



EAST AFR. PROT.

7558

9538

8

Bearing for Govt 105

1914

2nd February

Last previous Paper

6a
6197

CHAGRO - SPINAL MENINGITIS

This copy of facts for the Sanitation Officer of various reports dealing with the epidemic in Prot. A can be seen at the Professor's office.

Prints to W.A. 17 March 1914
Prints to W.A. 17 March 1914
Prints to W.A. 17 March 1914
Prints to W.A. 17 March 1914
Prints to W.A. 17 March 1914

W.A.

W.A.

W.A.

Please see also 6197

Print to TAMS & Co, TDB

17/3/14

at once

9/3/14

Circulate to TAMS Committee 17 March 1914

Next subsequent Paper

66 11399 Dimensions (Paper by the Home)

6a 11971

we

Hobson

Extract from minutes of both meetings of the
T.M.S. Committee, 7 April 1914.

Sir William Leishman drew attention to
the despatch from the I.A.P. regarding the extent and
distribution of cerebro-spinal meningitis. He stated that the
prevalence and mortality shown in the despatch appeared to
him to be a very serious matter, calling urgently for
investigation. Prof. Simpson said that the matter was really
one of administration; there were very few medical men
in the Protectorate and it was impossible for them to know
what was going on. For instance, in Kameruio there was
only one man for one hundred miles and he was kept at
Kisumu to deal with plague. Sir Patrick Manson
expressed the opinion that an epidemiological investigation
into the general prevalence of the disease in particular
districts was called for rather than a pathological
enquiry, but Sir William [Leishman] thought pathological
investigation also needed. The Committee finally expressed
great concern and recommended that steps should be taken
to call attention to the importance of the matter.

to Sir
Mr. Battersby

16/4/14

It is serious enough, but what
use of calling attention to it unless I don't
know. However, write Platekuk only in 22
seems indicated. P.F. 16 22/4/14

Sgt. Carson, embodying S. Rogers' 12
minutes on 12756 + 12767, + 2. ending -

Sgt. attach prints of 12756 + 12767.

at once

H. J. R.

2/14/14

Set S. Clark circulate FTMS Committee 21 May 1914

No objection by Committee
H. J. R.

7538

7538
13

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

February 2nd 1914.



~~EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.~~

No. 105

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 1003 of the 1st of November, 1913, I have the honour to transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a précis by the Chief Sanitation Officer of various reports dealing with the extent and distribution of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis in the Protectorate.

2. A copy has been forwarded direct to Professor W.J. Simpson, C.B., F.R.S.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

C.R. B. Young

DEPUTY GOVERNOR.

* No. 35376
Africa No 1008.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C. & P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

Med & San

Copy.

INCLOSURE

In Despatch No. 100 of 22 1916 14

End in No

(Precis.) Extent and distribution of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis in East Africa Provinces. May 1913 to January 1914.

000 000

A. Statement I.

Deaths reported by the personnel of the Medical Department, and Medical Practitioners.

Seyidia Province.	10.
Ukamba "	502.
Kenia "	594.
Malvasha "	25.
Kyansa "	<u>297.</u>
	<u>1128.</u>

B. Statement II.

Kenia Province

Extracts from reports.

District Commissioner, Dageretti.

"Out of a total count of 3 locations in this subdistrict of 10,615 natives, from enquiries made I find that there have been 160 deaths directly attributed to Cerebro Spinal Meningitis or rather over 3% of the population..... and the mortality for the district at nearly 1,700 persons."

Dr. Arthur, Scotch Mission.

Vikaya, Limaru, Dageretti, Kabete, 505 deaths.

(2)

"deaths. Has been considerable mortality.
"Hundreds of cases in this Province, and
"in Kenia it is worse.

District Commissioner, Machakos.

"Many deaths and sickness, symptoms of
"which appear to be Cerebro Spinal Meningitis
"and unusual mortality.

Assistant District Commissioner, Kyambu.

"Unable to get labour for my roads, reason
"being that the men have returned to their
"villages to bury their wives and children.
"In my opinion hundreds have died.

2. Kenia Province.

Medical Officer, Fort Hall.

"It is quite impossible to estimate the
"number of cases with the death toll.
"As a rough estimate I should say there
"have been 15,000 with a very large
"percentage of deaths.

District Commissioner, Egert.

"The following total gives the population

(3)

"and the number of deaths among chiefs
"who have been able to furnish figures; -

"	Approx. " popln.	Deaths from " Meningitis.	Average.
"	61,900	1,440	1 in 48.

Dr. Philip, Church of Scotland Mission.

"Thousands have died."

District Commissioner, Fort Hall.

"within the last few months, however, the
"sickness has broken out with great violence
"originating from Kiharabara country and
"its old starting place Kijiris and gradually
"spreading to the eastward. The number of
"deaths that have occurred it is utterly
"impossible to estimate. I can only give
"the Kikuyu estimate of percentage of
"deaths of those attacked, which is about
"50% of the men attacked have died, about
"75% of the women attacked have died and
"hardly a child who has once contracted the
"disease has lived. I have heard of six
"children dying from one family in 3 days.
"To summarise my information it appears
"that the epidemic has left the North Western
"and Western parts of the district, and is
"now more or less confined to the Western

half

(4)

"half where it apparently continues to
 "rage with unabated force. A commander
 "in a recent tour of inspection authorized
 "by the Medical Officer, Fort Hall, from
 "the Thika along the Native Reserve to
 "Waithaka and its vicinity brought back
 "the following statistics. Total deaths
 "448 which gives a very fair proportionate
 "idea of what the ravages and virulence
 "of the disease must have been throughout
 "the district.

8. Statement III.

Present Distribution.

Kenia Province.	}	sporadic cases with a
Ukamba		slight tendency to in-
		crease in Nairobi.
Nyanza	}	Epidemic in all parts
		of N. Kavirondo, Lunenburg
		and Sic.

W. J. Bedford.

Chief Sanitation Officer.

G. Gov
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14



EAP
See

29th April 1914
May

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge
M. Brany

the receipt of your despatch No. 108, of
14 April
the 2nd of February 1914, No. 232, of the
13th of March 1914, and No. 246, of the
16th of March 1914, relative to Cerebro-
Spinal Meningitis.

DRAFT.

East Africa Protectorate No. *423*
Governor Sir H. Conway Belfield,
K.C.M.G.

MINUTE.

Mr. Burgess. 29/4/14.
Mr. Fiddian. 30
Mr. Read. 30

X Sir G. Fiddes. 30
Sir H. Lush
X Sir J. Anderson. 30 *of*
Lord Emmott,
Mr. Harcourt.

for case

2. The prevalence of this disease,
and the resulting mortality, is a matter
of the gravest concern, and one which may
give rise to the necessity for special in-
vestigation into its epidemiology and path-
ology.

3. I have perused with great inter-
est the report by Dr. J.F. Thomas, (encl-
to desk
sure in No. 232), which shows how great
the help that an enlightened and willing
Chief can give.

to send to Propaganda Bureau 14 May 1914

*Copy of 7558, 12753, 12741,
(in print) & of the despatch
to Propaganda Bureau
for info D.T.]*

The presence of the Assistant
District Commissioner, ^{on the subject evidently} ~~undoubtedly~~ made

the investigation much easier, and in-
creased the authority of the Medical
Officer.

4. The recommendation in the
penultimate paragraph of Dr. C.L.
Chevallier's report (enclosure in No.
246) ^{is} ~~is~~ a very good one, and I com-
mend it to your ~~attention~~.

In this connexion, I would invite
your attention to the travelling tent
hospitals, that have been made use of
in Egypt, in combating Ophthalmia.
These are moved from place to place,
as circumstances require, and in addi-
tion to the benefits that accrue from
being able to follow the outbreaks as
they occur, present the additional ad-
vantage of bringing treatment, practi-
cally to the patient's door.

I have

REPORT.