

Financial (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 107

Dated 4. 2. 98

INDEXED

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording proceedings,
Rev. Dept., requesting the Chief Engr.
P. W. Dept. to name the P. W. officers
who have had the largest ex-
periences in the administration
of relief works during the last
famine and selecting, meanwhile,
certain officers to give evidence
before the Famine Commission

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

1,000-10-9-97.

NOTE FOR THE

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Please say if the
papers wanted by
the Rev. Mr. May be
given -

The final answer
can be given
4/21/98

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339 File

Government (1898) of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd. 31 Jan } 1898.
Regd. 31 Jan }

Enclosures One

Spare copies 4

G.O., No. 47, 28th January 1898.

JANUARY.

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ORDER No 10794.2.98

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Requesting the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, to name the Public Works officers who have had the largest experience in the administration of relief works during the late famine and selecting, meanwhile, certain officers to give evidence before the Famine Commission.

WITH ORDER

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 356, Revenue, dated 22nd January 1898 :—

Read—the following letter from H. J. McINTOSH, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Indian Famine Commission, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, 13th January 1898, No. 60 :—

I am directed to address you regarding the proceedings of the Famine Commission in the Madras Presidency.

2. The Commission leave Calcutta by the B.I.S.S. *Mombassa* on the 8th February due to arrive at Madras on the 11th or 12th February. They propose to hold sittings at two places in the Presidency for the purpose of taking evidence, viz., Madras and Bellary. The approximate dates of sittings at these places will be as noted in the margin. The exact dates will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

3. Meanwhile, I am to request that, with the permission of the Governor in Council, a list may be prepared of the best witnesses, both official and non-official, of Madras to appear before the Commission to give evidence. Intimation should be sent to the witnesses so selected that they will be required to appear before the Commission and they should be instructed to hold themselves in readiness to attend either at Madras or Bellary according as His Excellency in Council may consider convenient within the dates mentioned in paragraph 2 above. A written or telegraphic communication will be sent to each witness later on informing him of the exact date on which his presence will be required. I am to request that the names, designations and addresses of the witnesses selected by the Government of Madras may be communicated to me as early as possible, with a note against each showing whether he will appear at Madras or at Bellary. The Commission will, should they think it desirable, add more names to the list.

4. The Commission desire that the attention of the witnesses selected by the Government of Madras should be drawn to the following points mentioned in the instructions to the Commission, and that they should be requested to draw up in writing a "note of the evidence" they think they can usefully give with reference to these matters :—

(a) Departures from the prescriptions of the Madras Famine Code which have occurred in the Presidency during the recent famine.

(b) Degree of success which has attended the measures adopted, considered primarily with regard to the relief of distress and the saving of human life, and secondarily with regard to economy.

(c) Advice as to the measures and methods of working which seem likely to prove most effective in future in these two respects.

(d) Other recommendations or opinions thought likely to be useful in future famines.

5. These written notes of evidence should be forwarded to me as soon as possible and if time permits the Commission will esteem it a favour if the Government of Madras will arrange to have them printed before the sittings so that the witnesses and each member of the Commission may have a copy.

6. If the Government of Madras so advise, the Commission will for good reasons such as distance, sickness, urgent business, &c., excuse any selected witness from

attending and will put his written evidence on the record. Their travelling expenses will, if they ask for it, be paid to witnesses who are not entitled to draw travelling allowance.

7. In regard to the oral evidence which the witnesses will be expected to give, I am to say, generally, that they will be questioned on such points arising from their written evidence as may seem necessary. But the Commission are also drawing up a series of questions touching upon the subject matter of their enquiry, copies of which will be forwarded to you at an early date.

It is not intended that witnesses should be asked to prepare written answers to these questions, and it should be clearly understood that no witness will be expected to give oral evidence before the Commission on all the matters dealt with in the questions. But a copy of the questions should be sent to each selected witness as an indication of the subjects which are engaging the attention of the Commission, and in order that he may refresh his memory and be prepared beforehand in respect of these subjects touched on in the questions regarding which he may consider himself qualified to give evidence before the Commission. More detailed instructions will accompany the questions themselves.

8. In addition to the witnesses selected by Government, the Commission will be glad to receive the evidence of voluntary witnesses who consider themselves qualified and desire to give evidence on the subject matter of the enquiry as explained in paragraph 4 above, and I am to solicit the co-operation of the Governor in Council in making known to the public the wishes of the Commission in this respect. I am to forward a copy of a notice to the public calling for such volunteer evidence and to request that it may be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and such local newspapers as His Excellency in Council may think fit.

9. The Commission will be obliged if, under the orders of the Governor in Council, arrangements are made for their sittings at Madras and Bellary.

ENCLOSURE.

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Commission appointed by the Government of India to formulate for future guidance the lessons taught by the famine experience of 1897 have now assembled at Calcutta and will sit at the places named below on or about the dates mentioned against each for the purpose of hearing the evidence of witnesses from Madras :—

Madras, 14th to 19th February 1898. | Bellary, 21st to 22nd February 1898.

2. The Commission desire to make it known that they are ready to receive the evidence of witnesses who consider themselves qualified and desire to give evidence touching the subject matter of the Commission's inquiry. The points referred to the Commission for inquiry and report are those mentioned below and all evidence must be strictly confined to these subjects :—

(a) Departures from the prescriptions of the Madras Famine Code which have occurred in the Presidency during the recent famine.

(b) The degree of success which has attended the measures adopted, considered primarily with regard to the relief of distress and the saving of human life and secondarily with regard to economy.

(c) Advice as to the measures and methods of working which seem likely to prove most effective in future in these two respects.

(d) Other recommendations or opinions thought likely to be useful in future famines.

3. Witnesses offering evidence will be required to confine themselves strictly to these subjects and to send their evidence in *written form*, and in English, to the Secretary to the Commission as soon as possible. In so doing, the witnesses must give full particulars of their race, age, profession and residence, and of the opportunities they have had of forming an opinion on famine and famine relief questions.

4. As the time at their disposal is limited, the Commission do not bind themselves to invite all such volunteer witnesses to attend and be examined. Witnesses whom the Commission desire to hear will receive notice by post and any witness appearing in reply to such invitation will be paid his travelling expenses. No witness should attend for examination without an invitation from the Commission. In the case of witnesses who are not invited to attend, their evidence will be examined and placed on the record.

Order—Mis. No. 356, Revenue, dated 22nd January 1898.

Communicated to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of Land Records and Agriculture, who will submit a complete list of officers down to the grade of Deputy Collectors, Assistant Engineers and Assistant Surgeons who have taken part in the administration of relief during the late distress, and of the persons whom he would select from among these as fit and proper persons to give evidence before the Commission.

2. The Government will also be glad to receive from the Commission and from the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Madras Branch, the names of non-official gentlemen who are in a position to give useful evidence.

3. The above letter will also be communicated to the Collector of Bellary, who will make the necessary arrangements for the sittings of the Commission at Bellary. The Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of Land Records and Agriculture will immediately report, for the approval of Government, the place at which he proposes the sittings should be held at Madras and the other arrangements which he considers necessary.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

G. S. FORBES,

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement,

Land Records and Agriculture.

„ the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Madras Branch.

„ the Collector of Bellary.

READ—the following letter from H. J. McINTOSH, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary, Indian Famine Commission, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Calcutta, the 18th January 1898, No. 77:—

In continuation of my letter No. 60, dated 13th January 1898, regarding the proceedings of the Famine Commission in Madras, I am directed, with a view to avoiding possible misapprehension, to explain more clearly what is meant by the “written note of evidence” referred to in paragraph 4. I am to explain that the written note of evidence should be a statement containing all the evidence the witness thinks he can usefully give with reference to the subjects indicated in my letter.

2. The series of questions drawn up by the Commission will be in your hands at a very early date, and you have been asked to send a copy to each selected witness. I am now to request that instructions may be issued to the selected witnesses that they should, if possible, on receipt of the questions, add to their written statements of evidence on points which they have not dealt with and which they think they can usefully deal with.

READ—letter from the Secretary to the Indian Famine Commission, Calcutta, dated 19th January 1898, No. 90.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding to Government sixty copies of the questions drawn up by the Famine Commission.

READ—the following letter from H. J. McINTOSH, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary, Indian Famine Commission, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Calcutta, the 22nd January 1898, No. 119:—

In my letter, No. 60, dated the 13th January 1898, I addressed you regarding the proceedings of the Famine Commission in the Madras Presidency, and I have since, in the communications marginally-noted, forwarded to you copies of the Commission's tour programme and of their series of questions and given further instructions regarding the preparation of written statements of evidence by the witnesses selected by the Madras Government.

2. The Commission arrive in Madras on Friday the 11th February, and the following are the dates on which they will sit to hear evidence:—

					12th February 1898	
Saturday	...	...	...	...	14th	„
Monday	...	...	...	...	15th	„
Tuesday	...	...	...	...	16th	„
Wednesday	...	...	...	...	17th	„
Thursday	...	...	...	...	18th	„
Friday	...	...	...	...	21st	„
Monday	...	...	...	...	22nd	„
Tuesday	...	...	...	...		

At Madras.

At Bellary.

3. It is improbable that the list of witnesses asked for in paragraph 2 of my letter No. 60, dated the 13th January 1898, will reach me in time to allow of the Commission determining the order in which the witnesses will be heard and sending an intimation to the witnesses of the dates fixed for their appearance. I am accordingly to request that the Government of Madras will be good enough to arrange for the witnesses being present on the dates mentioned in paragraph 2 above. If possible, not more than six witnesses should be asked to attend on one day, and, as the time fixed for Bellary is short, it is desirable that as few witnesses as possible should be directed to attend there.

4. I am to add that the Commission attach extreme importance to the evidence of the witnesses being reduced to writing as fully as possible before they attend to give oral evidence, and to express the hope that the greater part of these written statements will have been printed before the Commission arrive in Madras.

5. As the Commission will be travelling between the 5th and 11th February, I am to request that any communications intended for the Commission, which cannot reach Calcutta by the 4th February, may be kept until the Commission arrive in Madras.

READ—letter from L. E. BUCKLEY, Esq., Famine Secretary, dated 25th January 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting a list of officers on famine duty for selection for examination.

ORDER—No. 47, Revenue, dated 28th January 1898.

Miscellaneous.

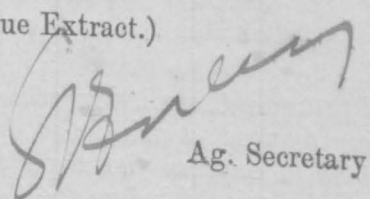
The list read above will be forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, who will be requested to name the Public Works officers who have had the largest experience in the administration of relief works during the late famine. Meanwhile, the Government selects the following officers to give evidence before the Famine Commission:—

Name of the officer.	Place of examination.	Probable date of examination.
1. Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. King	Madras	12th or 14th Feb. 1898.
2. Mr. H. D. Taylor, I.C.S.	Do.	17th or 18th „ „
3. Mr. R. W. De Ashe, I.C.S.		
4. M.R.Ry. B. Narayanamurti Pantulu		
5. Mr. W. O. Horne, I.C.S.		
6. M.R.Ry. R. Govinda Row Naidu		
7. Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Leapingwell.	Bellary	21st February 1898.
8. Mr. E. A. Elwin, I.C.S.	Madras	15th or 16th Feb. 1898.
9. Mahdi Hussain Sahib Bahadur		
10. M.R.Ry. S. Ramu Aiyar Avergal	Do.	14th or 15th „ „
11. Mr. H. A. Stuart, I.C.S.		
12. Mr. C. G. Spencer	Bellary	21st or 22nd „ „
13. M.R.Ry. T. Rama Row	Madras	12th or 14th „ „
14. Mr. W. B. deWinton		
15. Mr. R. H. Shipley	Bellary	21st February 1898.
16. Mr. N. Mac Michael	Madras	12th or 14th Feb. 1898.
17. M.R.Ry. K. Narayana Aiyar	Bellary	21st February 1898.
18. Surgeon-Major H. M. Hakim	Madras	12th or 14th Feb. 1898.
19. M.R.Ry. T. Runga Rao	Bellary	21st February 1898.
20. Surgeon-Major W. F. Thomas		

The above officers will appear before the Commission at the places specified against their names on the dates mentioned. Further names will be added to the list on receipt of the report called for from the Chief Engineer, and a list of the non-official gentlemen to be invited to give evidence will also be issued shortly.

2. The attention of the officers selected will be drawn to paragraph 4 of Mr. McIntosh's letter, dated 13th January 1898, No. 60, and they will be requested to draw up in writing a note of their evidence. This note should be a full statement of all the evidence a witness thinks he can usefully give on the points indicated in that paragraph. The note should be forwarded to Government within, if possible, four days of the receipt of this order. Each witness will be furnished with a list of the questions drawn up by the Commission which indicates the details of the subjects which are engaging the attention of the Commission and on which the witnesses will be called upon to give oral evidence. It is not intended that written answers should be prepared for these questions, and it is to be understood that, as a rule, witnesses will be examined orally only on such details as arise in connection with their written notes.

(True Extract.)


Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture),
„ the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ officers named in paragraph 1.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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189

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ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

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