

MEMORANDUM.

No. 17/9/1930.

1st September, 1930.

FROM: **DIR. OF MED. & HEALTH SERVICE,
NORTHERN PROVINCES,
KADUNA.**

TO: **THE RESIDENT,
KABBA PROVINCE,
LOKOJA.**



Sanitation - Native Administration Area.

I should be very much obliged if you would, for my assistance, inform me under what laws persons committing Sanitary Offences or other acts prejudicial to the Public Health are dealt with in the Native Courts in your Province; and in cases where these laws are not contained in any book of reference, give me some indication of their Nature and Extent.

[Handwritten signature]

S.H.O., N.P.

FORASST: DIRECTOR OF MED. & HEALTH SERVICE.

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten letter 'A']

No. 65/1926/SP.A.
Iokoja, 8th September, 1930

Copy to
D.O. Igala, D.O. Igbirra
D.O. Kabba, A.D.O. K/K

For information. Please furnish me with the information asked for as soon as possible.

[Handwritten signature]

Resident,
Kabba Province.

[Handwritten date: 23/9/30]

Kabba,

September 13, 1930.

From The District Officer, KALIA Division, Kabba,
To The Resident, KALIA Province, Tokoga.

Sanitation - Native Administration Area.

Your memorandum No. 65/1930/22, of 8. ix. 1930.

Sanitary offences are dealt with as breaches of native custom and in consequence only deal with that which offends the native's sense of propriety. Thus, some pools, often stagnant, may on no account be disturbed as having to do with religious rites practised by the tribe.

2. It is an offence to :-

- (a) Use a public highway as a latrine.
- (b) Allow 'bush' to grow up to the house.
- (c) To empty refuse anywhere but in the refuse pits, where the refuse is continually burnt.
- (d) To bathe, wash or pollute the water in pools used for drinking water.
- (e) To sell a diseased animal for food.

H. S. David

District Officer.

S.A.O.

B.O. 23/30

No. 30/1926/6.

Agbaja, 15th September, 1930

From Assistant District Officer i/c Koton Karifi Division.

To The Resident, Kabba Province, Lokoja.

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Sanitation - Native Administration Area.

With reference to your endorsement No. 65/1926/22.A of the 8th September, 1930, I have the honour to inform you that the punishment of offences against Sanitation and Public Health is carried out by both Native Administrations in the division though the offences have not been codified in tabular form by the Native Courts.

2. In Koton Karifi it is the duty of the Native Administration Dresser and Vaccinator to report any smells, dirt or other nuisance to the Native authority, and on the Agbaja side (where there is no dresser) this duty devolves on the Dogarai.

3. The commonest forms of these offences against Sanitation are :-

- (1) allowing rubbish to accumulate outside a compound to the annoyance of neighbours.
- (2) committing a nuisance in or near the markets or high roads.
- (3) Allowing bath water to remain stagnant and smelling at the back of a compound.

These and similar breaches of commonsense rules are usually punished by fines ranging from 2/6 to 10/-.

B.O. 23/30

B. S. ...

Assistant District Officer.

25
No. 69/16.

20th September, 1930.

at Lokoja.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
Lokoja.

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Sanitation - Native Administration Area.

With reference to your endorsement No. 65/1926/22A of 8th September, 1930, I beg to inform you that as regards Lokoja Native Town any breaches against sanitary regulations are dealt with in the Alkali's Court. For the first offence culprits are warned, for the second they are fined 2/6d. Lokoja Sanitary Inspectors inspect all animals slaughtered in the abattoirs.

2. As regards the remainder of Igbirra Division, up to the last few years the people did not bother regarding sanitary arrangements but since the Attah was installed as Chief of The Igbirras, he has instilled into them how very necessary it is for his people to observe hygienic rules and anyone committing a nuisance on roads and near houses are severely admonished and if persisted in are dealt with by the Native Courts at Okene or Ajaokuta. Public latrines have been erected in Okene Town.

W.R.T. Pencil

D.O.i/c. Igbirra Division.

Lokoja,

8th October, 1930.

The Assistant Director
Medical and Health Service,
Kaduna.

Sanitation - Native Administration Areas.

With reference to your memorandum No. 17/S/1930 of the 1st of September, 1930, I have to inform you that in all parts of Kabba Province excepting Igbirra there exists some native custom with regard to sanitary matters the simple rules of which are enforced by native courts.

2. In view of the origin of the Igbirras it is difficult to credit that they themselves were not bound by obedience to some such custom and it is quite possible that observance of their own sanitary laws began to grow ^{about 1880} when their chief persuaded them to leave their scattered and somewhat spacious hamlets and collect themselves in cramped areas in easily defensible positions on hill tops. Whether there were such laws or not they had fallen into complete desuetude when I first knew Igbirras seventeen years ago and the sight of men and women relieving nature in the streets was quite common. When the present chief succeeded his grandfather there was a complete change and under the orders issued by this enlightened man practically the same sanitary regulations as are in force in Townships are observed.

3. Native custom governing sanitary matters among the other clans in Kabba Province does not vary largely in different areas. Under it, it is an offence to

(a) use a public highway as a latrine.

(b) Allow bush to grow up near dwelling places

(c) To empty refuse elsewhere than in the pits where it is continually being burnt.

(d)

2.

(d) To bathe or wash in, or pollute the water in drinking pools.

(e) To sell a diseased animal for food.

4. In Koton Karifi Districts it is an offence to allow bath water to remain stagnant at the back of a compound but in Kabba Division there are sacred pools which must on no account be disturbed except to procure water for certain ablutions. In most cases this water is mainly used for washing infants up to a certain age.

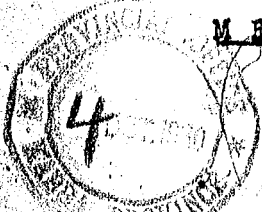
5. In Igala Division bodies of those who have died from small pox or leprosy must be buried in a place apart.

6. The simple customs enumerated above are supplemented by orders given by native authorities on the advice of Medical Officers and, considering the stage of development of pagans in these parts, the sanitation of their villages is well looked after.

M. A. J.

Resident,
Kabba Province.

HOU. *RA*



MEMORANDUM.

No. 11468/1/28

1st October, 1930.

FROM THE SECRETARY, NORTHERN PROVINCES, KADUNA.

TO

THE RESIDENT, KABBA PROVINCE.

Public Health under Native Administration.

Encl: 1

Encl: 2

I am directed by the Acting Lieutenant-Governor to forward the attached memorandum No. 20/S/1929 of the 21st of August, 1930, and memorandum No. 1426/DMS of the 30th of August, 1930, for your consideration before the meeting of the Advisory Council, at which Public Health will probably be one of the subjects of discussion.

2. It is thought that a discussion and exploration of lines of advance in Advisory Council would be feasible and that, as an alternative to a Code, Native Authorities might be encouraged to think out their own observances under tactful guidance.

3. If the Code is rejected the matter can be opened to enquire on the lines of the foregoing paragraph.

W.E. Hamlyn
Acting Secretary,
Northern Provinces.

JDM.

MEMORANDUM.

No. 20/S/1929.

21st August, 1930.

FROM THE ASST. DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL & HEALTH SERVICE, N.P., KADUNA.
TO THE HONOURABLE SECRETARY, NORTHERN PROVINCES, K A D U N A.

Northern Provinces Advisory Council, 1930.

Your 11468/27 of 16. 8. 30.

I have written to the Hon; Director of Medical and Sanitary Service to find out the departmental view of the advisability of bringing forward the following proposal.

- 14. (a). The adoption of a standardised simplified version of the Public Health Ordinance (including what native Sanitary Laws are already in existence) by all Native Administrations. This version to be compiled by an Administrative Officer (or Officers) and the Senior Health Officer.
- (b). The appointment of an adequate number of Native Administration Sanitary Inspectors and their training at the Kano School.

2. I should be grateful for an interview with you to discuss the advisability of bringing the proposal forward and the practicability of its application.

(Sgd) G. R. Waller

S.H.O., N.Fs.
for Asst. Director of Med: & Health Service.

C O P Y.

M E M O R A N D U M .

No. 1426/DMS.

30th August, 1930.

FROM DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND SANITARY SERVICE, L A G O S.
TO THE ASST. DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICE, KADUNA

Advisory Council, 1930.

The receipt of your 20/S/1929 of 21st August, 1930, is acknowledged, and I am in agreement with the principle therein outlined.

2. It was realised that it would have been impossible to have put forward a concrete proposition by the date requested in Secretary, Northern Province's memorandum No. 11468/27, viz 15th September, 1930, had the proposition been framed in Kaduna and then send down here for approval, hence, a suggested "Code" has been drawn up in this office, and is hereby forwarded to you for inclusion in your reply to the memorandum of the Secretary, Northern Provinces above quoted.

3. This "Code" is in no way "ultra vires" to the Public Health Ordinance and is not in supererogation of, but is merely meant to be ancillary to, any rules or regulations which might at present exist under Chapter 73 of the Laws of Nigeria, Should the suggested Code not contain provisions which you, in consultation with the Secretary, Northern Provinces, might think desirable to include, you may do so, as long as the inclusions are in line with the general policy of the Medical Health Department.

4. Should the Advisory Council agree to this Code, or its amended form, being presented to the Governor for his approval, it would then be necessary

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to draw up sets of model rules or byelaws under the various sections of the Code, and this of course you would do in consultation with Residents etc.

5. It will be noticed that "Markets" have been brought into the Code - this was done to enable of the better Sanitary Control of these places, which are, after all, places of some moment in the matter of Public Health and Hygiene, when it is remembered that in the North, they form the chief meeting place of any town or district.

6. With reference to subsection (b) of your memorandum, I think this should be led forward at the Council, irrespective of the reception accorded to the suggested "Code".

(Sgd) J. A. A. Duncan

for Ag: Director of Med: & San: Service.