

Between June 29th and July 1st, nineteen rats were procured, of which fifteen were used in connection with experiment No. II; thirteen of these have died after infection, while the four which were not used for the experiment are still alive.

It will thus be seen that the the period which may elapse between the date of infection and death varies from two days to twelve or thirteen days, and that not infrequently healthy rats will not touch the dead bodies of the infected ones.

The proposal is to feed healthy rats on the virus and then to let them loose again, in the hope that they will die of the infection and that then other rats will feed on their dead bodies and will thus become themselves infected.

The objections to the proposal are that the rats may die in private dwellings and thus create a nuisance, and in any case no check can be kept upon the experiment after once the rats are set free.

I am not therefore inclined to recommend the adoption of the proposal by the Government on any extensive scale but if any owners of godown property desire to experiment in the matter, I have now a sufficient number of infected rats to be able to supply them with a few for the purpose.

It is very doubtful if rats can infect human beings in any way, so long as they are kept out of the dwelling-houses, and I think that the efforts both of the Sanitary Board and of the householders would be best directed to securing this end by keeping all drains and drain-fittings in perfect order, maintaining an impervious covering to all earth surfaces within the dwellings, by the removal (as far as may be possible) of all ceilings, wooden skirting-boards and lath-and-plaster partitions, and by avoiding the accumulation of garbage within or in the neighbourhood of the dwellings.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANCIS W. CLARK,
Medical Officer of Health.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 506.

The following Notice is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 13th September, 1901.

NOTICE.

A Special Meeting of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace will be held at the Magistracy, at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 24th day of September, A.D. 1901, for the purpose of considering an application from one JOHN LACOCK for a Publican's Licence to sell and retail intoxicating Liquors on the premises situated at Whitfield, Shaukiwan Road, under the sign of "The Bay View Hotel."

F. A. HAZELAND,
Police Magistrate.

Magistracy, Hongkong, 12th September, 1901.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 507.

The following Statement of Quarantine Restrictions is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th September, 1901.

STATEMENT OF QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS IN FORCE ON SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1901.

Disease.	Port or Place.	Restrictions in Force.	Authority.
Plague.	Formosa.	Medical examination; quarantine at the discretion of the Health Officer.	Proclamation No. 1 dated February 11th, 1901.
Plague.	Manila.	Do. do. do.	Proclamation No. 2 dated April 23rd, 1901.