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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Archives I—10,006—19-4-79.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

6th August 1877, No. 2047.

Municipal—Sanitary.

Read the following paper:—

No. 38. *From the Hon. J. G. COLEMAN, Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 2nd August* 1877, *G. No.* 513.

I have the honor to forward the report of the Special Health Officer for Madras for the week ending 27th ultimo.

2. The following table shows the mortality for the last five weeks:—

Week ending	Small-pox.	Measles.	Fevers.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Cholera.	Other Diseases.	Total.
June 29	..	90	..	127	196	139	57	253	862
July 6	..	88	..	151	213	156	68	261	937
" 13	..	83	..	158	273	187	96	288	1,085
" 20	..	76	..	144	321	202	101	306	1,150
" 27	..	53	..	130	267	218	105	255	1,028

Enclosure No. 1.

From Dr. H. STANBROUGH, Special Health Officer, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 31st July 1877.

I have the honor of forwarding, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, a weekly report, ending 28th July 1877, of the working of the Special Health Department.

2. The death-rate during the past week ending 27th July was 1,028, against 1,150 of the preceding week. From cholera 104, an increase of 4; dysentery and diarrhœa 485, decrease of 38; 247 deaths took place at the camps and relief sheds, giving an increase of 50 for the week.

3. The crowding of starving people into Madras can scarcely be realized unless witnessed. Triplicane suffers from the same cause. Many of the poor people reach Madras almost in a dying condition. I do not think the relief camps, although most humane institutions, are so beneficial as we are led to believe, neither are they so popular with the starving poor as they were at the commencement of the famine, yet the number receiving relief may have much increased. The famine tickets issued by the Police authorities to the Health Inspectors are almost ignored, and most, if not all, of the tickets given to the wandering starving poor, especially in Royapettah, Triplicane, and Vepery, are torn up or taken away on presentation at the depôts. The average number of these tickets given by the Health Inspectors during the past two months are less than 12 each per week. I do not understand how they can be complained against as giving them away indiscriminately, considering the enormous area the Inspectors have personally to inspect daily. A man was discovered suffering from choleraic diarrhœa caused by starvation within 100 yards of a Police tannah, and was taken by a Health Inspector to the Royapettah Hospital

where he expired after a few hours; another came to the Jam Bazaar Health Depôt and begged for a drink of water which was given to him, upon which he fainted and died within a quarter of an hour after being carried to hospital. I think that all Superintendents of Relief or other camps should never refuse a meal to a starving person when sent by any of the Health Inspectors of this Department.

4. The Police are at present detaining all women and children they find stealing rice, or crowding the Beach road. It is a capital arrangement, provided, during their incarceration, food of some sort was given to them, for it is not till after 5 P.M. they are liberated, and then in an aggravated condition.

5. Time is approaching when the senior Medical Students, the Health Inspectors who have done such good work since February, will have to resume their duties and studies at the General Hospital, and we must consider how their places can be supplemented. I see no other way of supplying the requirements than by adopting the Holalcore system (Public sweepers), or by having a class of Inspectors of Nuisances under the immediate orders of the Health Officer. What is very much required in Madras is a well-considered Local Act to knock down the private parcherries and to facilitate their re-erection on an improved plan; the Government should be empowered to grant loans on easy terms upon the security of the new erections, a strict inspection being kept by the Municipal Engineer whilst the work is in progress. Sanitary administration to be effective, must be of the most summary kind. I consider the drainage of Madras one of this character. The best description of drains are in Triplicane and Pursewalkum made from stone procured from Cuddapah, in the shape of a V. It is of a laminated description and only requires splitting with wedges and is cheaper in Cuddapah than brick. Any amount of this stone is procurable, and the collection of it can be, if necessary, a famine work. Carriage by Rail to Madras would be the only expense, but as the Railway wagons after conveying up grain return empty, some arrangement might be made with the Railway authorities to bring it down to Madras.

6. The late showers of rain have damaged a small portion of the grain at the Salt Cotaur Railway Station; careful watching by the Health Inspectors is being made in the loading of the Railway wagons for up-country.

SUMMARY of Work done by Health Inspectors—Week ending 28th July 1877.

Number of District.	Name of Ward.	Number of Houses and Huts		Diseases Detected.			Number of Cases sent to Hospital.	Number of Food-tickets issued.	Number of persons Vaccinated.
		Visited.	Cleaned and disinfected.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Other Diseases.			
1 ..	East	625	72	2	3	3	4	1	65
	Centre	476	22	12	1	17	25	40	74
	West	460	36	2	2	12	12	40	79
2 ..	North	291	60	5	1	9	11	17	109
	Centre	365	7	1	1	10	2	13	102
	South	231	9	..	..	2	..	2	74
3 ..	North	203	56	4	2	..	1	6	68
	Centre and South	174	82	2	3	1	4	7	35
5 ..	North	547	71	4	3	19	14	66	157
	Centre	262	53	9	1	2	7	14	88
	South	330	34	1	..	4	5	29	86
7 ..	North	209	17	5	1	8	13	11	96
	Centre	217	3	4	..	3	3	..	105
7 and 8 ..	North and South.	235	3	2	..	7	2	..	73
6 and 8 ..	Do.	484	18	10	..	3	8	20	44
8 ..	South	305	18	9	..	12	15	56	80
	Total ..	5,414	561	72	18	112	126	322	1,335

(Signed) H. STANBROUGH,
Special Health Officer.

No. 39. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1877, No. 2047.

Communicated to the Revenue (Famine) Department, the Board of Revenue, and Sanitary Commissioner.

2. The rectification by the Commissioner of Police of the complaints made in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Health Officer's report has already been secured by demi-official communications from Government.

3. The Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, will consider and report the arrangements which should be made, on the Medical Students now employed being withdrawn.

4. The Health Officer's remarks regarding parcherries and drains will be considered by the Acting President of the Madras Municipal Commission.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue (Famine) Department.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Rev. 1877 Dept.
7 No. 6370

Govt. of {1877} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Madras,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated August, 6th.

Issued — 8th

Recd. 9/8/77 *Encl.*

G.O., 6th August 1877, No. 2047.

Mis G.O 11 August 1877 N 4491

AUGUST.
Nos. 38-39.

Municipal—Sanitary.—Orders passed on letter from Acting President, Madras Municipality, forwarding Special Health Officer's report for week ending 27th July 1877.

N 4491 Godfrey

11 August 1877