

Public Works (1898) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 229. *dy*

DATED 10th Feb. 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague

*Recd. L & Co Dept, recording letter from the
Govt of Bombay forwarding certain notifications
issued by that Govt under the Epidemic &
Dissemination Act. Recorded*

01/3/98

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

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 The Agent Messrs. L. & R.
 - Agent S. & R.
 - Agent & Co. Eng. & M. R.
 - Consignees for R. & S.

Vol. 1/2

GENERAL DEPARTMENT (PLAGUE).

Bombay Castle, 23rd December 1897.

No. 7212.—5122-P.—Under the provisions of Act III of 1897, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to lay down the following additional rules for the better protection of Maháballeshvar and Pánchgani:—

(1) Persons proceeding to Mahábaleshvar or Pánchgani to live in bungalows or hotels must be provided with certificates from Government officers not below the rank of Mámlat-dár, showing the place from which they come. If they come from an infected place the certificate must be given by the Chief Plague Authority there or some officer empowered by him for this purpose, and must show that the person and his family (if any) have been under the observation of the certifying officer for a period of not less than ten days previous to the date of the certificate, and that no case of plague or suspicious case has occurred in the family within that period or recently before it. If a case of plague or a suspicious case has occurred at any time in the family within a month, the certificate must show that the person with his family (if any) and house have been properly dealt with under the regulations for segregation and disinfection, and are now free from suspicion. Persons unprovided with certificates or having certificates which do not fulfil the above requirements will be detained under observation for a period which may extend to ten days before they are allowed to enter or reside in Mahábaleshvar or Pánchgani. The observation of the certifying officer does not imply the segregation of the person or family, but implies that at least ten days' notice of the intention to leave for the hill stations will be received by him from the applicant.

(2) The Superintendents of Mahābaleshvar and Pānehgani are empowered to prohibit any excess over a reasonable number in the number of residents in a dwelling when they have reason to suspect that the premises are being used to harbour persons who would ordinarily not be exempted from detention.

(3) The Superintendents are empowered to prohibit the entry into Mahábaleshvar or Pánchgani of persons having no visible means of subsistence or reasonable prospect of employment.

(4) The period of detention of suspected persons may in all cases be extended to ten days at the discretion of the Chief Plague Authorities, Mahabaleshvar and Panchgani.

2. The City of Bombay shall be considered an infected place for the purpose of these rules.

3. The Governor in Council hereby applies to the City of Bombay the rules for servants' certificates, published in

No. 6213—4133-P, dated
13th November 1897.

13th November 1897. The Bombay Plague Committee is authorized to perform all the duties of the Committees or Authorities mentioned in the following list.

(Rules referred to in paragraph 3 above, which were issued under Government Notification No. 6243—4133-P, dated 13th November 1897).

The following rules under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, are sanctioned for the better protection of Pánchgani and Mahábaleshvar from plague :—

"1. Visitors to Panchagani or Mahabaleshvar residing in Poona City or in the Poona Cantonment, or within the Poona Suburban Municipal limits must, if they take with them any servants or attendants, see that their servants and attendants, whether accompanying them or not, are provided with a certificate from the Poona Plague Committee or a Plague Authority authorized by that Committee, showing whether any case of plague has occurred among the servants or attendants of such visitors or in the visitors' compound or among the relations of the servants living within the limits of the Poona City or Suburban Municipalities or the Cantonment, and the date of the case (if any).

"2. For the purpose of the last rule, the date entered should be the date of removal to Hospital, or if the patient died before segregation, the date of death.

"3. When the certificate shows that a case of plague has occurred under the circumstances mentioned in the Rule (1) within ten days of the date of a visitor's departure from Poona for Pánchgani or Mahábaleshvar, the visitor's servants and attendants will be detained in the camp of observation at either Pánchgani or Mahábaleshvar for a period of eight days for observation and disinfection.

"4. When the certificate shows that a case has occurred not more than a month but not less than ten days before the date of departure, the servants and attendants will be detained at the camp of observation only so long as may be necessary to disinfect them and their clothing, bedding, &c. This word ordinarily not involve a delay of more than a few hours. In other cases servants and attendants will be passed under the existing rules regarding surveillance.

"5. Servants and attendants unprovided with certificates will be treated under Rule (3).

"6. In addition to the certificate prescribed in Rule (1) above, every servant and attendant referred to in that rule must be provided with a certificate furnished by a Medical Officer empowered in such behalf by the Poona Plague Committee declaring that he or she was, within 24 hours of the time of intended departure from Poona, in good health and free from fever or any suspicious symptom.

"7. The above rules shall also apply to the Cantonment of Kirkee, substituting the words 'the Chief Plague Authority, Kirkee,' for the words 'Poona Plague Committee' wherever they occur."

By order of His Excellency the Right
Honourable the Governor in Council,

A. WINGATE,

Secretary to Government

No.

Date.

No.

Date.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT (PLAGUE).

Bombay Castle, 5th January 1898.

No. 56—56-P.—In continuation of Government Notification No. 1204—702-P., dated the 5th March 1897, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to prescribe the following additional rules for the City of Bombay under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897:—

1. Every person practising medicine, whether qualified or not, shall report to the nearest District Medical Officer, Sub-Divisional Medical Officer, or Plague Authority appointed by the Bombay Plague Committee, every plague case or case of fever with glandular swellings, or suspicious case of sickness or fever which comes to his notice or under his observation within twenty-four hours after his obtaining knowledge of such case.

2. Nothing in the foregoing rules shall be construed to limit in any way any of the powers conferred upon the Bombay Plague Committee.

*By order of His Excellency the Right
Honourable the Governor in Council,*

A. WINGATE,
Secretary to Government.

21/1/98

GENERAL DEPARTMENT (PLAGUE).

Bombay Castle, 8th January 1898.

No. 137-150-P.—In continuation of Government Notification No. 1204-702-P., dated 5th March 1897, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to prescribe the following additional rules for the City and Island of Bombay under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897:—

1. The Plague Committee may appoint special officers either by name or by virtue of office to carry out or perform under the general direction of the Committee any measures or acts devised or ordered by them to be taken for the suppression or prevention of the spread of plague. Such special officers may be known as 'Plague Authorities' and their powers and duties may be limited as directed by the Committee and their appointment shall be subject to revocation at any time by the Committee.

2. In the event of any death (whatever may have been the cause thereof) occurring in any house or any building, shed, stable or other place used as a human dwelling (not being a hospital) it shall be incumbent on the principal adult surviving member of the family to which the deceased belonged, or on any adult person who was present or attended on the deceased at the time of death, to give immediate and full information of the death and place where it occurred and of the name and caste of the deceased to the nearest

District Medical Officer or Sub-divisional Medical Officer, or Plague Authority specially appointed for this purpose.

3. On receipt of the said information the District Medical Officer or Sub-divisional Medical Officer or Plague Authority aforesaid, as the case may be, shall immediately register the death and either himself go or send a reliable subordinate to the place indicated in order to verify the information given; and thereafter may give the informant a certificate that the death has been registered, which certificate shall when duly demanded be produced by the person or persons who shall carry or accompany the corpse to the place of cremation or burial or to a tower of silence.

4. Any District Medical Officer or Sub-divisional Medical Officer or Plague Authority aforesaid is empowered to demand production of such a certificate from the persons carrying or accompanying a corpse as aforesaid; and, in the event of such a certificate being not produced, is empowered to detain or cause to be detained any one of the funeral party at the place of cremation or burial or tower of silence until the name and caste of the deceased and the place where the death occurred have been clearly ascertained.

*By order of His Excellency the Right
Honourable the Governor in Council,*

A. WINGATE,
Secretary to Government.

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Bubonic Plague—
Instructions regarding plague
administration.

General Department.

No. ⁵⁴
111 P.

Bombay Castle,
10th January 1898.

RESOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT.

The accompanying "Instructions regarding plague administration", with Appendix, should be forwarded to all Commissioners, Collectors, Chief Plague Authorities, Plague Committees and Political Agents for the general guidance of District and other officers.

A. WINGATE,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
All Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Political Agents, Káthiáwár, Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country,
Cutch, Mahi Kántha and Rewa Kántha,
The Political Superintendents, Pálanpur and Sávantvádi,
The Chairman, Poona City Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Karáchi Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Hyderabad Plague Committee,
The Political Department of the Secretariat,
The Revenue Department of the Secretariat,
The Judicial Department of the Secretariat,
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat,
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat (Railway),
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Chief Plague Authority, Poona District,
The Chief Plague Authority, Násik District,
The Chairman, Poona Cantonment and Suburban Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Belgaum Plague Committee.

No. of 1893.

Copy forwarded for information and guidance to

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INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING PLAGUE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE GENERAL GUIDANCE OF DISTRICT AND OTHER OF- FICERS.

1. Plague is a disease which is essentially associated with insanitary conditions in human habitations, the chief of which are accumulations of filth, overcrowding and the absence of light and ventilation.

2. It is, in the first instance at least, a disease of locality, and is mainly conveyed from place to place by individuals in their person, clothing and personal effects, who have resided in the infected locality.

3. The essential measures to be taken for preventing the spread of the disease are its early recognition in a locality, the removal of the inmates from the infected locality or area, which, in the first instance, may be only a room or house, their segregation for a specific period, the disinfection of their persons, clothing and personal effects, and of the houses with their contents, situated within the infected locality.

4. The first steps to be taken are in connection with the sickness and mortality. There are, at present, no methods in actual operation by which these can be accurately ascertained. Infectious diseases are not notified, and the registration of deaths is imperfect. Means must be adopted to improve the latter, and check the results by recording in towns all funerals which pass the octroi posts, noting the name of the deceased and the locality of the house in which the death occurred, and by posting trustworthy subordinates, either members of the Police force or of the Revenue Department, at all burying and burning grounds, noting similar information. These subordinates, not being connected with the Municipality, will afford valuable aid in checking the returns, and they will assist the Municipal authorities in arriving at correct results.

5. In villages, the Pátis must submit weekly returns of deaths in each village, within their respective jurisdiction, to the Mámlatdár, who will forward them to the Collector of the district, after noting on each any peculiarity in the incidence of the deaths, the mortality for the corresponding week during the past three years, and explaining, if he can, any excess. When the Mámlatdár is not satisfied as to the cause of any excessive or unusual mortality, he should cause special enquiries to be made, and, if necessary, call in the assistance of the nearest medical subordinate.

6. The Pátis should also be required to give notice at the police station of the arrival in their villages of any persons from an infected locality. The names of such persons should be entered in a register at the police station, and they should be kept outside the village under observation for ten days and on no account allowed to sleep within the village site. The cause of the death of any person who has recently been in an infected locality should be investigated. In villages remote from a police station the Police Pátí should discharge these duties, but the Revenue Pátí and the Kulkarni should be held equally responsible.

7. The returns referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 will show, both in towns and villages, any unusual mortality over the average of previous years, and also the occurrence of two or more deaths in one house or localised area when immediate special enquiry is necessary.

8. For the discovery of cases of sickness it will be necessary to obtain the assistance of the more respectable residents in each quarter, street or group of houses. In any doubtful case of sickness they could obtain the services of the medical subordinate attached to the dispensary, or a hospital assistant may be specially deputed to aid the residents in the work of detection.

9. It should be made obligatory under the Epidemic Diseases Act for the occupier of each room or house in an infected town to notify all cases of sickness and death, occurring in the room or house occupied by him, and for

every medical practitioner practising in such a town to report all cases of sickness and death coming to his knowledge in the practice of his profession.

10. When there is reason to believe that cases of plague are occurring in a town or are likely to occur, owing to its proximity to an infected area, the town should be divided into quarters or divisions of a size convenient for effective supervision, and each quarter should be placed, as far as possible, under the charge of an European official, who may be a civil officer, taken from any department, a military or a medical officer, according to circumstances.

11. The quarter under each officer should be subdivided into defined areas, which might consist of a street, a portion of one, or a group of houses, and each of these sub-divisions should be placed under the charge of a district or local subordinate, who may, for convenience, be called a supervisor. With each supervisor will be associated one or more residents of the sub-division, who will assist the supervisor in obtaining information regarding sickness and mortality in the areas respectively allotted to him. Under each supervisor will be a gang of coolies, varying in number to suit the requirements of each locality. The gangs working in the more populous towns should be divided into three sections, each with defined duties as follows:—

(a) for the detection of cases and their removal to hospital;

(b) for the evacuation of houses and for the removal of the inmates to camp; and

(c) for the disinfection of houses.

12. So long as plague exists in the Presidency, it is advisable that the above organisation should be prepared for each town and district area, native Superintendents being substituted for Europeans in the latter, and the members should be ready to act when the necessity arises. At each town exposed to danger an observation camp should be provided where all suspicious arrivals from infected areas may be detained for ten days.

13. It is believed that under such a scheme information regarding all cases of sickness will be easily and readily obtained, but should the people be unwilling to assist the authorities, or withhold the necessary information, then it will be advisable to organise search parties under the charge of the Divisional Superintendent. Each search party should be accompanied by a Medical Officer or subordinate, and by a female, either European or Native.

14. It is absolutely essential to success that all the measures mentioned above for the suppression of the disease should be carried out promptly and effectively. To ensure this being done all the members of the staff engaged in the work should have a clear idea of their duties: the operations will then be conducted in a methodical and systematic manner.

15. The Superintendent should be provided with a suitable office situated in his own division, where he should remain the whole day, except at intervals for meals. The office will be his head-quarters to which all communications should be sent, and at which the Supervisors will make their daily reports. He will exercise a general supervision over all the operations and will issue orders for the necessary action to be taken by each section of the gang of coolies.

16. No house vacated on account of plague may be reoccupied without his sanction, and he may cause a notice to that effect, to be affixed to each vacated house. He should place a seal on boxes containing valuable property left in houses which have been evacuated on account of plague. Such property may be removed by the owner, but if he declines to do so, it will remain at his risk.

17. Property of any value belonging to the poorer classes which it may be considered necessary or advisable to destroy as being infected should be appraised by two or more respectable natives and the value paid to the owner by the Superintendent of the division. Compensation should also be given without delay to the very poor for the destruction of clothes, &c., which although they may be of no market value yet serve a useful purpose to the owners.

18. After a house has been disinfected, the door will be secured by a padlock, of which the Superintendent will retain the key or entrance may be barred by any other effectual method.

19. The stock of disinfectants, padlocks and all surplus appliances for divisional use will be kept in or near the office.

20. Each Supervisor will keep a list of all residents in each house in his sub-division. He will inspect all new arrivals, and will obtain information from them as to their previous place of residence. He will, in company with the local resident appointed to assist him, visit all the houses in his subdivision, and obtain information regarding the health of the different inmates, and will, on the conclusion of his rounds, report verbally to his Superintendent the occurrence of all cases of sickness and death and any information regarding arrivals from infected localities. Any case of plague, and all doubtful ones of sickness should be at once reported to the Superintendent at his office by day, and at his house by night.

21. The Supervisor will be provided with a sufficient supply of disinfectants ready for use, with tubs, buckets, watering pots, one or two hand-pumps, either jet or spray, and implements required for unroofing houses and making holes in the walls. There should also be a dooly, charpoy or bamboo frame for the removal of the sick. It should be thoroughly washed or sprayed with perchloride of mercury solution, either at the hospital or subdivisional depot after use. This is necessary, as the same dooly may be used for carrying suspected cases to the observation ward. All the above articles should be kept in a room or yard near the centre of his sub-division or at the Superintendent's office.

22. On a report being received by a Superintendent, of the occurrence of a case of plague, he should at once proceed to the house, and when he has satisfied himself that the case is one of plague or of a suspicious nature, he will at once give orders for the removal of the patient, either to the Plague Hospital or to the observation ward, according to the opinion he has formed of the cases. The other inmates of the house, with their movable property, should be taken to the segregation camp, in charge of one or more policemen or other responsible persons.

23. They will be supplied with passes by the Superintendent admitting them into hospital and camp. These passes after countersignature by the medical officer or the officer at the camp will be returned through the policemen to the Superintendent.

24. After evacuation of the house, the walls and floors of all rooms, with their contents, except articles of food which it is not intended to destroy, and of all enclosures, should be thoroughly drenched with a solution of perchloride of mercury, and in the course of two or three days coated with freshly prepared limewash. All rags and refuse found in the house or enclosure should be burned in the presence of the supervisor.

25. The roof, if not a pukka one, should be removed, and holes should be made in the walls to admit freely air and light to the smaller rooms and enclosures. On the completion of these operations, the door should be secured with a padlock.

26. The coolies engaged in the work of disinfection, &c., should be provided with boots or shoes, to protect their feet from the danger of infection through abraded surfaces.

27. It may be necessary, owing to the occurrence of several cases in the one area, to vacate a group of houses or a whole subdivision. Should any necessity exist for the adoption of such a measure, it should be carried out as soon as possible by placing a cordon of police or troops around the area and removing the whole population to the segregation camp. Disinfection and unroofing of the houses to be carried out in due course.

28. Experience has abundantly proved that the evacuation of an infected house or houses is seldom in itself sufficient to stamp out the disease. When plague manifests itself in one house, in an indigenous form, those in the neighbourhood have, as a rule, already become infected, and it usually follows that cases subsequently appear in them. It is therefore always a wise and prudent course on the occurrence of an indigenous case, not only to evacuate the one house but also all those in the immediate neighbourhood.

29. On the evacuation of the houses in the infected area, all the other inhabitants should be encouraged to leave the town and any obstacles which may tend to delay their departure should if possible be removed. The time for prescribing the issue of passes should be carefully considered by the Collector, as if the rules prohibiting departure without passes are applied prematurely the exodus of the inhabitants generally will be retarded, more particularly of the poorer classes, who feel diffident about applying for passes or are too apathetic to do so.

30. In a large town where the disease has become of general prevalence, every quarter being affected, and the arrangements for dealing with the epidemic are incomplete and defective, measures must be taken to regulate the departure of the population and prevent them carrying infection to healthy areas. Every effort should in the meantime be made to provide sufficient accommodation in huts for a large proportion of the population.

31. In the case of villages badly infected the whole of the inhabitants should be turned out. Villagers are accustomed to erecting shelters for themselves, but, if necessary, materials for hutting should be supplied. The sick and suspected villagers should be carefully separated from the healthy and an officer should be appointed to examine the daily health of the population and prevent migration to other villages.

32. Daily inspection of villages situated in the neighbourhood of an infected locality should be instituted and maintained during the outbreak, and continued for 10 days after the occurrence of the last case, with special reference to the exclusion of refugees who should be required to camp out.

33. A site for the hospital should be selected as near as possible to the infected population, but a permanent building, suitable in all respects for a hospital, may sometimes be obtained either inside or on the outskirts of the town. It can be easily disinfected when it is no longer required for an hospital, and such a building would be more popular and convenient than huts erected at a distance from the town.

34. If a suitable building is not available it will be necessary to erect huts for plague patients, for convalescents and for the observation of doubtful cases, on the nearest site. The hospital huts intended for females should be some distance apart from those intended for males. The size of each hut will depend on the number of patients expected, but it is advisable not to place a large number of patients in one hut. A series of huts, each capable of accommodating six to twelve patients, will be the best arrangement, and it is one which will admit of the higher and lower castes securing separate accommodation. Moveable mat screens should be provided between the beds to secure as much privacy as is possible to each patient. Every patient should be supplied with a cheap substitute for a spittoon, and both it and the vessels used as bed pans, should contain a sufficient quantity of an effective disinfecting solution. The floor of the hospital huts should be freely watered daily with the perchloride of mercury solution, and vessels containing the same solution should always be available for the disinfection of the hands and feet of the native attendants.

35. One relative or friend may be permitted to attend a patient, and a stated time should be set apart for the visits of relatives and friends of the patients.

36. On the arrival of the patient at the hospital, all his clothing should be removed and burnt in the presence of the medical subordinate. Hospital clothing should then be supplied. On recovery the patient may be transferred to the convalescent ward or dismissed. In either case he should be given a warm bath and supplied with new clothes. The hospital clothing, on the discharge or death of the patient, should be disinfected, washed and exposed to the sun for a few hours, after which it may be again taken into use.

37. The hospital and observation wards should be surrounded with a bamboo or other fence.

38. Huts for the segregation of individuals removed from infected houses, and of all suspected persons, should, if possible, be erected at a convenient

distance from the hospital compound, and should be surrounded by a bamboo or other fence. Individuals brought for admission into this camp should, for purposes of cleanliness, be bathed in a solution of carbolic acid, one to a hundred parts of water, and their clothing soaked in a solution of one to twenty; if there are no children, perchloride of mercury solution may be used for the latter purpose.

39. All the inmates should be inspected daily, either by the medical officer or a medical subordinate, and any case of plague detected should be removed at once to hospital, and doubtful cases of fever to the observation ward. If no case occurs amongst them, after an interval of 15 to 30 days, they may be allowed to return to their houses, if such houses have been cleaned and disinfected and if the local authority considers that they are fit for re-occupation, or be admitted into the camp for healthy individuals, after a second disinfection of their clothing.

40. Both the hospital compound and the segregation camp should be guarded by troops or police, to prevent the egress of inmates.

41. The establishment of separate hospitals and segregation camps for the reception of members of special castes and religions should be encouraged and every assistance should be given by the local authority for their erection and supervision. The treatment of the patients admitted into these hospitals may, if desired, be placed in the hands of Vaidis and Hakims and the internal management of both hospitals and camps may be conducted by members of the caste or religion concerned, subject however to the general supervision of a European doctor where possible and control of the local authorities and to the usual arrangements as regards guards.

42. A camp for the healthy, *i. e.*, for people removed from houses not infected, should also be arranged for. All individuals admitted into it should also be bathed and their clothes disinfected as with admissions into the segregation camp. They should be allowed to pursue their daily employments, on condition that they sleep in camp. The huts should be numbered, inmates registered and a daily inspection made of all the residents. If no case of plague has occurred in a hut for 15 to 30 days, the inmates may, after a second disinfection of clothing, be allowed to return to their houses if such houses have been cleaned and disinfected and if the local authority considers that they are fit for re-occupation.

43. Should a case of plague occur in a hut, the patient should be removed to hospital, and the other inmates to the segregation camp. The hut should be removed, the site disinfected with the perchloride of mercury solution, and the materials of the hut should be similarly disinfected and exposed to the sun for a couple of days, when they can be utilised in the erection of another hut on a new site.

44. The best arrangements should be made for a plentiful supply of water to the different camps. If the water-supply to the town is conveyed through pipes, connections should be carried into the camps. Bathing platforms at some distance apart for the two sexes should be constructed, and provided with surface drains for the removal of surplus water.

45. Separate latrines for the sexes should be erected in connection with the two camps and hospital, and they should be well lighted with ordinary post lamps.

46. Bunniah's shops with all supplies should be provided for each of the camps.

47. Cases of plague imported into towns and villages, if they are not at once discovered and isolated, will, under existing conditions, develop new centres of the disease and thus infect fresh localities. It is a difficult matter to detect such cases in transit from an infected area.

48. Medical inspection of travellers by rail and road is useful in discovering those actually suffering from the disease or affected with the preliminary symptoms of fever, but as the period of incubation may extend to eight or nine

days, it is evident that inspection is of no avail in detecting infected travellers, who are in the stage of incubation. Such travellers cannot be discriminated from the non-infected, and it is necessary for their detection that they should be kept under observation for a period not exceeding ten days.

49. Passengers or travellers who can produce satisfactory evidence that they have not been exposed to infection, may be exempted from detention, as it frequently happens that only one or a few places may be infected in the particular district. The local authorities should give certificates to all persons wishing to travel from the non-infected areas in the district, stating that the holders (giving names, &c.) have not been exposed to infection.

50. The period of observation may, in the case of travellers of ascertained respectability, be converted into one of surveillance at places of destination, if they give satisfactory assurance (or furnish security) that they will report themselves daily to an authorised medical officer. Lists of such passengers should be forwarded either by wire or post to the local authority at place of destination, and any one failing to report may be prosecuted. The medical officer is not at liberty to exempt the individual from attendance without the concurrence of the local authority.

51. The inspecting officer may, however, exercise his discretion as to the necessity of detaining any particular individual.

52. In addition to medical inspection at selected stations a medical officer or subordinate should, if available, be appointed to travel by each train from or passing through an infected district for the purpose of examining passengers booking and alighting at all stations along the line.

53. The object in exercising control over the movements of travellers from an infected area is for the general welfare of the public and not to harass the individuals. It is hoped that by detaining passengers from an infected area, the healthy or non-infected will be eliminated after a few days, and allowed to proceed on their journey. If the preparatory measures as previously detailed for the suppression of the disease are carried out in an efficient manner, there is every reason to believe that restrictions on travelling will be unnecessary.

54. Any arrangement calculated to prevent the exodus of the healthy from an infected locality or area, must tend to produce a more virulent form of the disease, and its more rapid diffusion among the community.

55. Camps will be established, under the orders of Government, at selected stations suitable for detention of passengers and for the disinfection of clothing and baggage.

56. The above rules will also apply to travellers by road.

57. For preparation of the perchloride of mercury solution for disinfection see Appendix.

APPENDIX.

The most convenient and satisfactory way of preparing the solution of perchloride of mercury, on a large scale, is that which has been recommended by Dr. Maynard, now on plague duty in Nasik.

The ingredients should be mixed in a 50-gallon cask in the following quantities: to 77 lbs. of perchloride of mercury and $38\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of pure salt add 15 gallons of boiling water, stir well with a wooden stick, and then fill up the cask with cold water. The solution contains one part of perchloride to $6\frac{1}{2}$ of water, and one ordinary quart bottle of it, added to 25 gallons of water—the capacity of the ordinary wooden tubs in use—will give a strength of 1 in 1,000.

The standard solution can be carried about in quart bottles placed in partitioned boxes, and is always ready for use without further weighing or measuring.

If the solution is prepared with cold water, the perchloride of mercury must be powdered and two parts of pure salt to one part of perchloride added. The whole should be well stirred until the solids are completely dissolved.

It is of advantage, for several reasons, to add one half per cent. of crude Hydrochloric acid to the solution.

Iron hoops of all casks, tubs, and buckets should be dammered. If iron receptacles are used they should be dammered inside and outside.

If metal pumps are employed for distributing the solution, they should, previous to use, be worked in vegetable oil, and after use thoroughly cleaned in water. This will tend to lessen the corrosive action of the mercury.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper :—

From the Government of Bombay, General Department, No. 274,
F

dated 15th January 1898.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Go-

vernment of Madras, the marginally noted notifications issued by

No. 7212/5122 P, d/ 23rd December 1897.	this Government under
„ 56/56 P, „ 5th January 1898.	
„ 137/150 P, „ 8th „ 1898.	
„ 154/171 P, „ 10th „ 1898.	the Epidemic Diseases

Act, 1897.

Order No. 4 P.Mis., dated 7th February 1898.

Recorded.

(True extract)

A. L. Hanuay
7/2/98
for Ag. Secretary to Government.

Copy to

The Surgeon General.

„ Sanitary Commissioner.

„ Public Works Department (Ry. Branch). ✓

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Ry. C. No. 208/98

Sum