

*Estates Medical Wants.***No. 9.—1882.**

J. R. LONGDEN.

An Ordinance to amend "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880," and to repeal "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880, Amendment Ordinance, 1881."

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880," and to repeal "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880, Amendment Ordinance, 1881"; Be it enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880, Amendment Ordinance, 1882."

2. This Ordinance and "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880," hereinafter referred to as the principal Ordinance, shall be read and construed as one Ordinance, save so much of the principal Ordinance as is hereby repealed.

3. This Ordinance and the principal Ordinance shall together come into operation on the 1st day of January, 1883.

4. For the purpose of providing a special fund to defray the cost of the medical care of labourers on estates under this and the principal Ordinance, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, from time to time by Proclamation in the *Gazette*, to impose a duty, and the same from time to time to increase or reduce, not exceeding ten cents per hundred-weight on coffee, tea, and cocoa, and twenty cents per hundred-weight on cinchona, which duty shall be levied at the Customs on the entry for exportation of all coffee, tea, cocoa, and cinchona, and shall be payable to, and shall be collected and received by the proper officers of the Customs Department; and the payment thereof shall be enforced under the provisions of the Ordinance 17 of 1869, intituled "An Ordinance for the general regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon."

5. The duty to be collected under the authority of the last preceding clause shall be paid into the Treasury, and shall be carried to the credit of a fund to be called the "Medical Aid Fund," and shall be applied and devoted to defray the expenses incurred under this Ordinance, and to no other purpose whatever. And an account current of such fund shall be made up annually and published in the *Gazette* for general information.

6. It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint superintending medical officers, not exceeding three in number, for the purposes of this Ordinance, and to assign to them salaries commencing at Rs. 5,000 per annum, and rising by quinquennial increments of Rs. 500 until a maximum salary of Rs. 8,000 is reached. Such officers shall receive, when travelling on duty, a daily allowance not exceeding Rs. 10, and shall be under the direction of the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Preamble.

Title.

Ordinance to be construed as one with Ordinance 17 of 1880.

Date of operation.

Special fund to defray cost of medical care of labourers.

To be called the "Medical Aid Fund."

Governor to appoint superintending medical officers. Salaries of officers so appointed.

Estates Medical Wants.

Duties of
superintending
medical officers.

7. It shall be the duty of each superintending medical officer:—

To visit the cooly lines upon every estate in the districts which may be assigned to him by the Governor, at least once in every six months, and upon the occasion of each visit to call the attention of the superintendent to any defect in the sanitary condition of the cooly lines.

To inspect the labourers employed on the estate with a view of ascertaining their state of health and whether they have been duly vaccinated.

To inspect the hospitals and dispensaries within his district, and to inquire into any complaints which may have been made respecting the working of such hospitals or dispensaries.

Superintending
officer may enter
upon estates and
send sick labourers
to hospital.

8. The superintending medical officer shall have power to enter upon every estate within the districts assigned to him and visit the cooly lines thereon whenever he shall deem fit, and to send to the hospital of any district any labourer requiring medical treatment. Provided that whenever any hospital shall be appointed a district hospital under the principal Ordinance, or a dispensary under this Ordinance, any residences attached or appertaining thereto shall, if ordered by the Governor to be taken over, vest in and become the property of the Crown for the purposes of this Ordinance.

Existing district
hospitals may be
made dispensaries.

9. It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint existing district hospitals or other buildings to be dispensaries, to be placed in charge of medical assistants, and to assign to such medical assistants salaries commencing at Rs. 1,500 per annum, and rising by quinquennial increments of Rs. 250 to Rs. 2,000, with such horse or travelling allowance as the Governor may in his discretion assign to such assistants, and it shall also be lawful for the Governor to appoint, if need be, Licentiates of the Ceylon Medical College to be district medical officers, medical assistants, or dispensers under this Ordinance.

Salaries of
medical assistants.

Duties of district
medical officers
and medical
assistants.

10. It shall be the duty of each district medical officer to visit the hospital of his district daily, and it shall also be the duty, as far as may be practicable, of each medical assistant, upon being required in writing so to do by the superintendent of any estate in his district, to visit any sick labourer on such estate, and for every such last mentioned visit to an estate, the estate shall be liable for the payment into the Kachehéri of a fee of Rs. 2-50, which fee shall be recoverable in the manner provided in the 23rd section of the principal Ordinance, and shall be carried to the credit of the Medical Aid Fund.

Amendment of
section 12 of 17
of 1880.

11. The 12th section of the principal Ordinance is hereby amended by adding the words "or dispensary" immediately after the words "district hospital" whenever the words "district hospital" appear.

Repealing clause.

12. Sections 16 and 17 of the principal Ordinance are hereby repealed from and after the commencement of this Ordinance.

And from and after the said date the Ordinances specified in the schedule to this Ordinance are hereby repealed : *Provided* that this repeal shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of any enactment hereby repealed, nor anything duly done or suffered under any enactment hereby repealed ; nor
- (b) Any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred under any enactment hereby repealed ; nor
- (c) Any penalty, forfeiture, or punishment incurred in respect of any offence committed against any enactment hereby repealed ; nor
- (d) Any legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment as aforesaid.

Provided that if the committee of any district shall leave any such obligation or liability unpaid, it shall be lawful for the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, on being satisfied that such obligation or liability was duly incurred under the said Ordinance No. 14 of 1872 and is unpaid, to fix and levy an assessment on all estates situated in such district according to the latest assessment roll of such district published in the *Government Gazette*, to defray the said obligation or liability ; and the assessment so made shall be a charge on the said estates and the proprietors thereof, and be recoverable in manner provided by the said Ordinance.

SCHEDULE.

1. The Ordinance No. 14 of 1872, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the Medical Wants of the Coffee Districts."
2. The Ordinance No. 18 of 1881, intituled an Ordinance to amend "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880."

Passed in Council the Twenty-ninth day of November, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-two.

J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Clerk to the Council.

Assented to by His Excellency the Governor the Fifth day of December, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-two.

J. DOUGLAS,
Colonial Secretary.
