

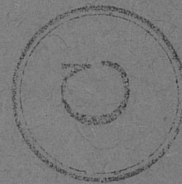
Educational (1902) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 434

DATED 28. 7. 02.

INDEXED.



[Despatch Abstract.]

Government Botanist

Recording proceedings Revenue Dept. passing
orders on Board's proposals regarding the Transfer
of Govt. Botanists headquarters to Madras.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

40-209/10-6-02

CURRENT No. 1097

Government {1902} of Madras. REVENUE.

order no. 434 of 28-7-02
mis.

Recorded.

Recd. 24-7-1902.
Regd. 24-7-

Enclosures Recd. 24/7/2
Spare copies 25/7/2

Cope to the S. G. M.
D. P. L.

G.O., No. 615, 15th July 1902.

JULY.

Government Botanist.

Passing orders on Board's proposals regarding the transfer of the Government Botanist's head-quarters to Madras and the appointment of an Assistant to the Botanist on a salary of Rs. 50-5-75 for entomological work.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 2905, dated 21st May 1902 :—

The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. NICHOLSON, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Read—the following letter from C. A. BARBER, Esq., Government Botanist, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 29th April 1902, No. 261 :—

I have the honour to point out in connection with recent changes in the Government Botanist's work, that an addition to the botanical staff will be of great advantage.

2. During the past year, I have had two assistants. One of these has devoted himself to the herbarium, while the other has had the general management of the office while I have been on tour, and devoted himself to such economic work as has been possible. When either has been absent from the office, the other has taken over charge and continuity of work has been assured. This arrangement will not be possible in future, because of the division of my office into two halves, the herbarium going to the Museum and the office and economic work to Chepauk. The herbarium will still need its assistant, and if the economic assistant is required for other work, the office will be closed and all economic work will close when I am on tour. Besides this, even when I am at head office, I shall require the help of one assistant properly to carry on laboratory work.

The Samalkota sugar station will take up an assistant for the greater part of each year if not for the whole of it. Thus, during the coming year, the two assistants will be tied to the Museum and Samalkota, respectively, and none will be available for Chepauk.

3. There is furthermore a great change in the character of my tours impending. On purely systematic tours I did not require an assistant, but I shall do so now. Hitherto an Agricultural Inspector has been placed at my disposal, but I doubt if this can be continued, and for many reasons it would be better to have one of my own assistants with me.

4. I have the honour to place this matter before the Board and to request that, if possible, an additional assistant (Rs. 75—5—100) be added to my establishment. There is little doubt from the character of the work of the last year, as detailed in my annual report, and the increase of economic work during the year now commencing, that full employment will be found for the additional assistant. At the same time the work of my Department will, I fear, be seriously hampered if I have not this additional help.

I leave the question of addition to the inferior staff at present, since I find it difficult to judge what my needs will be in Madras.

Read—also the following letter from C. A. BARBER, Esq., Government Botanist, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 29th April 1902, No. 267 :—

I have the honour to forward herewith certain remarks upon the question of entomological work in connection with agriculture, as dealt with in the papers forwarded with Board's Proceedings, No. 62, dated 14th April 1902.

2. Attention was drawn in my Memorandum No. 303, dated 5th January 1901, to the close connection between work on injurious insects and that on economic botany. In the Board's Proceedings referred to, I note that the Board appreciates the need of economic entomology, and has pointed out that a specialist in this subject is usually attached to an Agricultural Department. In G.O., No. 292, dated 25th March 1902, it is, however, stated that there is no likelihood of money being available for this purpose. The accompanying memorandum is drawn up with a view to disposing of this difficulty as well as one which has prominently presented itself of late in the work of this office.

3. I would draw attention, in the first place, to the fact that an entomologist was appointed a year ago to the Government of India, and it was hoped that this would be a substantial gain to the Agricultural Department of this presidency. During Mr. de Niceville's short tenure of office, it became abundantly evident, however, that he was overworked, and no time was available for work in this presidency. As he pointed out to me the work in his office was already five years in arrears and each year's work would place it in a worse position.

4. I wish in the next place to make a few remarks as to what an economic entomologist is and the probability of such an officer being forthcoming, supposing the Madras Government were desirous of entertaining one. Entomology is peculiarly a subject affected by amateurs. There is a fascination about the collection of butterflies, moths, beetles or other insect, which appeals to some minds and this work is frequently taken up as a recreation by gentlemen in various walks of life. Both Mr. de Niceville and Mr. E. E. Green, the well-known Government Entomologist of Ceylon, were amateurs before their appointment by Government.

5. Entomology is not usually taught in any University. Just as the Cryptogamist is a trained Botanist, who devoted his attention to the study of fungi, so an Entomologist is a trained Zoologist who devotes himself to the study of insects. The only place where a professional entomologist can be obtained is in one of the museums. But the Entomologist of the museum is a very different person from one of the fields and crops. I have no hesitation in saying that should an officer of the latter class be required, he would most likely not be obtainable.

6. I will now draw attention to the fact that much of my time in economic work has been devoted to the study of insect pests both in the West Indies and here in Madras. This will be evident from the accompanying W.I. pamphlets. In Madras I need merely refer to the tea-eelworm disease, the cock-chaffer pest, the South Arcot ground-nut pests, cane pests, the pepper mites, the date palm pest, and the various insects affecting coffee and tea plants. There is a very distinct entomological side to my work, but I have not the time to devote myself to the study of minutiae necessary to work out the life history of insect pests in the crops, and I am in need of the special knowledge of insect classification and anatomy only to be acquired by a continuous course of study.

7. I propose therefore, for the opinion of the Board, that an Entomological Assistant at a salary of Rs. 75—5—100 be added to my staff. He would be selected from the young zoologists trained at the Presidency College, and I would direct his work. From the experience I have gained during my three years in the Presidency, I am satisfied that the native graduates of the Madras University are well qualified, under suitable direction, to undertake entomological studies. The work required is close attention to details and exhaustive observations, sometimes repeated many times, on certain points. I have had several opportunities of directing the practical work of

natives of this country, both in University College, London, and in the University of Cambridge, and I regard them as peculiarly fitted for the patient details required in the study of plant and animal life.

8. It is necessary for me to add, as regards my fitness for this departure, that I spent seven years in the study of zoology and hold certificates as to my competence in that subject; also that, before I left England, I was appointed to occupy the chair of Entomology at Cooper's Hill College as well as that of botany.

9. For the present the work would be chiefly the collection and study of the insect pests met with. We should, for some time, be dependent upon special departments for the naming of species, but, as time goes on, a full collection of injurious insects would be got together and much tardy and wearisome reference work would be avoided.

10. Further details of the proposed assistant's work will, if necessary, be forwarded, which will show that such work cannot at present be undertaken by the Government Botanist's staff.

Resolution—Mis. No. 2905, dated 21st May 1902.

In the papers read above, the Government Botanist applies for the addition of two assistants to his staff, each on a salary of Rs. 75—5—100.

2. The staff sanctioned for the Government Botanist in G.O., No. 171, Revenue, dated 8th March 1899, was as noted on the margin. The pay of the clerk was subsequently raised to Rs. 50 inclusive of hill allowance, and in G.Os., Nos. 1123, Revenue, dated 9th May 1901, and No. 1593, Revenue, dated 15th June 1900, an Assistant Collector on Rs. 15 and an additional peon and a lascar each on Rs. 10 were added.

In G.O., No. 1209, Revenue, dated 8th December 1900, the appointment of a second assistant on Rs. 75—5—100 was sanctioned in order to enable the Government Botanist to carry on investigations into plant diseases.

3. In the first paper read above, the Government Botanist points out that as the herbarium is, under G.O., No. 292, Revenue, dated 25th March 1902, to be placed in the Central Museum, he will in a great measure be deprived of the services of the assistant in charge, and that, when he is on tour, work at head-quarters will be brought to a standstill, and that, even at head-quarters, he will require the assistance of a subordinate to carry on economic work, whilst his senior assistant will be almost, if not entirely, tied to the sugarcane experiment station at Samalkot.

The Board recognizes these difficulties, but it considers that they can be most satisfactorily and economically removed by providing sufficient and convenient accommodation for the Government Botanist at Chepauk. On this point, the Government is being separately addressed.

4 In the second letter read above, Mr. Barber points to the close connection between the work of a botanist and that of an economic entomologist, and alludes to his qualifications for such work.

In its Proceedings, No. 166, dated 5th August 1901, the Board pointed out that it was incumbent on the Agricultural Department to devote attention to the insect pests, from which the crops of the country suffer, but the Government remarked that it saw no immediate prospect of finding funds for the employment of the staff required—G.O., No. 292, Revenue, dated 25th March 1902. Mr. Barber now suggests that if he be provided with another assistant to train specially in this line of work, he will be able to carry on the work desired. The Board strongly recommends that this proposal may be accepted, and that an additional assistant for entomological work should

be added to the staff of the Government Botanist. The proposal has the merit of great cheapness coupled, in the Government Botanist's opinion, with efficiency; it introduces Madras Graduates to science on its practical side and suggests new fields of employment; the opportunity of utilizing the Government Botanist's experience and scientific attainments in training young men is not one to be lost; and the appointment increases his own range of operations so that the State will derive still more benefit from his services.

5. As regards the salary to be offered, the Board considers that Mr. Barber's proposals are somewhat liberal, and that, in order to maintain some sequence in the scale for his establishment, it will suffice to offer a salary commencing at about that of a Forest Ranger to secure the services of a suitable man. It would therefore suggest that the pay of the post proposed be Rs. 50—5—75 by annual increments with promotion, should vacancies occur, to the higher paid posts in the establishment.

6. In making these proposals, the Board begs to draw the attention of Government to the scale of salary sanctioned for the clerk, peons and lascars of the Government Botanist. These appear to have been originally fixed in part at least with reference to the fact that the head-quarters of the appointment were at Ootacamund, and it considers that when the office is removed to Madras, the pay of the clerk may be reduced to Rs. 40 and that of the peons and lascars to Rs. 8 per mensem with the usual batta when travelling.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with 6 enclosures to be returned.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 2924, dated 22nd May 1902 :—

The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. NICHOLSON, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Read—the following letter from C. A. BARBER, Esq., Government Botanist, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 15th May 1902 :—

I have the honour to raise the following point in connection with Board's Proceedings, No. 62, dated 14th April 1902, regarding the transfer of my office to Madras.

2. In paragraph 5 of the Government Order communicated therein, the herbarium is directed to be located in the Madras Museum, while in the Board's Proceedings the office of the Government Botanist is placed in Chepauk. I have been to Madras and inspected the various rooms available both at Chepauk and at the Central Museum.

3. I fear that there will be a great deal of inconvenience in having my office thus divided into two separate parts, and I would request the Board to move Government to allow me to have both Herbarium and office under one roof. The space set apart at the Government Museum is inadequate, while that at Chepauk will, for the present, be sufficient for my purpose.

4. I wish to point out that this dislocation of my work into two parts, requiring long daily journeys from one place to another, will not only be inconvenient, but will entail loss of time and an amount of personal wear and tear which will inevitably prejudice the usefulness of my office. The object of the present note is to try and do away with this difficulty, and to concentrate the herbarium, laboratory, library, and office in one building.

5. There seems to be an idea in some quarters that a museum is the proper place for a herbarium. This has probably arisen from the fact that, during the long periods when there was no Government Botanist in the Presidency, the museum formed a suitable resting place where the herbarium could be stored. It is most unusual for a herbarium to be placed in a museum, and there is, perhaps, hardly sufficient reason why Madras should be singular in this respect. It is impossible to separate it from the Government Botanist's office. The herbarium may be defined as his library of concrete examples, and it forms a necessary appendage to the library of books with their descriptions and illustrations.

6. A museum is a place for the exhibition of objects of interest in natural history and other subjects for the purpose of instruction and amusement. An excellent gallery is devoted in the Madras Museum to botany, where the natural orders are graphically displayed, and there is also a fine collection of economic plants and their products. The herbarium, from its very form, is peculiarly unsuitable for exhibition, and, in any case, the general public would not be allowed to touch the specimens or to examine them. They would merely see the outsides of the cases—a view which is fully borne out by the position of the room which the Superintendent of the museum has made available for the housing of the herbarium. On the other hand, the herbarium, being intended only for reference purposes, would at once be open to any *bonâ-fide* student in botany, who would, under the guidance of the Curator, be allowed to look through any sheets he wished to examine. The location of the herbarium at Chépâk will not in the least interfere with this.

7. The botanical survey is, I observe, to be continued, but there is to be less hurry in the Government Botanist's programme for the future. This will not only allow of more attention being paid to the economic work, but it will also enable the Curator to get the collections of the last few years into better order. I wish to point out, however, that it is particularly necessary for the Government Botanist to exercise supervision over the herbarium during the near future. The reason for this is that a scheme is on foot for the publication of a Flora of the Presidency by an eminent Botanist. I have already entered into correspondence on the subject and it is evident that our local collections will be of great value in the compilation of this much-needed work. The herbarium, from the more or less quiescent condition of recent years, will become almost immediately the scene of considerable scientific activity. It appears also that there are certain parts of the Presidency, where collecting is particularly desired, and the future programmes of the botanical survey will doubtless be largely influenced by correspondence with the author of the Flora. Under the circumstances, it will be of the greatest utility to have the herbarium close at hand, so as to divert the attention of the Government Botanist as little as possible from the more important economic work.

8. I now come to the practical side of the matter. The separation of the office into two halves will, I fear, inevitably necessitate the addition of another assistant to the Government Botanist's staff. By concentration in one place, there will be less need for this.

9. After careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that the space offered by the Superintendent of the Madras Museum is insufficient. While there is room enough for the proper storing of the cases of plants, the space for the spreading out, preparation, mounting and examination of the specimens is quite inadequate. If the herbarium is located in the museum, it is probable that a scheme for building a botanical room will at once be entered upon, and the cost of this will be from Rupees 6,000 to Rs. 7,000.

10. On the other hand, the space available at the Board's offices, while perhaps not sufficient for future years, will certainly do for the present. There is room for the erection of the cases and for the library of the Department. But, what is of special importance, there is, in the neighbouring galleries, ample space for that part of the work which is unprovided for at the museum. There is plenty of room for the long tables on which to lay out the sheets, and without which herbarium work will be a practical impossibility, and the spacious galleries will afford the means of carrying through all the processes in the preparation of the specimens.

11. Under these circumstances, I trust that the Board will support my proposals, as thereby the work of the Department will be greatly assisted. With the herbarium at hand, the many questions on useful plants, whether forest trees, fodder, plants or others of economic value, can be dealt with at first hand, and a wearisome system of reference avoided. In a country where so large a proportion of the native plants are of economic value, the herbarium itself is much more of an economic collection than is the case in European countries, and it would be an impossible task accurately to divide the collection into its economic and purely systematic parts.

12. In conclusion, the proposed concentration would undoubtedly effect considerable saving in the cost of working the Department.

Resolution—Mis. No. 2924, dated 22nd May 1902.

The letter read above will be submitted for the orders of Government, in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 2921, dated 22nd May 1902.

2. The Board strongly recommends that Mr. Barber's proposal to concentrate all his work at Chépâk may be sanctioned. It will, as he points out, obviate the necessity for giving him an additional assistant—*vide* Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 2905, dated 21st May 1902, and will also allow of the departmental Library being concentrated into one.

3. Before, however, this proposal can be carried out, it is necessary that the extra accommodation asked for in the Proceedings first quoted above should be provided, and it will be for Mr. Barber to show clearly under what conditions he, as Curator of the herbarium, can arrange that *bonâ-fide* students of botany shall have access thereto as freely as would be possible in the Central Museum.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

C. BENSON
Deputy Director
for Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Government Botanist.

Copy to the Superintendent, Central Museum.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 3082, dated 3rd June 1902. :—

The Hon'ble Mr. F. A. NICHOLSON, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Read—again Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 2397, dated 21st April 1902, requesting Government Botanist to submit a revised programme for the current official year.

Read—also the following letter from C. A. BARBER, Esq., Government Botanist, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 15th May 1902, No. 297 :—

In reply to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 2397, dated 21st April 1902, I have the honour to state that it is difficult to foresee at present what period will be necessarily spent at the Samalkot sugar station during the year, although it is probable that a good many visits will have to be paid and that as the canes ripen, much time will be needed there.

2. Under the circumstances a definite programme is not possible at present, but the following may be taken as the probable course of events and of my movements:—

May 20.—Transfer of herbarium to Madras.

May 28 to June 11.—Visit to Coorg (sandalwood).

Transfer of office to Madras as soon as quarters are available in Chepauk.

After arrival in Madras a considerable time will be spent in getting the office and herbarium into working order again.

During the six months (September—March) a considerable period will be spent at or in the neighbourhood of Samalkot.

Such tours as are possible will be made in the Gódvári and Kistna delta regions for the study of economic products, and it is proposed to devote about one month to a collecting trip in the Gódvári agency tracts.

3. Arrangements have been made for the transfer of the herbarium already packed to Madras on the 20th May. I have, in consultation with the Deputy Director of Agriculture, arranged for the temporary housing of the case at Chepauk until the question of ultimate destination is settled. It is, however, well to mention that the weather at Ootacamund is at present exceptionally bad, and if the present heavy rains continue, it may be thought best to delay the despatch of the cases for a few days.

Resolution—Mis. No. 3082, dated 3rd June 1902.

Recorded.

2. The Government Botanist will be informed that temporary arrangements can at once be made to provide accommodation for his office in the Chepauk buildings. He should therefore arrange to transfer his head-quarters to Madras by the end of June.

3. The detailed programme for the remainder of the year can be settled hereafter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. BENSON
Deputy Director
for Secretary.

To the Government Botanist.

Copy to the Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 615, Revenue, dated 15th July 1902.

Miscellaneous.

In modification of the view expressed in G.O., No. 292, Revenue, dated 25th March 1902, the Government accept the

recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the herbarium should be in charge of the Government Botanist and should be located in his office.

2. The Board's proposal that an assistant for entomological work be added to the staff of the Government Botanist on a salary of Rs. 50—5—75 is approved and sanctioned. The Board is requested to indicate the source from which the increased expenditure can be met in case the appointment is given effect to during the current year. The necessary proposition statement should also be submitted through the Accountant-General.

3. The Board also proposes that, on the removal of the Botanist's head-quarters to Madras, the pay of his clerk may be reduced from Rs. 50 to Rs. 40 per mensem and that of his peons and lascars from Rs. 10 to Rs. 8. This proposal is approved. The Board apparently considers that the pay of the Botanist's existing assistants should not be reduced: the Government concur in this opinion.

4. In the last of its Proceedings read above the Board directed the Botanist to arrange to transfer his head-quarters to Madras by the end of June 1902, as temporary accommodation could at once be provided for his office in the Chepauk buildings. The Board's action is approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) M. Hammick

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture), with enclosures.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Educational Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Forwarded to the Educational Department.
(By order)

C. Patnawali Mudr
Registrar.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

40 Copies.

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

190

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____ DATED _____
190 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.