

Small Ox

Small pox at Ravenshill

1.
June 1938

15-184

During Nov. 1937 I received a notice to warn all natives from my 3 lower farms to go to be vaccinated. — by an oversight I omitted to do so + only a few of my natives attended + were done.

For farm Ravenshill I received no notice of vaccination.

1st Feb.

I wrote to District Surgeon reporting a suspected case of small pox at Ravenshill — a girl who had been working in the house he replied (inclosure 1) that I must report outbreak to A.N.C. Danielskloof.

2nd Feb.

I went to A.N.C. who said authority would have to be obtained from Pretoria before a general vaccination could be done — but that he would instruct D.S. to visit Ravenshill + confirm if small pox.

I saw D.S. + begged him when he came out to at least vaccinate all contacts + my house servants. as I was nervous.

2nd or 3rd Feb.

D.S. came out, saw case. + vaccinated about 35 natives — only 1 of these vaccinations subsequently took.

D.S. told me authority for vaccination was expected by end of the week + that

a general vaccination would be done early following week.

14th Feb.

wrote A.N.C. reporting fresh cases + asking him when general ~~the~~ vaccination was going to be done - he replied (inclosure 2) that they were waiting for fresh vaccine.

18th Feb.

Went in + saw A.N.C. - complained of delay - he offered to send D.S. out that day to inspect fresh cases - but I advised him to wait until the fresh vaccine came.

19th Feb.

A.N.C. came out with District Surgeon's locum tenens who vaccinated the contacts of the new cases - none of these vaccinations took + I afterwards heard the old vaccine had again been used.

22nd Feb.

All natives were assembled here for a general vaccination - but D.S. stuck in the mud after heavy rain was unable to reach farm - + wrote vaccination must be postponed.

25th Feb.

Went in + saw D.S. who said he would hold vaccination on March 1st on one of my other farms Veedefanten which was more central.

March 1st

All natives went to the appointed place & waited all day but D.S. never turned up - roads were dry there had been no rain for 6 days.

March 9th

Received inclosure 3 from A.N.C. saying vaccination would be held on 10th at the gate between Vredefontein and Zwartkoppies. as these farms do not adjoin in fact are about 5 miles apart I had to go in & ask A.N.C. what spot exactly was meant.

March 10th

D.S. carried out general vaccination at Vredefontein 37 days after I had reported the first case.

By this time every child on Ravenstilt 23 had had or was then suffering from small pox -

All the natives on my other farms were done on March 10th except those from the furthest farm Sedon ~~which~~ who arrived late - meeting the D.S. on his way back but he refused to stop to do them.

None of these vaccinations took & towards the end of April there was a bad outbreak at Vredefontein - 24 cases all at once & complete disorganization of labour.

DR. J. G. SIEBERT

M.B. CH.B.

TELEPHONE 1

Enclosure 1

Box 27

Duivelstloof

Tuesday.

Dear Miss Eland,

I have just received your note that you wrote yesterday.

For some extraordinary reason, you were not notified about the vaccination that I did last week at Medingen for an outbreak that occurred there.

The best thing to do under the circumstances is to send an official notification to the Commissioner here and as soon as the weather permits, a special vaccination can be done on your farm. After the rain that we have had recently, I very much doubt whether I will be able to get to your farm today.

Please then send the notification to Emmett and as soon as the weather clears up I shall come and vaccinate there.

Sincerely yours,

J. G. Siebert

In Reply Please Quote
In Antwoord heel a.s.b. aan

No. 13/1/4

JS.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

OFFICE OF THE—KANTOOR VAN DIE

ASSISTANT NATIVE COMMISSIONER:
DUIVELSKLOOF.

15th February, 1938.

Mrs. D.M. Eland,
Ravenshill,
P.O. DUIVELSKLOOF.

Madam,

Vaccination of Natives.

With reference to your letter of the 14th instant, on the above subject, I beg to inform you that authority has now been obtained for the District Surgeon to re-visit Ravenshill Estate and surrounding parts. The vaccine has, however, run out and fresh supplies are expected in by the end of this week and it is hoped that he will be able to perform the vaccinations early next week when an itinerary will be arranged.

I have the honour to be,
Madam,
Your obedient servant,

Samuel H.
ASSISTANT NATIVE COMMISSIONER.

Enclosure 3

Z. 14.



IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
GELIEWE IN U ANTWOORD TE
VERWYS NA

13/1/4

No.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.
OFFICE OF THE—KANTOOR VAN DIE

ASSISTANT NATIVE COMMISSIONER:
DUIVELSKLOOF.

8th March, 1938.

Miss D. Eland,
RAVENSHILL.

Madam,

I beg to kindly request you to warn all your Natives on Ravenshill, who have not been vaccinated, to be at the gate between ^{sluiskoppe} Zwartkoppies and Vredefontein on Thursday the 10th instant at 10 a.m.

A notice will be sent as well to your Manager (Mr. Vermaak) to warn all Natives on the lower farms to appear at the same place.

I have the honour to be,
Madam,
Your obedient servant,

Smulltt
ASSISTANT NATIVE COMMISSIONER AND
SPECIAL JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

EME/JS.

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