

ORDINANCE NO. 8

An Ordinance to protect and preserve public health and defining the duties of the health officer and other persons and providing penalties for the violation hereof. The Board of Supervisors of the county of Imperial do ordain as follows:

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the health officer, under the direction and control of the Board of Supervisors, to enforce all laws, ordinances and regulations relating to the causes of sickness, nuisances and sources of filth existing within said county.

Sec. 2. Placards of the various colors, green for diphtheria, red for scarlet fever and yellow for smallpox, shall be provided by the direction of the board of supervisors, and such as may be necessary supplied to the various druggists in the county outside of the incorporated cities; also to those in incorporated cities or towns where special health ordinances do not exist.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of any and all physicians treating or having charge of any case or cases of contagious or infectious disease within the county of Imperial and under the jurisdiction of said Imperial county health officer, to placard the house where said contagion or infection exists, obtaining the placards from said druggists, free of charge, and otherwise enforce a strict quarantine to the extent of minimizing the contagion or infection and report the same forthwith to the county health officer on postal cards supplied for said purposes; placards to remain on said houses from ten to thirty days, at the discretion of the health officer.

Sec. 4. Should any physician be called to treat or come in contact with, or have knowledge of any case or cases of smallpox, typhus or yellow fever or leprosy within the borders of Imperial county, he shall enforce the strictest quarantine possible and communicate by the surest and quickest means (telephone if possible) with the county health officer, whose duty it shall be and who shall have full power in the interest of the community at large to remove any such patients if such removal can be accomplished without danger to life, to pest house or other places of safety and otherwise enforce such quarantine measures as he may deem wise and expedient in the interest of the general health of the community.

Sec. 5. No person or persons, except the physician, clergyman or undertaker and those having written permit from the health officer, shall enter or depart from any house where smallpox, cholera or any other dangerous, contagious or infectious disease exists or while the corpse of any person who shall have died of such disease remains within the house, or within ten days thereafter or until said building and its contents shall have been disinfected or otherwise disposed of to the satisfaction of the health officer.

Sec. 6. No person shall, without a permit from the health officer carry or remove from one building or place to another, or from any railroad depot to any house or through any public street or highway, any person sick of contagious disease, nor shall any article of clothing or bedding or any other article by which the germs of disease might spread, be removed from said premises, or from one place to another until thoroughly disinfected, to the satisfaction of the health officer, and, if, in the judgment of the health officer, it is necessary to destroy said clothing or bedding or other article, in order to prevent the spread of said disease, then the same shall be destroyed by him or under his directions. Any person attending upon or otherwise coming in contact with any contagious or infectious disease in such manner or to such extent as to render him or her liable to contract said disease or to communicate said disease to others, shall not go into any public place or assembly or mingle with other persons not affected with such infectious or contagious disease. And, if, in the judgment of the health officer it is necessary that such person so exposed be quarantined then a quarantine of such person shall be established as provided in section 8, and shall be continued until the danger of communicating such contagious or infectious disease shall have passed. And it shall be unlawful for said person so quarantined to leave the quarantined premises without the written consent of the health officer. Any person employed by the health officer and authorized in writing filed by the county clerk, to enforce section 6 or section 8 of this ordinance by confining persons to their dwellings or places of abode, is hereby authorized to wear as a badge of authority a badge or star bearing the words "Quarantine Officer," and it shall be unlawful to resist or obstruct or interfere with such person in the discharge of his duties.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of every householder in this county to report, in writing to the health officer, immediately the name of every person boarding at his or her house whom he or she shall have reason to believe to be sick with scarlet fever, diphtheria, cholera, small pox or other dangerous, contagious or infectious disease and any deaths occurring at his or her house from said disease.

Sec. 8. Whenever a case of smallpox or cholera shall exist in a house or tenement and it shall be deemed inexpedient to remove the person or persons so afflicted to the proper hospital, it shall be the duty of the health officer to require all such persons to be kept closely confined in their respective dwellings or place of abode and shall immediately cause to be constructed in a conspicuous place in front of such dwelling or place of abode, a yellow flag or other suitable notice, setting forth the fact and it shall be unlawful for the occupants

thereof, or any other person, to remove such flag or notice as long as in the opinion of the health officer the same ought to remain on said premises.

Sec. 9. It shall be the duty of the health officer or any public officer, when necessary, to secure the public health, to enter upon the premises or in the house or other place, of any person to discover or inspect any nuisance that may there exist, to inspect drains, vaults, cellars, cess pools, water closets, privies or sewers or the yards of such premises to examine into their condition and when satisfied that apartments used for lodging and other purposes are improperly constructed or liable from overcrowding or filth to become dangerous to the public health or to disseminate contagious or infectious disease, or are not provided with privies, water closets or with sewers, drains or cesspools properly tapped they or any of them shall notify the health officer and he shall serve a written notice upon the owner or other person in charge of such premises, to remove the nuisance therein named, and if such owner or other person in charge, neglect to obey such notice, the health officer shall forthwith report the same to the board of supervisors of the county, who shall at once require the district attorney of said county to take the necessary steps to have the same abated as a public nuisance.

Sec. 10. Whenever a nuisance, endangering in the opinion of the health officer, the public health, shall be ascertained to exist on any premises or in any house or other place in any city, town or township, the health officer shall notify in writing any person or persons owning or having control of or acting as agent for such premises, house or other place to abate or remove such nuisance within a reasonable time, to be stated in such notice.

Sec. 11. Upon the neglect or refusal of any owner, occupant or agent or other person having control of such house or other place to comply with such notice, the health officer may abate such nuisance and the owner, agent or occupant or other person having control of such house or place, in addition to the penalty provided by this ordinance shall be liable to the county of Imperial for the cost of such abatement to be recovered in a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 12. No privy vault, privy, cess pool or water closet shall be allowed by the owner or other person in charge of the premises upon which the same may be situated, to become foul or offensive and when in opinion of the health officer any such privy, vault or closet or cess pool shall need cleaning or disinfecting, it shall be the duty of said health officer to notify such owner or other person having control to abate the same by disinfecting or cleaning, as in the judgment of said officer may be necessary, or in case of a defective or offensive cesspool the owner shall cause a new one to be constructed, if the same is deemed necessary by the health officer.

Sec. 13. No butcher's offal or garbage nor any dead animals nor any diseased, putrid or offensive animal or vegetable matter shall be allowed to be placed or remain upon the premises of any person or corporation or to be deposited or remain upon street, alley, park, vacant lot or public highway or road in common use or within a quarter of a mile of such road or highway or any other place or in any standing or running water or excavation and the same are hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

Sec. 14. No person, firm, company or corporation shall cause or permit any horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry or any kind of live stock or domestic animals to pollute the waters or tributaries of such waters used or intended for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any part of this county.

Sec. 15. No person shall bathe or wash clothes in any spring, stream, river, lake, reservoir, well, flume, canal or other waters which are used or intended for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of this county.

Sec. 16. No firm, company, corporation or any other person shall drain water into any canal, stream, river, lake, well, flume, reservoir or other waters which are used or intended to be used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of Imperial county.

Sec. 17. It shall be the duty of each special health officer in this county in addition to the reports already provided for to report not later than the Thursday preceding the first Monday in each month to the county health officer on blanks provided for such purpose, the conditions from a sanitary standpoint within his district, the general health of the community, the number of births, deaths and of contagious diseases reported to him.

Sec. 18. It shall be the duty of all physicians practicing in this county, to report on postal cards provided for such purpose to the health officer in whose district the same may occur, all births at which he may attend, all deaths for which he is entitled to sign death certificates and the number of cases of contagious diseases.

Sec. 19. No person, firm or corporation in the county of Imperial, State of California, shall irrigate in any manner with sewage any strawberries, celery, lettuce, radishes, tomatoes or onions.

Sec. 20. It shall be unlawful for any person to bury the carcass of any dead animal in such a way that there shall be less than three feet of soil above such carcass.

Sec. 21. No person shall disinter or remove from the place of burial in the county of Imperial the dead body of any human being without obtaining from the county health officer or the board of supervisors, a permit therefor.

Sec. 22. No person, firm or corporation shall move into or across the county of Imperial or any part thereof, any case of infectious or contagious disease without the written consent of the county health officer.

Sec. 23. Each physician in the county of Imperial shall report to the health officer of said county, every patient he

shall have under his care or attention who is afflicted with Asiatic cholera, diphtheria, scarlet fever, smallpox or dangerous, contagious or infectious disease as soon as he shall become satisfied of the nature of the disease and shall report to the same officer every case of death from such disease, immediately after it shall have occurred.

Sec. 24. It is unlawful for any person to resist or attempt to resist the entrance of the health officer into any railroad car, stage, vehicle, building, room, lot or other place in said county, in performance of his duty, or to refuse to obey any lawful order of the health officer when made in performance of his duties or within the powers conferred by this ordinance or by law.

Sec. 25. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with any of the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Sec. 26. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not to exceed three hundred dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail of Imperial county for not exceeding six months or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec. 27. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on and after November 25, 1907, and prior to the expiration of fifteen days from the passage hereof shall be published for at least one week in the Imperial Press, a newspaper printed and published in the county of Imperial, State of California, together with the names of the members of the board of supervisors voting for and against same.

Passed and adopted this 5th day of November, 1907.

F. S. WEBSTER,
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Imperial county, California.

The above ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

Supervisor Sidney McHarg voting yes.
Supervisor R. H. Clark voting yes.
Supervisor F. S. Webster voting yes.
Supervisor G. R. Wade voting yes.
Supervisor Porter N. Ferguson absent.

Attest my hand and the seal of the board of supervisors this 5th day of November, 1907.

D. S. ELDER,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

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