

Plague

Public Works (1898) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 793-24

DATED 7th June 1898.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Observation of persons arriving from
Plague infected tracks

Pres. L. de D. reviewing Collectors' reports
on the working of Plague Regus 16 & 17 of the 18th
Decr 1897, & prescribing new Regus for the
Command to the Ry. Adms with intimation that the
number of copies of the Regu which are reqd for
the purpose of being hung in railway stations
should be reported.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Recd.

Regd.

} 1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies.

G.O., &c., Nos. 466, 466-A P., 13th May 1898.

MAY.

Observation of persons arriving from plague infected tracts.

Reviewing Collectors' reports on the working of Plague Regulations 16 and 17 of the 18th December 1897, and prescribing new Regulations for the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 98 P., dated 28th February 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Declining, with remarks, to notify Pakala as an Inspection Station under Regulation 14, and requesting all Collectors to submit full reports showing how the provisions of Regulations 16 and 17 are actually carried out.

READ—also replies to the above reference.

ORDER—No. 466 P., dated 13th May 1898.

The Collector of Anantapur alone has reported that the tickets of passengers medically examined are specially punched at Guntakal under Regulation 16 of the 18th December 1897. This procedure is not so necessary now in cases where passengers have tickets already distinctively marked before entering this Presidency, but where the distinctive mark is found wanting, as in the case of tickets from the infected parts of His Highness the Nizam's Dominions, the Medical Officers in charge of Railway Frontier Inspection Stations should punch the tickets in order to indicate arrival from an infected area and to ensure that the holders of such tickets are observed for ten days.

2. The provisions of Regulation 17 of the 18th December 1897 are reported to be duly observed in the districts of Ganjam, Anantapur, North Arcot, Madura and Tinnevely. In Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Bellary and Coimbatore, the arrangements are stated to be still incomplete, while in Gódvári, Kistna, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Tinnevely, Salem, and Malabar, action appears to be taken in regard to those persons alone whose names and addresses have been communicated by the Medical officers in charge of Railway Inspection Stations. In all these districts, the system should be perfected without delay and enforced in the case of all persons arriving with specially-punched tickets or otherwise known or suspected to have come from infected areas. The same course should be adopted also in the Trichinopoly district, where at present action under the Regulation appears to be limited to Trichinopoly town.

3. In cases where observation is maintained, the period is generally ten days, but in most districts no reports are submitted to the higher authorities by the observing officers that the persons have been actually observed.

4. Detailed Regulations for the observation of persons coming from infected localities have now been drawn up under the Epidemic Diseases Act and are appended to this order. The Regulations apply to all arrivals whether by railway, road or sea, and render every person so arriving legally bound to obtain a passport and to present himself daily for examination for a period of ten days. Collectors will see that this obligation is strictly enforced. The register to be maintained under Regulation 17—vii may be kept in manuscript, but the forms of the passport and of the report referred to in Regulation 17—viii will be printed at the Government Press and supplied to the Collectors on indent.

It is probable that village headmen and Police station-house officers may not be able to properly understand these Regulations, and it will therefore be advisable for each Collector to issue a circular setting forth clearly the duties of each class of officer under them with such subsidiary instructions as the circumstances of each district may require.

5. As regards pilgrims in reference to whom the Collector of Madura offers certain suggestions, it seems to Government that a man who arrives at one of the Frontier Inspection Stations and states that he is going to Ramésvaram or elsewhere on a pilgrimage must ordinarily be unable to satisfy the inspecting medical officer in charge of the station "that he is proceeding to any fixed place of residence." A pilgrim thus unable to satisfy the medical officer should be detained for ten days under Regulation 14 of the 18th December 1897, and the inspecting medical officers should be instructed to act accordingly. If the medical officer in charge of the Hospet station has not yet been authorised to detain "suspicious" persons as defined in Regulation 5 of the 1st March 1898, the Collector should give him this power now. Similar power has already been conferred by Government on the medical officer in charge of the Tungabhadra station.

6. The medical officer in charge of Kondapalli station is informed that it is not necessary to telegraph as a rule to the station of destination the names and addresses of persons from infected areas who are examined at that station. The intimation may be sent by the guard of the train as is done at other inspection stations.

7. The Translators to Government are requested to furnish as soon as possible the necessary translation of the rules in the appendix to the Superintendent, Government Press, who will print the required number of copies in English and in the vernaculars and forward them to the Collectors concerned for publication in the District Gazettes. The Public Works Department (Railway Branch) is requested to report how many copies of the Regulations will be required for being hung up at railway stations.

(True Extract.)

S. S. Robert

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To all Collectors.
 „ all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
 „ all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all District Medical and Sanitary Officers.
 „ all Medical Officers in charge of Railway Inspection Stations.
 „ the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).
 „ the Marine Department.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Political Department.
 „ the Public Department.
 „ the Judicial Department.
 „ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Sanitary Commissioner.
 „ the Inspector-General of Police.
 „ the Superintendent, Government Press.
 „ the Translators to Government.

Copy of the notification only to all other Governments
 with covering letter.
 Gazette.

ENDORSEMENT—No. 466-A P., dated 13th May 1898.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

H. TREMENHEERE,
 Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. A. Raitt

30.9.98 from Mr. Raitt

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers delegated to him by the Governor-General in Council under section 2, sub-section (3) of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, His Excellency the Governor of Fort St. George in Council prescribes the following Regulations for the observation of persons arriving from plague infected parts in substitution for Regulation 17, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette Extraordinary*, dated 18th December 1897, Part I, page 1587:—

17. i. Every person arriving from any place declared to be infected with plague shall, before leaving the railway station at which he has alighted, or before disembarking from the steamer, ship or boat in which he has travelled, or in the case of arrival by road either immediately on reaching a Road Frontier Inspection Station or within twelve hours from the time of arrival at any other place, obtain from the officer mentioned in Regulation 17-ii a passport binding him to present himself for daily inspection for the next ten days before the local authority of the town or village where he may be; and he shall be bound so to present himself.

Provided that, where it appears desirable, the Municipal Chairman or any Revenue officer not below the grade of Deputy Tahsildar may, by endorsement on the passport, exempt any person from personal attendance and permit him to be inspected at his residence.

Explanation.—By a "local authority" is meant any of the following officers:—

- The local Medical officer;
- The station-house officer;
- The headman of the village.

In places where there is more than one local authority, the duties prescribed in these rules shall be performed by, or with the permission of the Collector under the orders of, the officer who stands first in the order given in this explanation.

ii. The following officers are authorized to issue passports:—

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| (a) To travellers alighting at Railway Inspection Stations | } The medical officer in charge or other officer acting under his orders. |
| (b) To travellers alighting at railway stations included within municipal limits.. | |
| (c) To travellers alighting at other railway stations | } Such Medical, Sanitary or other officer as may be appointed by the Chairman with the Collector's approval. |
| (d) To travellers arriving by steamer, ship or boat | |
| (e) To travellers arriving by road | } The stationmaster or other officer appointed by the Collector for the purpose. |
| | |
| | } The Medical, Sanitary or other officer appointed to examine such travellers. |
| | |
| | } The Medical, Sanitary or other officer appointed to examine such travellers, or if no such officer has been appointed, the local authority of the place of arrival. |
| | |

iii. Every person so arriving from a plague infected place shall declare truly his name, address, and such other particulars as may be required by the officer issuing the passport and shall report forthwith to the local authority any change in his place of residence occurring within ten days from the date of arrival. On the expiry of ten days, he shall deliver up his passport to the local authority of the place where he may then be.

iv. The issue of a passport, or any change in the residence of the person to whom it has been granted, shall immediately be communicated by the officer issuing it (in the former case) or by the local authority (in the latter case) to the Municipal Chairman or the local authority of the place of destination*. If the local authority of the place of destination is not known, the intimation shall be sent to the Tahsildar concerned for transmission to the local officer by whom the traveller has to be observed. The communication may be made by a post card, or by a special messenger, or in any other manner which the Collectors concerned may determine. The telegraph need be used only in urgent cases.

Intimation of departure to any railway station in the Province of Mysore shall, however, be telegraphed to the—

(a) Assistant Surgeon on plague duty, Yesvantpur, when the destination is a station on the Mysore State Railway;

(b) Residency Surgeon, Bangalore, when the destination is a station within Mysore Province on the Madras Railway.

v. The local authority of the place of destination shall see that, on the arrival of the traveller, he is observed daily for ten days. Any case of illness or death in the house in which such traveller is or has been residing shall be forthwith reported to the immediate superior of the local authority with full details. After ten days, the passport shall be recovered from the traveller and sent to the Tahsildar.

Any officer of the Revenue Department not below the rank of Deputy Tahsildar may require that the person or the clothing and other effects of the traveller shall be disinfected in such manner as may be ordered by the Collector.

* This rule applies whether the place of destination is in British or Mysore territory.

