

Ecclesiastical (1899) Department.

ORDINARY MS. (Printed)

G.O., No. 128

DATED 7 - 10 - 99

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Requesting the Venerable the Archdeacon, to ~~submit~~
~~and revise the existing~~ submit proposals for
defining more clearly the rights and duties of
Lay Trustees.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
DB	no 580	799	Do 372 6-12-99				
C	no 460	799					

26/98 and 134/9855-
Ecclesiastical (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 330



Order

From
The Venerable W. Weston Elwes, M. A.
Archdeacon of Madras.

No. 5348.

Dated 14th September 1899.

Received 15th }
Registered 16th } ———

Enclosures -

Spare copies -

SUBJECT,

Proposed alterations to
Rules for Lay Trustees

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	134	Ecd	17.11.98
	26	"	12.2.98
	248	"	29.10.67

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT,
North Fild HouseCoonoor
Madras, 14th September 1899.

No. 5378.

From

THE VENERABLE W. WESTON ELWES, M.A.,
Archdeacon of Madras.

To

The Honorable
The Chief Secretary
to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to express my regret that I forgot to write to Government concerning the rights and duties of Lay Trustees at the time when I went into the matter.

2. I consulted the Right Reverend Bishop Gell, then Bishop of Madras, and his then Chaplain and I am aware of the opinions of the Chaplains generally on the matter.

3. I have the honor to state for the consideration of Government that I believe it to be almost unanimous opinion that it would be inadvisable to define more strictly than is at present defined in the rules for Lay Trustees the duties and responsibilities of Lay Trustees.

4. The fact is that at present owing to the small number of Chaplains there is a large amount of work falling on Lay Trustees both on Sundays and week days and the Bishops, the Chaplains

99 Archdeacon
or in 20 1801 - C
17.11.98

in 20 26 and
12.2.98

38
Chaplains and myself are much grateful for the help rendered. But there is even now at times a decided difficulty in getting men to accept the office and we are afraid that if the rules are made more stringent there would be a greater difficulty.

5. I believe that under the system of Accounts which is now being carried out - or under some similar one, with a proper audit, and with the careful examination of Accounts by the Bishop on his Visitation Tours (an Examination which I think to be very necessary) there will not be much likelihood of matters going wrong in the Church Accounts.

6. I would therefore ask that Government will be pleased to postpone any alterations in the rules for Lay Trustees for at least a little time longer.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
W. Westcott
Archdeacon of Madras.

R-4-1A-73

R-4-1A-73

could write

Eccles.

DEPARTMENT.

Novis m. 40. 15. 128 Eccl. 97/10/97

Ms. Am. Socy

C. No. 330 From the *Vu 'tu Archidion*, No. 5378, dated 14.9.1899.

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for orders

In the last sentence of para 6 of G.O. no 26 Secs., dated 12.2.98, which dealt with the defalcations in the funds of St. Stephen's Church, Ootacamund, the Viceroy the Archbishop was requested to submit proposals for defining more clearly the rights & duties of Lay Trustees. This clause of the G.O. was based on para 8 of S.O. the Govt's note of 2.7.97, at Flay 7^k in the original G.O.

2. In response to a
memorandum dated 2.8.88,

Wm. Hall.

The Archdeacon now expresses his regret that he forgot to write to Govt. on this subject at the time he went into the matter. He states that he consulted the Rt. Rev. Bishop Gell, when Bishop of Madras, & his then Chaplain, & that he is aware of the opinions of the Chaplain generally on the subject. His recommendation now is that the proposed alterations in the rules be postponed, because there is now decided difficulty in getting men to accept the office of Lay Trustee, & that if the rules are made more stringent, there would be greater difficulty. He thinks that under the system of accounts now being carried out (Go. No 134 Rules of 17. 11. 94) there will not be much likelihood of mistakes being wrong in Church accounts.

3. The "Rules relating to the office & duties of

Appended to Go 86 Seal
14-XI-95

Lay Trustees", as they now stand will be found in Go. No 86 Rules, dated 14. 11. 95. orders are required.

C. S. Simpson
Clerk
19. 9. 99
also
20. 9. 99.

W. H. S. M. S.

Note by H. E. the Governor

I have looked through the Rules at G.

They seem to me to be wanting in clearness as to the duties and responsibilities of Lay Trustees in matters connected with the receipt and spending of money. If I were asked to be a Lay Trustee and would know the rules, it would be this want of clearness in such matters, that would frighten me and cause me to hesitate to accept the office of Lay Trustee; it would certainly not be stringency in the existing Rules that would alarm me or deter me. Clergymen as a class, are, I am sorry to say, unbusinesslike in money matters; and it is this defect on their part that the Lay Trustees should be enabled under the Rules, to watch over and correct. I am of opinion that the rules should define clearly the duties and responsibilities of the Lay Trustees in respect of operations and

and other moneys which pass through Chaplains' hands. The Archdeacon should be greatly pleased to submit amendments to the Rules, governing such matters. Rules V and VII are those which appear to lay down the duties and responsibilities of Lay Trustees. They are very vague.

A.L.H. (Amended) 30.9.99

[E. & L.]
500-10-11-98.

Eccl. DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Current No. 330	of 1899, dated 14-9-99	, from the Ven. the Archdeacon
" "	" 189 , "	" "
" "	" 189 , "	" "

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ORDER. n^o 128 7-10-99.
his.

Rules V. & VII are the most important of the Rules relating to the office & duties of Lay Trustees in what they deal with the more general duties of Lay Trustees & their responsibilities in matters connected with the receipt & spending of money. These rules are vague & wanting in clearness in regard to the very important matters with which they deal.

A. E. the Gov^t in Council considers that the difficulty experienced in inducing persons to accept the office of Lay Trustees may be attributed to the absence of a clear definition of the position of Lay Trustees in matters connected with the receipt & expenditure of money. The Church Committee consider therefore that the duties & responsibilities of Lay Trustees in respect of offertories & other sums of money which pass through the Chaplains' hands should be precisely stated. The Ven. the Archdeacon will accordingly be requested to amplify & revise these rules & to submit the necessary amendments to the Rules in time for the approval of Gov^t. (From order)

Issue 7/10/99

To the Ven. the Archdeacon (200)

10.10.99

6/10/99

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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