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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3850	Press.
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SA/

Not to be folded or roughly handled

28/5/11

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

7th June 1877, No. 775.

Sanita y.

Read the following paper:—

No. 19. *From Dr. H. STANBROUGH, Special Health Officer, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 5th June 1877.*

I have the honor of forwarding, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, a weekly report ending 2nd June 1877.

2. There have been during the past week 910 deaths, including 291 from cholera and 152 from small-pox, showing 119.0 per mille of the population as given by the last census, but from the crowded state of the streets and houses in Madras we should add at least 100,000 persons to the normal number, which would reduce the deaths to 94.6 per mille, and even with this addition the death-rate in Madras is three times more than it should be.

3. An outbreak of cholera of an aggravated form took place on the 28th May in the houses situated around Yagambara Yeswara Pagoda Tank near Mint Street and in its immediate neighbourhood. Several cases were reported as having occurred on that date. Accompanied by my Assistant, Mr. Jesudasen Pillay, we went and inspected every infected house, administered remedies to the sufferers, and had their houses disinfected. Two Health Inspectors were specially appointed to attend day and night on the spot. I attribute this outbreak entirely to the water from this Pagoda tank. The water from the Red Hills had for some days been shut off from the town on account of repairs, and the people had to resort to the wells and tanks in Madras. In all the houses visited I found chatties filled with the water of this particular tank, of a greenish colour, holding in suspension certain low forms of life. The tank is used for all sorts of domestic and other purposes; in it are washed the clothes of cholera and small-pox patients, besides rags of the worst description. It is highly probable that imminent risks attend upon the use of such water containing most of the above matters. It is high time that serious measures be taken to prevent alarming recurrences of this nature, viz., stoppage of Red Hills water. It was unfortunate that the failure of the water occurred at the time it did, immediately after the heavy fall of rain the preceding week washing the excremental and other filth accumulated during many months into this and other tanks and wells. Week after week I have alluded to the spread of disease by water, and the practical lesson now brought prominently forward leaves no doubt upon my mind of this most certain and dangerous vehicle for the spread of cholera. I am happy to say that when the Pagoda Wardens acted on our instructions, and stopped the use of this water for drinking purposes, cholera greatly abated. The supply of Red Hills water is now open to the town. Measures should be at once taken to clear these tanks as much as possible of their impurities, and care taken against their becoming again polluted. This will not entail much cost or trouble.

4. The following is a summary of work done by Health Inspectors during the week under notice:—

Number of District.	Name of Ward.	NUMBER OF HOUSES AND HUTS		DISEASES DETECTED.			Number of Patients sent to Hospital.	Number of Food-tickets issued.	Number of Cases vaccinated.
		Visited.	Cleaned and Disinfected.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Other Diseases.			
First	East	564	216	2	4	2	1	5	22
"	Centre	378	11	5	3	3	3	15	64
Second	West	27	41	..	13	2	..	15	19
"	North	27	95	5	7	7	11	8	61
"	Centre	283	..	1	5	4	1	1	10
Third	South	250	107	35	2	20	13	..	34
"	North	258	57	8	5	..	1	2	31
Fifth	Centre and South.	193	69	6	..	1	..	9	35
"	North	602	145	11	11	3	3	5	25
"	Centre	279	40	3	..	2	1	16	31
Seventh	South	312	29	2	1	4	2	19	48
"	North	370	5	2	2	3	4	7	44
"	Centre	178	20	12	..	4	1	..	34
Seventh & Eighth.	North and South.	179	31	10	7	4	1	3	41
Sixth & Eighth ..	Do.	491	29	2	5	5	..	16	33
Eighth	South	330	..	8	..	5	5	68	14
Total		5,236	895	112	65	69	47	189	546

No. 20.

ORDER THEREON, 7th June 1877, No. 775.

The Special Health Officer has explained that this report is forwarded direct to Government, because the President, Municipal Commissioners, is temporarily prevented by illness from attending at his office.

2. The matter of the cleansing of the Pagoda tank and other reservoirs of the same foul nature is, however, urgent; and the attention of the proper officers of the Municipality should be at once directed to the necessity of taking prompt and effective measures. A list of all such tanks should be furnished by Dr. Stanbrough.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the President, Madras Municipality.
" Special Health Officer, Madras.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Revenue Dept.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

(True copy)

S. B. J. J.

Ag. Under Secy. to Govt.
in Charge

7/7

Recd & signed

Govt. of Madras.
No. 3179
PUBLIC.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MADRAS MUNICIPALITY,
Secy.

Date June 7th.

Typed

Printed

No. 70, 7th June 1871, No. 178

JUNE.
Nos. 1920.

Secretary, Madras, passed on report of the
Special Magistrate, Madras, for the week end-
ing 2nd June 1871.

No. 3850
(Commenced the)

Board of Revenue
9th July 1871

17th June 1871