

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 13.

The following Circular Despatch is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th January, 1901.

CIRCULAR.⁽²⁾

DOWNING STREET,
29th November, 1900.

SIR,

In continuation of my Circular despatches of the 15th February, 1st May and 2nd September, 1899, and the 30th ultimo, and in confirmation of my telegram of the 27th instant, I have the honour to inform you that arrangements have been made for the adoption in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony of the Imperial Penny Postage Scheme for letters from the 1st December next.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government of

HONGKONG.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 14.

The following Circular Despatch with its enclosure is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th January, 1901.

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,
17th November, 1900.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you, with reference to previous correspondence, the accompanying copies of a Memorandum on measures to be taken for the prevention of Malaria, which has been drawn up by Sir MICHAEL FOSTER, K.C.B., F.R.S., and approved by Lord LISTER, President of the Royal Society.

2. I request that you will cause this Memorandum to be brought to the notice of such persons as you may think best.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government of

HONGKONG.

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE PREVENTION OF MALARIA, by SIR MICHAEL FOSTER, K.C.B., F.R.S., M.P., and approved by LORD LISTER, President of the Royal Society—28th July, 1900.

Malaria (ague, intermittent fever) is due to the presence in the blood (in the corpuscles of the blood) of a minute organism. An attack of the fever is coincident with, and due to an active phase of, this organism; it then multiplies in a remarkable manner. Between the attacks the organism is quiescent and dormant; it may remain so for a long time.

Recent researches have shown that, at least in the vast majority of cases, probably in all cases, the organism is introduced into the blood, and thus the disease contracted, by the bite of a mosquito, generally, if not always, one species or other of the genus known as anopheles. The anopheles bites a malarious person, *i.e.*, a person whose blood contains the organism, and sucks up with the blood the organism. This organism develops and increases in the body of the anopheles, and there produces germs which pass into the salivary glands and proboscis of the insect. Hence when the mosquito bites another person, it introduces the organism into the blood of that person and so starts the disease.

Every individual anopheles is not necessarily infected with the organism, but in a district where malaria occurs the probability is very great of any anopheles being so infected.

Hence *malaria, in the vast majority of cases, probably all cases, may be prevented, by preventing oneself from being bitten by an infected anopheles.*

Prevention may be secured—

1. By avoiding all bites of mosquitos.

- A. By living in rooms to which the entrance of mosquitos is completely shut off by thin meshed gauzes to windows, doors, &c.
- B. By sleeping under adequate mosquito curtains—the anopheles generally bites in the night or evening.

2. By avoiding sleeping or living near native huts in regions favourable for malaria. Although the natives become acclimatised to the disease as they grow up, and the adults do not suffer from malaria, the organism is very frequent in the blood of native children, and anopheles in or near native huts are very commonly infected. Hence anyone who sleeps in or even near native quarters runs the risk of being bitten by an infected anopheles and of catching malaria.

3. By preventing malarious persons from being bitten by mosquitos. A non-infected anopheles is harmless; it is only when it has fed on blood of a malarious person that it can propagate malaria.

The above are the most important means of prevention, but much may be done by diminishing the number of anopheles. These very frequently breed in small pools, and puddles of water on the ground—puddles mostly of a fairly permanent description, kept filled by the rain and not liable to scouring out during heavy showers. Hence, if these pools are filled up or otherwise abolished, the number of anopheles may be largely diminished, and the chance of infection correspondingly lessened.

The increase of anopheles is also diminished by pouring kerosene, &c., on their breeding pools.

These measures should not be neglected, but the most important steps are:—

1. To avoid sleeping or living near native huts or other haunts of malaria-infected anopheles.
2. To avoid being bitten by infected mosquitos, which is best effected by avoiding all mosquito bites.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 15.

The following is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th January, 1901.

POSTAL NOTES.

1. Postal Notes of the values named below, payable within three months at any Post Office in the United Kingdom, or at Constantinople, can be obtained at Hongkong or at any British Post Office in China at the following prices, which include Commission:—

1/-	50 cents.
1/6	75 "
5/-	\$ 2.50
10/-	\$ 5.00
20/-	\$10.00

2. The purchaser of any Postal Note must fill in the Payee's name before parting with it. He may also fill in the name of the Office where payment is to be made. If this is not done the Note is payable (within three months) anywhere in the United Kingdom, or at Constantinople. Any Postal Note may be crossed to a Bank.

3. Postal Notes should *always* be forwarded in *Registered Covers*. If this precaution is not taken NO ENQUIRIES WHATEVER will be made as to the loss or alleged loss of any Note.

4. Postal Notes issued in the United Kingdom are NOT payable in Hongkong or China.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
HONGKONG, 7th January, 1901.