

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1915.

Enclaves

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G.O. No. 844, 5th August 1915.

Ground-nuts.

Recording the note submitted by the Director of Industries on the position of the ground-nut trade.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter—from K. T. B. TRESSLER, Esq., Director of Industries.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—Madras, the 24th June 1915.
No.—90.

In continuation of my previous notes regarding the position of groundnuts, I have the honour to submit the following further report.

2. My last report covered the period up to September. It will be remembered that Government sanctioned the purchase of several seed-crushing plants for the purpose of dealing with the groundnut problem and at the time of my last report one of these plants had been bought and got to work. The second one has since been purchased and erected at Cuddalore. The third one has not yet been bought as there is no further machinery of this kind available on the market. Two similar machines were however purchased some time back by private individuals and these are affording facilities for crushing in the Coimbatore district.

The purchase of a large oil mill was also sanctioned. This plant has been shipped in part: unfortunately before delivery could be completely effected the manufacturers' works were taken over by the War Office. I wired to the India Office and took such other steps as I could to try and secure delivery and I believe that I shall be able to get full delivery but somewhat behind time.

3. As regards the groundnut crop generally, the price before the outbreak of war was somewhat over Rs. 40 a candy. For several years previously the demand had been so great that prices had risen steadily; ryots were able to secure what might be termed fancy prices. The market rate in 1914 was enormously in excess of the cultivation costs which may be estimated at somewhere about Rs. 16 a candy.

On the outbreak of war prices began to fall, and with the temporary closure of the Marseilles market the demand shrank tremendously. Local shippers however did their best to continue shipments to Europe. Though these amounted to very much less than during the corresponding period in the previous year, they were nevertheless considerable, as one or two other markets, notably the Calcutta market, showed a remarkable expansion.

4. Nevertheless prices continued to fall. It is, however, worthy of remark that, except for short periods, shippers maintained a demand for nuts which was not met readily as ryots considered the price too low and preferred to hold up their crops.

5. The market gradually declined until it touched about Rs. 18 at which figure sales ceased altogether. From information received from the Board of Trade in England I understand that, whereas the Marseilles industry was at first paralysed, the labour market (which was mostly Italian) remained unaffected and towards the end of last year, the reason why crushing was being restricted was not the fact that the nuts could not be worked, but that the *poonac* (which was contraband) could not be exported.

Negotiations followed between the British and French Governments and resulted in the shipment of 18,000 tons of *poonac* to Great Britain and other neutral countries. This immediately relieved the market and the price of nuts recovered rapidly in Marseilles. How far the entry of Italy into the arena of war is likely to affect the situation I am unable to say, but at the present moment the ruling price for nuts in

Marseilles is very little below what it was before the war. There has been a corresponding recovery in price in India and nuts now stand at about Rs. 28. This figure is substantially below what it was last year, but it is not to be hoped that it will materially improve for the reason that the difference between the two figures is accounted for almost entirely by the change in freights and exchange. Freights are nearly three times as high as they were before the war and it is unlikely that they will fall in the near future or even for a considerable period after the war. I will not assert that ryots can dispose of the whole of their crop, but I can say that the demand now is very much in excess of the supplies offered and that the price is as high as, with ruling freight charges, a ryot can possibly hope to obtain. If therefore he continues to hold up his crop and finds later on that he has made a mistake, he has only himself to thank.

6. In these circumstances I consider that the groundnut question need not further engage the attention of Government and furthermore I propose to abandon what I have termed protective measures and shall not purchase the third expeller originally contemplated. The large oil mill under order will however be proceeded with, as this is a "progressive" rather than a "protective" measure and the change in the situation has not affected this scheme at all. I may add that I have made arrangements with a large firm to keep me supplied with raw material for at least two years in sufficient quantity to keep the mill running for at least half its time, I being at liberty also to take in any other supply that I may wish to.

Order—No. 844, Educational, dated 5th August 1915.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

C. G. TODHUNTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Industries.
 Editors' Table.

Endorsement—No. 845, Educational, dated 5th August 1915.

Copy to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry.

C. G. TODHUNTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 844, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 5TH AUGUST 1915.

[SUBJECT.—*Note on the position of the groundnut trade.*]

From the Director of Industries, dated 24th June 1915, No. 90.

Mr. Tressler's letter may, it is submitted, be circulated to His Excellency the Governor and the Honourable Members.

2. A draft order recording the paper is submitted for approval. It is for orders whether Mr. Tressler's note may be placed on the Editors' Table in full.

S.K.—29-6-15.

C.R.—29-6-15.

Draft for approval. The papers may be placed on the Editors' Table.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—30-6-15.

Were any similar earlier notes by Mr. Tressler so placed on the Editors' Table?

P[ENTLAND]—2-7-15.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—3-7-15.

Submitted that the following Government orders contained similar notes on groundnut trade and other industries by Mr. Tressler :—

- (1) G.O. No. 2802, Revenue, dated the 26th September 1914.
- (2) " " 3271 " " the 13th November "
- (3) " " 3468 " " the 30th " "
- (4) " " 385, Educational, dated the 10th April 1915.

Of these Nos. (1) and (2) were placed on Editors' Table; the other two were not.

As regards No. (3) it was thought that the notes would require much editing and that they contained matters which were not not altogether suited for publication.

Please see Revenue Secretary's note on page 1 of Notes to G.O. 3468, Revenue, 30th November 1914.

In regard to the notes in No. (4)—G.O. No. 385, Educational, dated the 10th April 1915—Mr. Tressler himself desired that they should not be published and the Government order was not therefore placed on the Editors' Table.

Last paragraph, page 3 of G.O. 385, Educational, 10th May 1915.

S.K.—5-7-15.

C.R.—5-7-15.

Please see the Revenue G.Os. No. 2802, dated the 26th September 1914 and No. 3271, dated 13th November 1914, which both deal with groundnuts. They have been placed on the Editors' Table. The present report of Mr. Tressler is in continuation of the other papers.

P.R.—6-7-15.

Please refer the point to Mr. Tressler: with the facts given above as to the publication of the four previous orders.

P[ENTLAND]—7-7-15.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—8-7-15.

A draft memorandum is submitted for approval.

S.K.—10-7-15.

C.R.—10-7-15.

E. A. HARVEY—14-7-15.

[Memorandum No. 2242-1, Educational, dated the 15th July 1915.]

From the Director of Industries, dated 21st July 1915, No. K. 141.

Mr. Tressler states that his note on groundnut trade may be placed on Editors' Table. Submitted for orders whether the drafts may now issue.

S.K.—27-7-15.

C.R.—27-7-15.

I think the portion placed in brackets in paragraph 4 may be omitted. Mr. Tressler's circular to Collectors asking them to tell ryots he could sell their produce for them at half the previous year's prices was ill-advised and might be the subject of unfavourable criticism.

C. G. TODHUNTER—28-7-15.

P[ENTLAND]—1-8-15.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—4-8-15.

[G.O. No. 844, Educational, dated 5th August 1915.]

Est. Dept.

[CR 2242]

Memo. No. 2242-1 Est.

The notes on groundnut and other industries ~~received~~ submitted by the Director of Industries, which were recorded in G.O. No. 2802 Rev. and 3271 Rev., dated the 26th September and 13th November respectively were placed on the Editors' Table, while those recorded in G.O. No.

(A) 3468 Rev. dated the 30th Nov 1914 and G.O. No. 385-Est. dated the 10th April 1915 were not.

(B) The Director is requested to state whether the ^{note} on groundnut in his letter No. 90 dated the 24th June 1915 may be placed on the Editors' Table.

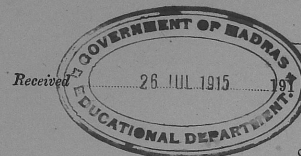
S.K. 10.7.15
10.7.15

Notes in CB

15.7.15

To The D.I.
15.7.15

Passed by the
Revenue
note



DEPARTMENT.

Registered 26 7 1915

Subject.

Stating that the report on Groundnut trade

may be placed on the Editor's table.

ENCLOSURE
No.
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No. K 141

Station, Dated the 21st July 1915

From (Name) K. T. B. Tressler Esq.,

(Designation) Director of Industries.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Educational Department.

Sir,

With reference to Government Memorandum No.2242-1 dated 15th July 1915, I have the honour to state that the report on Ground nut trade in my letter No.90 dated the 24th June 1915 may be placed on the Editor's table.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Director of Industries.

” ” ” ” ” 191

C. No. 2242 From the 8-9, No. 90, dated 24. 6. 1915

" " " ", , ,"

191

ORDER.

No. 844 of 5.8.1915

Recorded.

$\frac{SK}{29.6.15}$
 $\frac{CA}{29.6.15}$

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Department of Commerce &
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29.6.15. *Ch*
25.6.15

The S. J.
E. T.

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Education DEPARTMENT.

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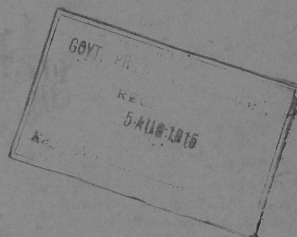
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