Cantonment authority. The remaining rules shall come into force in any Municipality or Cantonment as soon as the Magistrate of the district or the Cantonment authority or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, is satisfied that a case of plague has occurred in that Municipality or Cantonment, or in a place near enough to cause risk of the infection spreading. In every such case the rules shall be published in the manner prescribed above.

23. *Health Officer defined.*—The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of the district, and include a Civil Medical Officer, a Military Medical Officer in charge of a Cantonment, and Assistant Surgeon in medical charge of a district or sub-division or a Municipal dispensary, and a Medical Officer appointed by the District Magistrate under rule 24. In Calcutta, Health Officer means the Health Officer of Calcutta, and includes an Assistant Health Officer.

24. *Appointment of Health Officers.*—In every Municipality or Cantonment where there is danger of plague, the District Magistrate, subject to the general instructions of the Commissioner, may appoint a Health Officer, either by name or by virtue of office to devise and carry out, under the District Magistrate's general directions, all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the plague, and may fix his pay. He may also appoint such subordinate staff to assist the Health Officer in carrying out his duties as he may consider necessary, and may fix their pay. For the purposes of this rule, the District Magistrate may group Municipalities and Cantonments, and may appoint a Health Officer and staff for the combined area. In Calcutta these powers shall be exercised by the Chairman of the Corporation, subject to the instruction of the Local Government.

25. *Duties of Town Police at Railway Stations.*—When a railway station is situated within or close to Municipal boundaries, the railway police, in co-operation with the town police, will arrange to meet trains on arrival and to prepare lists containing the names and residences of travellers from infected areas who may alight. These lists, after being checked against the tickets collected, will then be sent to the town police-stations. When a traveller is suspected of giving a wrong name or wrong residence, one of the town policemen present will be sent with him to verify the information given.

26. *Town Police to report arrivals from infected parts and to keep them under observation.*—The town police are required to report at once to the police-station the name of every person arriving from parts of the country infected with the bubonic plague who take up their temporary or permanent residence within the limits of their beats. The names so obtained, together with those referred to in the preceding rule, with dates of entry, will be entered in the *Special List* to be kept at town police-stations. A copy of this *Special List* will be sent to the District or Cantonment Magistrate and to the Health Officer, all new names being notified to them without delay. The town police are required to submit daily reports regarding the health of all the persons in the *Special List*, until a period of ten days from date of arrival has expired. In Calcutta the list shall be sent and reports shall be made to the Commissioner of Police and Health Officer.

27. *Duties of Railway Police when travellers from infected areas break their journey and take fresh tickets.*—In the event of a traveller from infected areas alighting at an intermediate station with the object of obtaining a fresh ticket so as to conceal the fact that he is a traveller from an infected area, the railway police will take down his name and the number of the fresh ticket issued, and will send information down the line, so that he may, on alighting, be brought under observation.

28. *Town Police to report illness or death from bubonic plague.*—On receiving information of illness or death from bubonic plague, the officer in charge of a town police-station shall forthwith report the matter to the District or Cantonment Magistrate, and shall also make an entry in red-ink in the Station Diary for the information of the District Superintendent and Magistrate. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Commissioner of Police and Health Officer.

29. *Unless otherwise specially authorised, duties of Town Police confined to reporting.*—Beyond reporting the fact of illness or death, no police officer shall take any action under the rules in this Part except under a written order of the executive or sanitary authority, which he shall be bound to show on the application of the head of the house.

30. *Magistrates and superior police officers required to supervise.*—Magistrates and superior officers of police are required to satisfy themselves by frequent personal inspection that the above rules prescribing the duties of the police are strictly carried out.

31. *Police required to assist the Health Officer.*—All police officers are required to give to the Health Officer such assistance as he may consider necessary in carrying out the rules of this Notification. In Calcutta such assistance shall be given by the Commissioner of Police on the requisition of the Chairman of the Corporation.

32. *Committees of Inspection.*—In every Municipality and Cantonment, Committees of Inspection may be appointed by the Magistrate of the district or the Cantonment Magistrate for the purpose of assisting the Health Officer in performing his duties under these rules. Each Committee should usually consist of four members, two Hindus and two Muhammadans, for each ward of a Municipality or definite portion of a Cantonment; and their most important duties will be to accompany the Health Officer on his rounds of inspection, to explain the necessity of the sanitary measures adopted, to assist in causing these to be carried out, and to bring to notice any complaints that may be made or abuses that they may discover. At least one Hindu and one Muhammadan on each Committee shall, if possible, be medical men. In Calcutta the Committees may be appointed by the Chairman of the Corporation in consultation with the Commissioner of Police. In places where a large proportion of the population consists of persons other than Hindus or Muhammadans, the Committees shall, if possible, comprise representatives of the races and religions chiefly affected by the rules in each ward.

33. *General sanitary precautions.*—In any Municipality or Cantonment the Magistrate of the district, or any Magistrate authorized by him in this behalf, or the Cantonment Magistrate, may issue general orders that by a certain specified date certain sanitary precautions of a simple nature, such as the lime-washing of houses, the cleaning of latrines, the removal of filth and rubbish, and of partitions which obstruct light and ventilation, shall be carried out within any specified area, and all persons residing within such area shall be bound to give effect to these orders. In Calcutta these powers shall be exercised by the Chairman of the Corporation. If within such time such persons fail to carry out the operations specified in the notice, the Health Officer may, with the sanction of the Magistrate of the district or of the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, enter upon the premises at any time between sunrise and sunset, after giving such notice of his intention as shall under the circumstances appear to him to be reasonable, and carry out the measures specified above: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Heath Officer shall give at least one hour's notice of his intention to enter such apartment, and shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing from such portion of the apartment as he may desire to enter. The expenses incurred may be recovered in the manner provided in sections 120 to 129, both inclusive, of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or as a rate under Chapter VI of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, as the case may be, from the persons who, in the opinion of the Magistrate of the district, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, may fairly be held responsible.

34. *Insanitary premises and blocks of huts.*—When any premises or any block of huts are in such an insanitary state as in the opinion of the Health Officer to make the inmates thereof especially liable to an attack of the bubonic plague, he may require the owner by notice to have the whole or any portion of such premises cleansed within a specified time in such manner as may appear to him necessary, and may in consultation, if necessary, with a competent engineer, direct the owner to remove all structures, partitions, erections or portions of house-walls which obstruct light and ventilation. If within such time the owner fails to carry out the operations specified in the notice, the Health Officer may, with the sanction of the Magistrate of the district or of the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, enter upon the premises at any time between sunrise and sunset, after giving such notice of his intention as shall, under the circumstances, appear to him to be reasonable, and carry out the measures specified above: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall give at least one hour's notice of his intention to enter such apartment, and shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing from such portion of the apartment as he may desire to enter. The expenses incurred may be recovered in the manner provided in sections 120 to 129, both inclusive, of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or as a rate under Chapter VI of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, as the case may be, from the owner or from the persons who, in the opinion of the Magistrate of the district, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation, may fairly be held responsible.

35. *Overcrowded dwellings.*—When a dwelling is so overcrowded as, in the opinion of the Health Officer, to make the inmates thereof especially liable to an attack of the bubonic plague, the Magistrate of the district or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, by a notice posted on some conspicuous part of the dwelling, require the owner or the occupier, if actually residing in the dwelling, or the tenants or the actual inmates thereof, to abate the overcrowding within 24 hours by reducing the number of lodgers, tenants or other inmates of the said dwelling as prescribed in the notice, or to vacate the dwelling. In default of compliance with the requisition in the said notice, the Magistrate of the district or Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may summarily eject all the inmates, or reduce the number of inmates in such manner and to such extent as may appear necessary. The inmates so ejected shall be provided, when necessary, with temporary accommodation.

36. *Prohibition of rag-picking.*—No person, except Municipal or Cantonment servants, shall pick up rags or other refuse in the streets or elsewhere; nor shall rags or refuse be transported, except under such conditions as may be prescribed by the Health Officer. Any person

picking up rags or other refuse in the streets or elsewhere shall be liable to be arrested by the police. The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may disinfect or, at his discretion, destroy any collection of rags in rag-pickers' houses or rag stores.

37. *Provision of hospitals.*—It shall be lawful for the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, to select a site and erect a hospital thereon, or to convert any building, not being a place of worship, into a hospital for the isolation of patients suffering from the plague, in any locality which, in the opinion of the Health Officer, may be suitable for the purpose. In such hospital separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, having regard to their rank and station in life. The owner or lessee of such site or building shall not be entitled to claim from the Magistrate, Cantonment Magistrate or Chairman anything beyond a reasonable rent for the period during which the site or building may remain in his occupation. Before vacating the building, the Magistrate, Cantonment Magistrate or Chairman shall cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected, both externally and internally.

38. *Provision of accommodation.*—It shall be lawful for the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation to select a site and erect thereon temporary accommodation, or to convert any building, not being a place of worship, into accommodation for the segregation of persons suspected to be infected with plague, or for the residence of persons compelled to vacate their houses under these Regulations. The owner or lessee of such site or building shall not be entitled to claim from the Magistrate, Cantonment authority or Chairman anything beyond a reasonable rent for the period during which the site or building may remain in his occupation. Before vacating the building, the Magistrate, Cantonment Magistrate or Chairman shall cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected both internally and externally.

39. *Reports from factories.*—Every occupier of a factory shall, on employing in his factory any person who has come from any area declared to be infected with bubonic plague, immediately report in writing to the Magistrate of the district the fact of such employment and the name and address of the person employed. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Chairman of the Corporation.

The word "factory" used in this rule means any premises wherein is carried on any process for, or incidental to, making, altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing or otherwise adapting for use or sale any article or part of an article, and wherein steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of any such process.

40. *Report by householder.*—If in any house a person suffers from sudden fever, glandular swellings in the neck, armpits or groin, pain in the chest with cough and feeling of oppression, or delirium, or dies from such fever or with any of the foregoing symptoms, the owner of such house, or, if the owner be non-resident, the occupier, or the person who collects rent for the house or any part of it, shall forthwith report the occurrence of such illness or death at the nearest police-station. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Health Officer or at the nearest police-station by any person who would be bound, under section 186 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, to give information of a death in the house.

41. If there is or has been resident in any house a person who has come from any area declared to be infected with bubonic plague, the owner of such house or, if the owner be non-resident, the person who collects the rent of the house or any part of it, shall report at the nearest police-station (1) the illness of any person in such house, or (2) the death of any person in such house, immediately such illness is apparent or death occurs. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Health Officer or at the nearest police-station by any person who would be bound under section 186 of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, to give information of a death in the house.

42. *Report by medical practitioner.*—Any medical practitioner who attends in any house a case which he has reason to believe to be a case of bubonic plague shall forthwith report such illness to the nearest police-station. In Calcutta such report shall be made to the Health Officer.

43. *Disinfection, cleansing, &c., by householder.*—The owner and occupier of any house, in which a case of plague has occurred, and the head of any family resident therein, shall comply with any direction that may be issued by the Health Officer with regard to the disinfection and cleansing of the house, the disinfection or destruction of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, the improvement of the sanitary condition of the premises, the removal, in consultation with a competent engineer, of all partitions, erections or portions of house walls which obstruct light and ventilation, and other sanitary matters; and shall permit the Health Officer (who shall endeavour to procure the attendance of a member of the Committee appointed under rule 32) to enter his house or premises for the purpose of inspection: Provided that, when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall not enter such an apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw. In such inspections the Health Officer shall, if possible, always be accompanied by a male member of the family.

44. *Disinfection, cleansing, &c., by Health Officer.*—The Health Officer shall, if he considers it necessary, himself take measure for the disinfection of the house and for the other matters referred to in the preceding rule. Should the Health Officer think it necessary and practicable to burn or otherwise destroy any non-masonry and inflammable structure, he will report the case to the Magistrate of the district or Cantonment Magistrate, or in Calcutta to the Chairman of the Corporation, and act on his orders. The Magistrate of the district, or in his absence the Magistrate in charge of his duties, or the Cantonment Magistrate, and in Calcutta the Chairman of the Corporation, may order the burning or destruction of any hut or other temporary structure, if disinfection cannot be satisfactorily effected otherwise, awarding compensation to persons who are so poor as to be unable to replace at their own expense the structure that has been burnt or destroyed.

45. *Right of entry and examination.*—The owner and occupier of any house shall permit the Health Officer to enter his premises and examine any person whom such Health Officer has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic plague. If the person be a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the examination shall be made through a female doctor, female hospital assistant or other female agency.

46. *Segregation.*—(1) If on examination of any person under the last preceding rule the Health Officer suspects that such person is suffering from, or infected with, plague, he may cause such person to be removed to a hospital, and may arrange for his detention, dieting and medical treatment therein. He may also cause the other occupants of the house in which such person resides to be removed to a segregation camp and to be detained under observation for ten days.

(2) When private plague hospitals or segregation camps have been provided and fully equipped by or for particular castes, classes, joint families or associations of families, and the Health Officer, or, in Calcutta, not less than two members of the Plague Commission empowered thereto by the President, have in writing approved of the site, plan, furniture and arrangements for isolation and medical administration of such hospitals and camps, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire and if accommodation is available, be removed to the private hospital or segregation camp constructed for the use of the caste, class or family to which they belong, instead of to a public hospital or camp.

(3) In both public and private camps and hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and in the case of a female who by the custom of the country does not appear in public, her *parda* shall be strictly preserved, both in removal to the camp or hospital and during her stay there.

(4) The relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids* and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them during the day-time, subject only to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(5) Members of the family of a sick person who are in attendance on him may also be admitted to a hospital, whether public or private, provided that they shall sleep in the compound in suitable accommodation provided for the purpose, and not in the hospital itself.

Explanation 1.—It is not necessary that hospitals provided in accordance with this rule should be constructed in remote or inconvenient situations.

Explanation 2.—In Calcutta, persons desirous of taking advantage of clause (2) should at once communicate with the Plague Commission, and satisfy that body of their ability to provide adequate hospitals and camps when plague breaks out. In other places application should be made to the Health Officer.

Explanation 3.—In Calcutta private hospitals and camps may be closed by order of the Plague Commission, if the Health Officer reports that medical attendance and segregation are not maintained to his satisfaction, or that the conditions on which such camps or hospitals were sanctioned are not complied with. In other places this power of closing private hospitals and camps will be exercised by the Magistrate of the district on the report of the Health Officer.

47. If in any case a person removed to a public or private hospital is accompanied by friends or attendants, the Health Officer may require so many of them as are not in personal attendance on the patient to live in the immediate neighbourhood of the hospital in segregation huts or tents provided for the purpose, and to remain in such place until they receive permission from the Health Officer to depart.

48. If a person is attacked with bubonic plague while so segregated, the Health Officer shall remove such person to a public or private hospital, and may treat his friends and attendants as provided in the preceding rule.

49. Upon the death of a sick person from bubonic plague, the Health Officer may cause the other occupants of the house in which the person was ill or in which his death took place to be removed to a segregation camp and detained there for ten days. Provided that this rule shall not apply to any medical practitioner, *hakim* or *baid* who may at any time attend upon a sick person, or to professional corpse-bearers, mourners and friends who have not been in attendance

on the deceased. The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may grant subsistence allowance at rates suitable to their station in life, to persons detained under this rule.

50. *Evacuation of street or quarter.*—If bubonic plague has become prevalent in a portion of a Municipality or Cantonment, the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, with the sanction of Government, direct the inhabitants of any street, muhalla or other locality to vacate their houses and to remove to a temporary settlement at a distance from the infected quarter. The District Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, when necessary, provide such persons with temporary accommodation. Each householder shall be permitted to make suitable arrangements for the care of his house and property during his absence, and the Municipal Commissioners, or Cantonment Magistrate, as the case may be, will arrange for the watch and ward of the empty houses. After evacuation, the Health Officer shall arrange for the thorough disinfection and cleansing of the empty premises, and the inhabitants shall not be permitted to return until the premises have been certified to be free from infection.

51. *Duty of compliance.*—A person dealt with under the foregoing rules, and any person who may be removed to a hospital by order of the Military Medical authorities or of the Health Officer of the Port of Calcutta shall comply with any directions that may be given to him by the Health Officer with regard to his removal to, and residence in, an observation shed, public or private hospital or place of segregation, and with respect to disinfecting or burning of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature, or with respect to any other sanitary matter. He shall not depart from any such place without the written permission of the Health Officer.

52. *Disposal of dead.*—The friends of the deceased shall be permitted to dispose of the corpse by cremation or burial in accordance with their religious practices, but they shall obey the directions of the Health Officer or other sanitary or executive authority as to the time, route and method of removing the corpse to the burial or cremation place. In the event of the failure or refusal of relatives or friends of the deceased to dispose of the body, the Health Officer shall dispose of it in accordance with the religion of the deceased. The corpses of Europeans or Muhammadans who die of plague shall be buried, if possible, at least six feet deep. The place of burial, if not an authorized cemetery, should be far from habitations, and should be so situated that there may be no risk of contaminating sources of water-supply. The coffin and cloth used to cover the corpse, when not interred with the corpse, shall be destroyed. In cases where cremation is the custom the body shall be completely burned at the usual burning ghât or other isolated locality in accordance with custom, the cloths brought in contact with the body being either burnt according to custom or disinfected.

53. *Ambulances.*—The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, shall provide suitable conveyances, painted in a conspicuous manner, for the free carriage of persons suffering, or suspected to be suffering, from the plague, and it shall be lawful to drive or carry such conveyances through any public or private thoroughfare.

54. *Disinfection of public conveyances.*—Any conveyance, public or private, that has been used by a person infected with, or suspected of being infected with, plague shall be thoroughly disinfected and exposed to air and sunlight for not less than twenty-four hours before being again used, and all articles of furniture belonging to it, which, in the opinion of the Health Officer, cannot be properly disinfected, shall be destroyed by fire.

Part IV.—Rules of General Application.

55. *Compensation.*—The Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may, in his discretion, pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under these regulations; provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever. In deciding claims to compensation, the Magistrate, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman, shall consult the Committee appointed under rule 32, but shall not be bound to follow their advice.

56. *Control.*—All powers conferred upon the Health Officer or the Cantonment Magistrate, or on a plague authority by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the Magistrate of the district, or, in Calcutta, of the Chairman of the Corporation.

57. *Expenses.*—Subject to the provisions of rules 33 and 34, all expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall, in the first instance, be paid from the Municipal or District Fund or from loans made under the Local Authorities (Emergency) Loans Act, 1897; but the Magistrate of the district, or the Cantonment Magistrate, or, in Calcutta, the Chairman of the Corporation, may recover from any person any amount which such person would, under similar circumstances, be liable to pay to the Commissioners under the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, or the Cantonment Act or Rules, or the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1888, as the case may be.

Plague Hospitals and Segregation Camps.

In large municipalities accommodation should be provided in hospitals for at least 30 males and 10 females.

In small municipalities hospitals should be provided with accommodation for 15 males and 5 females.

Hospitals.—Each hospital should contain the following wards:—

(1) a semi-detached ward for males and females, in which cases in which the diagnosis is not absolutely certain can be kept;
(2) a male ward for cases diagnosed as plague;
(3) a male convalescent ward;
(4) a female ward for cases diagnosed as plague.

In addition to these there must be a dispensary and office, quarters for the nurses, possibly accommodation for the Medical officer in charge, quarters for the medical subordinates and staff, and huts 10′ × 10′ for the reception of the relatives of the sick, and cook-rooms.

Cubic space in the hospitals.—Each patient should be given a minimum cubic space of 1,000′, *i.e.*, 10′ × 10′ × 10′. This amount of space is absolutely necessary in the interests of the sick and their attendants, for the freer the ventilation is, the better chance has the patient of recovery, and the attendants are less liable to contract the disease from the sick.

Floors.—The floor should perferably be made with Portland cement or Garlick's patent stone to ensure thorough cleansing.

If the floors are of mud, a good plinth should be made and the mud well rammed down and sprinkled at least once a week with a fresh solution of quicklime. The posts and girders should, if possible, be of iron; the walls may be simple matting. They should not reach the ground by a distance of one foot or the roof by a distance of two feet, and should be regularly lime-washed.

Beds—Should be 10 per cent. in excess of accommodation, to allow of their being cleaned, lime-washed, and aired in the sun. Ordinary full-sized *charpais* should be used; netting should extend to the foot of the bed. These can be obtained locally.

Bedding—Should consist of a mattress or woven mat, pillow and case, two sheets, one or more blankets (according to the weather). These can probably be obtained most cheaply by contract from some of the leading clothing firms in Calcutta.

Mackintosh sheets—Should be provided for 25 per cent. of the total number of beds. These can probably be obtained at second-hand, but in good condition, from the Commissariat Department. They are very useful in preventing the soiling of the bed.

Cotton sheets—One hundred per cent. in excess of requirements, as they need constant cleansing.

Night clothing.—Banians and pyjamas for the men and night gowns for the women. These also could be obtained in the same way as the bedding.

Bed-pans—From 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of requirements. They should be of enamelled iron; China ones break and pewter ones bend.

Urine bottles—For 25 per cent. of all male cases.

Feeding-cups—For 25 per cent. of all beds; separate cups should be kept for each ward, *i.e.*, acute, observation, &c.

Thermometers.—Half-minute or minute ones should be employed; they are constantly liable to breakage. A stock of 25 per cent. in excess should be kept.

Spittoons.—One hundred per cent. should be kept. These are absolutely necessary, as the sputum of plague cases is full of plague germs; they should be glazed and kept half filled with a solution of corrosive sublimate 1—1,000. These can be obtained from Burn and Company, Calcutta.

Ice-bags—For 25 per cent. of all cases.

Enema syringes—From 5 per cent. to 10 per cent.

Nasal tubes and funnels—For 5 per cent.

Sputum cups—For from 3 per cent. to 5 per cent. of beds.

The beds-pans, urine bottles, feeding cups, thermometers, spittoons, ice-bags, enema syringes, nasal tubes and funnels, and sputum cups can be obtained from chemists.

An ice-box should be provided; this can be procured locally.

Every ward should contain a plentiful supply of enamelled jugs, basins and towels for the use of the attendants; they should contain an antiseptic solution, either corrosive sublimate 1—1,000 or carbolic acid 1—20.

A dead-house should be provided, and if access is allowed to animals, wire net-work covers for the corpses should also be provided.

A cart for the removal of the unclaimed dead is necessary. It should have zinc-lined trays inside, which can be pushed in; the cart can be drawn by bullocks.

Latrines of a good standard should be provided, and the floors should be well cemented and drained.

Water-supply.—If there is a filtered water-supply, hydrants should be erected in the hospital compound.

Large glazed earthen gumlahs are necessary for the steeping of soiled cloths in antiseptic solutions.

Staff of hospital containing 60 *beds*—

1 Civil Surgeon or Civil Medical Officer.
2 or more Hospital Assistants.
1 Compounder.
6 European nurses, if possible.
2 Ayahs.
10 Ward boys (sepoys make admirable ward orderlies).
2 Cooks, Hindu.
1 Cook, Muhammadan.
2 Dhobies.
10 Mehters and domes.

Principal medicines required—

Calomel and epsom salts.
Bromide of potash.
Opium preparations.
Liquor hydrargyri perchloridi.
Mustard and turpentine.
Stropanthus.
Digitalis.
Strychnine.
Iron preparations.
Ether and ammonia.
Iodoform.
Antiseptic dressings.

The rest to be left to the Medical officer concerned. The use of antipyretics, such as antifebrin, phenacetin, should be avoided, as they produce unfavourable results in plague cases.

Stimulants.—Good commissariat rum will be found the cheapest and best; brandy is too expensive to be used on a large scale. A few drops of peppermint-oil should be added to each bottle of rum, to prevent its being purloined by the ward boys.

Antiseptics—

Percloride of mercury.
Quick-lime.
Chloride of lime.
Carbolic acid.

These should be employed for important disinfections.

Phenyle and the coal-tar derivatives can be used for flushing drains, etc.

Sulphur can be employed in fumigating houses.

Chinese pumps must be used when the corrosive sublimate solution is being employed as a disinfectant, as it destroys metals.

Composition of a search party—

1 Medical officer.
1 Lady doctor or skilled nurse.
Members of the Ward Committee.
1 Locksmith.
A guard of 20 police or sepoys.
Ambulances, doolies and bearers.

Composition of a disinfecting party—

2 Sub-Inspectors.
2 Jamadars.
50 Coolies.

Central offices—

Each sanitary circle must possess a Central Office. The staff should consist of—

1 Head clerk.
2 or more under clerks.
1 Chaukidar.

Three to six ambulances (doolies) should be kept at the Central office. Also bullock carts for the conveyance of the relatives of the sick to hospital.

Segregation Camps—Are of two kinds—one belonging to the Government or Municipality, the other established by sections of the native community for their own use.

The following are the details of a Government camp in Bombay:—

The enclosure measured 150′ × 140′, and was surrounded by mat walls 4′ high. Inside were barracks for single males, females, and families. Moveable screens were also provided to form compartments inside.

Separate quarters were provided for the nurse and Assistant Surgeon. There was also a dispensary building and office.

There were good pattern latrines, hydrants, and bathing platforms, with half section glazed drainage pipes leading from them, lamps and lamp-posts, and separate cook-sheds for Hindus and Musalmans.

The staff was as follows:—

1 Hospital Assistant.
1 European nurse.
2 Brahmin cooks.
Police and sepoy guards.
Sweepers and ayahs.

Every person's temperature was taken once daily, and, if necessary, twice.

Free rations and ærated waters were supplied. The adults were provided with cheap playing cards, and the children with marbles. In one of the private segregation camps the inhabitants were supplied by their co-religionists with *pan supari*, sweetmeats, fruit and *cheroots*.

(Signed) H. J. DYSON,
Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal.

The 8th November 1897.

Telephone message.

From

The Head clerk
C & M. dept

To The Assistant
P. W. D
Ry. Branch

Copies of G.Os No 2763 M dated 10th Dec 1897 & No 2802 M dated 15th Dec 1897 cannot be furnished as they have not been printed. Only 4 copies of the enclosures to the G.Os were received from the Govt of Bengal and these have been already distributed to the officers concerned

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O.N.
7th Jan 1898

OK
You had better get these particulars here
Dept