

Homa (1918) Department.
miscellaneous

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 688

DATED 2. 10. 18

[Despatch Abstract.]

Vizagapatam District Conference.

Recording the proceedings of the thirteenth ----- held at
Anakapalle in May 1918.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No.

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

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NO. 6
Enclosure s 2

VIZAGAPATAM,
Dated 2nd June 1918.

FROM

M.R.Ry.

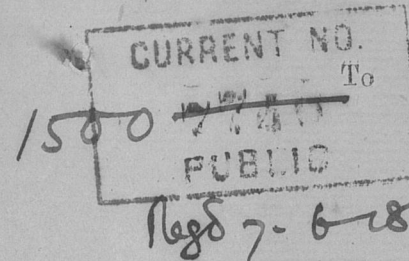


SREE VIKRAMA DEO VARMA GARU,

PRESIDENT OF THE THIRTEENTH

VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT CONFERENCE,

VIZAGAPATAM.



The Chief Secretary to

The Government of Madras.

Gootacamund.

Sir,

Howe (Just) XXVII, XVIII. In submitting herewith a copy of the resolutions passed at the Thirteenth Vizagapatam District Conference and a copy of my inaugural address for the favour of His Excellency's perusal, I have the honour to request you will be good enough to invite the special attention of the Government of Madras to resolutions Nos. VI, IX, X, XII, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XXII, XXIV, XXV, XXVI, XXVII, XXVIII, XXXII and XXXIII.

I feel it my duty to inform you, that the feeling of the people concerned with the subject matter of resolutions IX and XXXIII is very keen, judged from the speeches made at the Conference and that, therefore, those grievances demand immediate redress.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Imp. 11-8-18

Howe (Misc) v.o.

Sree Vikrama Deo Varma

President.

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RESOLUTIONS

passed at the
Thirteenth Vizagapatam District Conference
held at
ANAKAPALLE

on the 16th, 17th and 18th May 1918.

I. Resolved that the people of the Vizagapatam District in Conference assembled, offer their most sincere assurance of Loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Majesty, the King Emperor, and heartily tender their devoted prayers to the Almighty God, for speedy and complete success to His Majesty, the King Emperor, and his allies.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

II. Resolved that this Conference places on record their extreme regret at the irreparable loss that the country has sustained by the demise of Sir William Wedderburn, a true friend of India, especially at this most critical period in the political history of India.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously, all standing.

III. Resolved that this Conference authorises and requests its President to convey to His Majesty the King Emperor the expression of the dutiful and loyal response of the Vizagapatam District to His Gracious message, and the assurance of the determination of the people to continue to do their duty to their utmost capacity in the great crisis through which the Empire is passing.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

IV. Resolved that this Conference, having read and carefully considered the statement of H. E. The Viceroy that Indians are required to defend the soil of the motherland against the invasion and that the man-power of India is also needed in defence of the Empire, within which India is seeking to obtain responsible Government, resolves that, under the circumstances of imminent peril of invasion in which the country is stated to stand and of the necessity which exists for increased aid from India in the maintenance of the Empire, it calls upon all patriotic organisations to aid in recruiting for Home and Imperial defence, especially to enrol the young men of the middle classes to form under Indian officers a citizen army sufficiently large to defend the country from invasion.

Proposed by Mr. O. V. Jagannadha Sastri.
Seconded by Mr. C. L. Narayana Sastri, B.A., B.L.
Supported by Mr. A. L. Narayanarao.
Sri D. Sanyasiraju Garu.
The Hon'ble Mr. B. N. Sarma.

Carried unanimously.

V. Resolved that this Conference urges that, in order to evoke the whole-hearted and real enthusiasm amongst the people of India and successfully to mobilise the man-power, materials and money, the Government in England should, without delay, introduce a bill into Parliament, meeting the demands of the people to establish responsible Government in India within a reasonable period which should be specified in the statute, accepting the Congress-League scheme as the first step in the reform.

Proposed by Mr. M. Suryanarayana, B.A.
Seconded by Mr. D. V. Narasimha Rao.
Supported by Mr. N. Rangamannar.
Mr. M. S. N. Sarma, B.A., B.L.
Mr. Bheemiseti Appalanarasimha Naidu.
Mr. K. Rama Das.
Mr. Kolluru Satyanarayana.

Carried unanimously.

VI. Resolved that the Conference recommends that all racial distinctions should be removed forthwith, and Indians and Europeans should be treated as the King's equal subjects in all departments of public affairs.

Proposed by Mr. N. Rangamannar.
Seconded by Mr. M. S. N. Sarma, B.A., B.L.
Supported by Mr. M. Subba Rao, B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

VII. Resolved that this Conference, while exhorting the people of the District to give their hearty and liberal support to the second war loan, respectfully submits to Government that no fresh taxation be resorted to by the Government as the country is already overtaxed.

Proposed by Mr. K. S. Narainrao.
Seconded by Mr. S. Brahmandanayak Patrudu.
Supported by Mr. Ch. Ramamurti.

Carried unanimously.

VIII. Resolved that this Conference, in view of the prospective trade restrictions in the raw materials in India and the consequent effect on the commercial products of this District, exhorts the people of this District to take immediate steps for the manufacture of jute and cotton fabrics and leather, for which raw materials exist in the District.

Proposed by Mr. K. S. Narainrao.
Seconded by Mr. M. S. N. Sarma, B.A., B.L.
Supported by Mr. B. Suryanarayana Patnaik, B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

IX. Resolved that this Conference respectfully points out that the administrative offices of the District, especially the Collectorate, are manned by a highly educated and efficient staff, many of them being graduates with all the necessary qualifications, that the block to their promotions has been very serious and discouraging, that the recent importation into the District especially into the Collectorate, from other districts without the corresponding transfers to the staff of the other districts is causing justifiable discontent and is most likely to impair administrative efficiency and therefore requests the Government and the Collector that corresponding transfers may be made of officers from this district whenever importation of officers is considered necessary.

Proposed by Mr. O. V. Jagannadha Sastri.
Seconded by Mr. N. Rangamannar.

Carried unanimously.

X. Resolved that this Conference offers its thanks to the Government for the increase made in the stipends of the Civil pupils in the Medical School to Rs. 15 and the salaries of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons to be Rs. 50—120.

- (b) That this Conference offers its warm thanks to the Government for the appointment of an Eye expert to the staff of the Civil Hospital at Vizagapatam and requests that it may be made possible for him to devote his undivided attention to the needs of the eye patients for whose benefit the Government have been pleased to appoint the expert.
- (c) That this Conference requests the Government to raise the status of the Medical School at Vizagapatam to that of a College.
- (d) That this Conference requests the Government to permit willing men among the Sub-Assistant Surgeons to qualify themselves in the Medical College for high courses making an exemption in the duration of the courses.
- (e) That this Conference requests the Government to make provision for a large number of private pupils being admitted to the Medical School, Vizagapatam.
- (f) That this Conference learns with deep concern the transfer of Dr. Dwaraka Bai Kamalakar, Superintendent, Victoria Ghosha Hospital, Vizagapatam, and requests the Committee of the Countess of Dufferin Fund to continue her in the place, or, if the exigencies of administration require her transfer, to replace her by a lady doctor of superior medical qualifications, belonging to the Fund.

Proposed by Mr. N. Rangamannar.
Seconded by Mr. B. Suryanarayana Patnaik B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

XI. Resolved that this Conference accords its strong support to the Andhra movement and approves of the endeavours made at present for an all round progress of the community.

- (2) That this Conference urges on the attention of the public the necessity of having a separate English organ in Madras to advocate the interests of the Andhras.
- (3) That this Conference exhorts the people of this district to subscribe liberally to the Andhra Nidhi as funds are very much needed for the propagandistic work undertaken by the standing Committee of the Andhra Conference.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

XII. Resolved that this Conference is of opinion that the Madras University cannot adequately supply the needs of the whole Presidency and that a separate University for the Andhras should be established at an early date.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

XIII. Resolved that this Conference is strongly of opinion that in the interests of the millions of Telugu-speaking people to ensure their progress on the

lines of their past history and genius and for a more efficient administration resulting from a redistribution of the provinces of the country on a linguistic basis, the Telugu Districts of the Presidency be constituted into a separate province.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

XIV. Resolved that this Conference views with alarm the absolute scarcity of cotton fabrics and abnormally high prices of the existing stocks and therefore requests the Government to render every facility for relieving the situation especially by granting priority certificates for the transport of textile machinery.

Proposed by Mr. K. S. Narayanarao.

Seconded by Mr. G. Kamesam, B.A.

Supported by Mr. A. L. Narayanarao, B.A.

Carried unanimously.

XV. Resolved that this Conference notes with regret the injustice done to the Sishta Karnams of the district by the Education Department in not recognising them as Uriyas.

Proposed by Mr. K. S. Narayanarao.

Seconded by Mr. C. L. Narayana Sastri, B.A., B.L.

Supported by Mr. V. B. Sundararao, B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

XVI. Resolved:—

Having regard to the backward condition of education in the District the Conference earnestly requests:—

- (1) That Board and Night schools be opened.
- (2) That the management of Board and Municipal Schools be left entirely to the local bodies, the responsibility of the Education Department being restricted to remarks on school work, and to suggestions about methods of teaching and provision of equipment as in the case of private schools.
- (3) That every village having more than 500 inhabitants should be provided with a free elementary school.
- (4) That the vernacular be made the medium of instruction in all secondary schools, English being treated as a compulsory second language.
- (5) That the scale of fees in Secondary Schools be reduced to that prevailing in other provinces with a view to cheapen it.
- (6) That higher standards be opened and English taught as a second language in the following schools:—

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Kumili | 7. Uratia |
| 2. Jami | 8. Kuppli |
| 3. Madugula | 9. Burja |
| 4. Vaddadi | 10. Viraghattam |
| 5. Alamanda | 11. Kurupam |
| 6. Nakkapalli | 12. Seethanagram |
| | 13. Mrutyunjaya
Agraharam |

- (7) That incomplete Secondary Schools be opened at Rajam and Srungavarapukota.
- (8) That the incomplete Secondary Schools at Chodavaram, Ellamanchilli and Parvatipur be made complete Secondary Schools and a complete Secondary School be started at Salur.
- (9) That in view of the distance of Palkonda and Narsipatam Taluks from the centres of higher education and their close proximity to Agency tracts, this Conference prays to Government that special help be accorded to these Taluqs for starting complete Secondary Schools therein.
- (10) That the male teachers in Queen Mary's High School at Vizagapatam and other Girls' Schools be replaced by lady teachers whenever available, without delay.
- (11) That this Conference extends its hearty support to all private endeavours in the starting of free elementary and technical schools and exhorts the people of this District to help liberally the existing institutions such as those at Melupaka, Chittivalasa, Boorjavalsa and other places.
- (12) This Conference requests the decision of the Director of Public Instruction rejecting the recommendations of local educational officers for increased financial help to the Melupaka H. E School under misapprehension that it is a Secondary School and urges him to render help in future to that deserving institution.
- (13) That this Conference urges that a weaving and dyeing school be established at Pondur.
- (14) That this Conference respectfully requests the Hon'ble the Rajah of Bobbili to raise the status of the High School at Bobbili to that of a second grade college.

Proposed by Mr. M. Bangarayya, B.A., B.L.

Seconded by Mr. P. Suryanarayana Chetti.

Supported by Mr. M. Subbarao, B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

XVII. Resolved that this Conference offers its whole-hearted support to the suggestion of the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Ramachendrarow Pantulu Garu for the creation of Advisory Boards or the empowering of the District Boards to advise the Collector on the administrative affairs of the District.

Proposed by Mr. N. Rangamannar.

Seconded by Mr. K. Ramdas.

Supported by Mr. P. Suryanarayana Chetti.

Carried unanimously.

XVIII. Resolved that this Conference, having regard to the contemplated redistribution of Taluks and Divisions consequent on the proposed separation of the agency from the ordinary tracts of the district respectfully urges on the Government the need for constituting a new Taluk from contiguous villages in Chipurupalle, Palakonda and Bobbili Taluks.

Proposed by Mr. A. L. Narayanarao.

Seconded by Mr. G. Kamesam, B.A.

Supported by Mr. N. Rangamannar.

Carried unanimously.

Dr D 4
marine
 XIX. Resolved that this Conference is of opinion that in the construction of a harbour at Vizagapatam, which is to commence after the war, an adequate number of men from this District ought to be utilised and for this end, respectfully urges on the attention of the Government, the great desirability of selecting suitable persons, from this district, and training them for the purpose.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

XX. Resolved that this Conference, having regard to the great prospective demand for cement during the construction of the projected Vizagapatam harbour, exhorts the people of the district to utilise this opportunity by starting factories for the manufacture of cement.

Proposed by Mr. K. S. Narayanarow.

Seconded by Mr. S. Brahmanda Naika Patrudu.

Carried unanimously.

XXI. Resolved that this Conference places on record its firm conviction that the internment of our respected Mahomedan brethren, Mahamad Ali and Shaukat Ali and the detention of other political detainees were uncalled for and joins the National Congress and the Provincial Conferences in India, in entering its emphatic protest against the action of the Government and earnestly prays that, having regard to the present situation, they may be immediately released or placed on trial with proper charges framed against them.

Proposed by Mr. M. Suryanarayana, B.A.

Seconded by Mr. V. B. Sundararow, B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

Rev.
 XXII. Resolved that this Conference, while expressing its satisfaction at the good work that the Government Agricultural Farm at Anakapalle has been doing, states as its firm conviction that the opening of a vernacular agricultural school is absolutely necessary and that with a view to make the institution more useful, one of the managers of the Farm be always required to be touring in all the ordinary taluks of the District.

Proposed by Sri D. Sanyasiraju Garu.

Seconded by Mr. Dasiraju Jagannadharow Pantulu.

Carried unanimously.

XXIII. Resolved that this Conference, having regard to the present state of the country and the necessity to defend ourselves against the attacks from outside, is emphatically of opinion that the time has come when the Arms Act ought to be repealed and this Conference prays that the Government may be pleased to take immediate steps for the Act being repealed.

Proposed by Mr. O. V. Jagannadha Sastry.

Seconded by Mr. S. B. Patrudu.

Supported by Sri D. Sanyasiraju Garu.

Carried unanimously.

LOCAL BODIES.

XXIV. Resolved that this Conference is of opinion :—

- (a) 1. That the policy of rapid elimination of all ex-officio, nominated and elected official members from the Local Bodies should be adopted and the filling of such vacancies by the election of non-officials should be speedily carried out.

2. That the function of the District Board should be confined to settling the general policy of allotting funds and controlling the District services and that all its other functions be left to the Taluk Boards.

3. That the interference of the Government and their local officers in the administration of local bodies be ordinarily restricted to the approval of budgets and to sanctioning the acts of the local bodies when necessary on account of special circumstances.

- (b) 1. That the number of Taluk Boards in the District should be increased giving as far as possible a Board for each Taluk and as an urgent measure the Parvatipur and Vizianagram Taluk Boards be split into two each.

2. That the Taluk Boards should be given direct control over the Engineering Department regarding its work within their jurisdiction.

3. That pending the revision of the relations between the District and Taluk Boards the Presidents and Local Boards be authorised to determine in each case as to who would check measure works executed under the Engineering Department.

4. That officials including Village Officers be prohibited from standing for election to the District and Taluk Boards and Municipalities.

5. That the power of electing their Vice Presidents be given to the Members of the District Board and that the President of the District Board be appointed from among non-officials. This Conference regrets the action of the Government in not nominating a successor to the Hon'ble Raja of Bobbili as President of the District Board from non-officials.

6. That persons other than members of Taluk Boards may be elected as Presidents and Vice Presidents of Taluk Boards and members of the District Board.

7. That all Local Boards should compulsorily frame rules under sections 34 and 147 of the Act.

8. And that the Head-Quarters of the Narasipatam Taluk Board be transferred to Yellamanchili or Chodavaram and a non-official President be appointed for that Board.

9. That the principle of election of members and chairmen be extended to all Union Panchayats.

Proposed by Mr. O. V. Jagannadha Sastri.

Seconded by Mr. M. Suryanarayana, B.A.

Supported by Mr. M. Subbarow, B.A., B.L.

Mr. Kodukula Narasimham.

Mr. D. V. Narasimharow.

Mr. N. Rangamannar.

Mr. K. Rama Das.

Mr. Ch. Ramamurthy.

Mr. K. Satyanarayana.

Carried unanimously.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

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 XXV. Resolved that this Conference urges on the Government the desirability and the need of placing the Voluntary village Panchayats proposed to be started on a statutory basis with powers of levying local taxes, and recommends that the union and informal village Panchayats shall be given one-fourth of the landcess

derived in villages by the Boards an amount equal to the amount of other taxes and contributions collected from the village be given from the Provincial Funds.

Put from the Chair.

Carried unanimously.

IRRIGATION.

XXVI. Resolved that this Conference earnestly prays that the Government will be pleased to appoint a Special Officer at an early date to investigate and submit schemes for the:—

1. Improvement for irrigation facilities of this District and particularly of the Sarvasidhi Taluq and the conference further prays that estimates and plans be ordered to be prepared in respect of,
 - (a) The Extension of Nagavali Project.
 - (b) Komaravolu Ava.
 - (c) The Kondakarla project.
 - (d) The Tandava project.
 - (e) Separate channel to Government villages on the river Suvarnamukhi.
- (2) The Conference further prays to the Government to delegate the power of distributing water in Government channels and tanks to Village Panchayats.
- (3) This Conference is of opinion that a higher rate of water cess just enough to pay interest on the capital spent by the Government may be levied provided higher rates of water cess are not introduced in the areas already irrigated by the existing Government irrigation works.

4. (a) That no penal water rate be levied when Government water is used when it finds its way into a holding without being taken by the land-holder.

(b) That having regard to the difficulties experienced by land-holders in the matter of obtaining opportune sanction on water applications on account of the unsympathetic conduct of the subordinate staff on the Engineering Department this Conference urges no applications should be deemed necessary in the following cases:—

- (1) Where water has been given to a field for a period of five years.
- (2) In the case of a survey field when water was already given to portions of the same.
- (3) In the case of fields lying in the lower level where surrounding fields were already irrigated.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

XXVII. Resolved that this Conference is emphatically of opinion that the manner in which the subordinate magistrates in this district have been administering Criminal Justice is causing considerable hardships to the public as the refusal to admit complaints, the indiscriminate dismissal of complaints under Section 203 C. P. C., and

the extraordinary use of section 250 C. P. C. have been depriving even bona fide complaints from obtaining Justice in Criminal Courts.

Proposed by Mr. B. Suryanarayana Patnaik, B.A., B.L.
Seconded by Mr. O. V. Jagannadha Sastry.

Carried unanimously.

FORESTS.

XXVIII. Resolved that in view of the hardship and inconvenience caused to the people of the District and ryot population in particular, this Conference prays:—

- (a) 1. That the recommendations of the Forest Committee be given effect to in this District also regarding Government Forests and Zamin-dari Forests under Court of Wards and that Forest Panchayats be formed.
2. That free permits be given for taking from Forest areas belonging to the Government and under their management:—
 - (a) Ashes.
 - (b) Leaves for manure.
 - (c) and bona fide requirements for agricultural implements.
- (3) That Forest Officers be on the recommendations of responsible revenue officials directed to grant free permits for cutting and removing timber, bamboos and grass required for re-construction of thatched houses in the case of the deserving poor.
- (4) That the existing wholesale contract system of selling Forest produce be replaced by the old system of issuing tickets to individuals.
- (5) This Conference expresses its sense of great disappointment with the Government in their not disafforesting reserve forests in the District that are less than one square mile in extent.
- (6) That the Agent to the Court of Wards be requested to order the issue of permits for the removal of timber from the Madugole Forests as great inconvenience is felt under existing circumstances.

Proposed by Mr. M. Subbarow, B.A., B.L.
Seconded by Mr. Kodukula Narasimham.

Carried unanimously.

VILLAGE ROADS.

XXIX. Resolved that this Conference is of opinion that the following roads be constructed as early as possible:—

1. Nellimarla to Gajapati Nagaram, through the intervening Agraharams.
2. Segadam to Rajam.
3. Panchadarla to Yellamanchili.
4. Bobbili to Akulakatta.
5. Seetharampuram to Pondur via Santhakavita.
6. Bobbili to Balijipeta.
7. Yellamanchili to Dimila.
8. Yitikilavalasa to Pachipenta.
9. Goteda to Makavarapalem.
10. Kondakarla to Narasingapalli.
11. Thotapalli to Peda Merangi.
12. Salur to Thadivalasa.
13. Salur to Makkuva.
14. Komatipalli to Garbham.

15. Chodavaram to Devarapalli and Kottavalasa via Kodur.
16. Bayyavaram to Chintavanipalem.
17. Alamanda R. S. to Padmanabham.
18. Chodavaram to Kasimkota via Rajam and Turakalapudi.
19. Simhachelam to Duvvada via Narava.
20. Desapatrudupalem to Agarampudi via Pedamadaka.
21. Bayyavaram Railway Station to Gangavanipalem.
22. Thumpala to Seethanagaram.
23. Kasimkota to Veduruparthi.

Put from the chair.

Carried unanimously.

TOLL FEES.

XXX. Resolved that this Conference requests the District Board to consider and remove the following difficulties experienced by the public in the matter of the location of the toll gates, and collection of tolls.

- (1) That the distance of 20 miles between any two toll gates contemplated under the rules should not be overlooked in fixing the location of such gates on the simple ground that they are not on the same road and that the existing toll gates contravening this principle should be closed.
- (2) That no toll should be levied from carts of villages while taking manure etc. to their fields and especially with respect of toll gates, in the vicinity of their villages as such carts cannot be said to be travelling along the said roads.
- (3) And that the composition rules should be freely given effect to in the case of cart owners in villages near the existing toll gates.

Put from the Chair.

Carried unanimously.

XXXI. (1) Resolved that this Conference strongly urges on the Government of Madras the imperative necessity of pressing on the Railway Board for the immediate construction of a Railway line connecting Bhimilipatam with Vizianagaram and Vizagapatam and that the line from Vizianagaram to Bhimilipatam should at least be undertaken to begin with.

- (2) This Conference urges that the present Kasimkota Railway Station be shifted from its present position to that at a spot near the Kasimkota village.

Put from the Chair.

Carried unanimously.

XXXII. Resolved that in view of the fact that Plague has already worked great havoc at Vizagapatam and of the great probability of its being an annual visitation, this Conference urges the necessity of the present system of divided responsibility being at once put an end to. And it also advises the Vizagapatam Municipality and the Vizagapatam District Board to pray for the grant of at least one lakh of Rupees for Sanitary improvements either from its provincial funds or by obtaining the same from imperial balances.

Proposed by Mr N. Rangamannar.
Seconded by Mr. M. Suryanarayana, B. A.

Carried unanimously.

XXXIII. Resolved that this Conference expresses its great dis-satisfaction at the methods now adopted by the Salt Department in the matter of the production and sales of Salt as it neither encourages the licensee nor benefits the consumer; and therefore recommends to the authorities that the hardships be alleviated by allowing higher price for the monopoly salt; by equalising the cesses in a single factory by fixing a definite and equitable proportion of the salt to be contributed to the Department under the modified excise rules and by the State selling salt at the actual cost at which it is obtained from the licensees.

Proposed by Mr. M. Suryanarayana, B. A.
Seconded by Mr. K. Ramadas.
Supported by Mr. K. S. Narayana Rao.

Carried unanimously.

XXXIV. Resolved that this Conference urges the speedy construction of a bridge between Ganaparthi and Chuchikonda as considerable inconvenience is caused to travellers passing by the route without the same.

Proposed by Mr. D. V. Narasimha Row.
Seconded by Mr. M. Somappa Sastry.

Carried unanimously.

XXXV. Resolved that this Conference urges the necessity for establishing a Telegraph Office at Madugula and Post Offices at China Madina, Gogada Agraharam, Kintali of Veeravilli Taluq and Ramabhadrapuram of Salur Taluq.

Put from the Chair.

Carried unanimously.

XXXVI. Resolved that the next District Conference be held at Vizianagaram in 1919 on such days as may be fixed later on.

Proposed by Mr. M. Suryanarayana, B. A.
Seconded by Mr. B. Suryanarayana Patnaik, B.A., B.L.

Carried unanimously.

XXXVII. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR.

By Mr. O. V. Jagannadhasastri.

XXXVIII. THANKS TO THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE AND TO THE VOLUNTEERS.

By. Mr. N. Rangamannar.

PRESIDENT'S CONCLUDING SPEECH.

(Sd). SREE VIKRAMA DEO VARMA,
President.

[True copy].

Sree Vikrama Deo Varma
President

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The
**Thirteenth Vizagapatam
District Conference**

Held at
Anakapalli on the 16th, 17th and
18th May 1918.

—V—
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

BY
SREE VIKRAMA DEO VARMA.

S. S. M. PRESS, VIZAG.

Brother Delegates and Gentlemen,

I esteem it a great privilege to have been invited by the Reception Committee to preside over the 13th Vizagapatam District Conference. I however felt considerable misgivings in my own heart, as to whether, at this time of our national crisis and evolution, I could undertake this heavy responsibility. I braced myself up with the thought, that at a time when every true son of India is called upon to render national service in some shape or other, in whatever humble capacity, no one should lag behind but answer the call of duty, and have therefore accepted the honour and privilege bestowed upon me, with the humble desire to serve and strive with you in the national cause, to join with you in your ranks in the brave and patriotic, loyal and constitutional struggle for winning Self Government within the Empire at the hands of the British Government for our Motherland. Not with the hope that I would be able to carry you with me by my eloquence nor even with the conscious self-possession of a leader among you who could stand boldly at the front and fight your battles, do I accept this honour. By your noble example, by the example of all true sons of India, who fixing their gaze steadily on the goal, are pressing boldly forward in their onward march towards that goal, by unwavering and unerring steps, I felt impelled, nay tempted, to follow the lead and tread on the same path. By the help of your wise counsels, your able guidance, and above all your enthusiastic endeavour to achieve your object, I hope I shall be able to discharge the duties of the Presidential chair entrusted to me with some degree of confidence and success. I request you to accept my most sincere thanks.

The Great War.

We meet for the fourth time under the shadow of this great war, which has been wantonly provoked by the rampant militarism and barefaced lust for world domination reigning supreme in Germany and has been raging with unabated vigour plunging the whole of Europe and the civilised world in the struggle. We have not yet begun to see the beginning of the end of this terrific war. Our Shastras proclaim "where there is right, there is victory". "యశోఽర్హస్తోజయః." That saying will not go in vain. The Allies and our Sovereign King-Emperor George have drawn the sword and entered the field of battle in defence of right and their strength which is as the strength of ten, will triumph over the mighty armaments of the enemy and give lasting peace to the world, covering them with eternal glory. The glorious vision of the ultimate victory is clear before our eyes and no one doubts the success or the righteousness of our cause. To the Hindu mind such great wars are the outcome of the Divine Will and Purpose sent to purge the world of its sins and the sinners whenever unrighteousness reigns supreme overshadowing Right. The Almighty ever partial towards right and justice sides, like Lord Sri Krishna, in the Mahabharata, "యశో ధర్మపతః కృష్ణః" with the party struggling for truth, virtue, honour and righteousness. With the victory of the Allies, a new and splendid era dawns on the face of the earth and virtue once more shines bright, resuscitated, resplendent with all its heavenly hues, the dross, the baser elements all being consumed by the fire.

India's Help.

From the time the trumpet blew on the battle plains of Europe, India has been longing to enter the fight. At the bidding of H. E. Lord Hardinge, the Indian Expeditionary Force entered the struggle at the Western Front in the beginning, withstood the overpowering

onslaught of the enemy forces in their fresh and vigorous attacks and received encomiums for their heroic and valourous fight. In the words of H. H. the Maharajah of Bikanir, they had nothing but a thin line of khaki and their own loyalty to the King Emperor, to support them in their defence when they were taken straight from the Railway line to the battle front. In the recent battle of Cambrai, the services rendered by the Bengal Cavalry have been well appreciated. The Mesopotamian Campaign was waged and won mainly through the help of the Indian troops, and the Indians earned the approbation of their Generals in all the fronts they were employed in. India's loyalty became manifest and was proclaimed to the world by her sacrifices in men, and money. The Indian breasts were surging with enthusiasm and pride, by the noble sacrifices rendered by their brethren on the battle field and India was aglow with the warmth of feeling, loyalty and patriotism to enter the fight and have a share in the glorious victory. Had the Indians been permitted to volunteer, or join in the ranks, had commissions been bestowed on deserving and capable Indians, in the beginning, millions of armed soldiers and untold reserves behind would have been in readiness, steady, firm and loyal to defy and swamp the overwhelming odds of enemy and the man-power problem would not have arisen in its present form. The occasion passed and for some reason, our wishes could not be fulfilled by the Government. Enured to habits of peace, under the blessing of British Rule, our people mostly exchanged the sword for other avocations. The innate martial spirit requires but a little burnishing to make it flash once more with full lustre like polished steel, and the descendants of the heroes of the past whose deeds are celebrated in song and legend, cannot fail to stand up at the call of the Empire in a manner worthy of their ancient traditions and the man-power of the Empire would be invincible against its strongest enemy.

The King's Message and the Delhi Conference.

The fighting on the Western Front has become intense, as the enemy forces liberated from Russia are being centred there. The allied forces are fighting with glorious heroism and sacrifice against terrible odds and from sheer weight of numbers overwhelming them are sometimes obliged to give way to the enemy at some points after inflicting terrible losses upon them. It would indeed be a matter for considerable exertion and effort for any power to successfully defeat an enemy who entered the battle field after nearly half a century of preparation, equipping himself with all the engines of slaughter which science could devise or unscrupulous warfare could employ, trampling under foot the traditions alike of civilised warfare and the feelings of humanity. When American millions reach the battle front, the pride of the enemy will be fallen and vanquished. The whole world is virtually up in arms against this common foe. The Prime Minister sent a message to us, indicating German peril in Asia and the East, and forewarning us to gather up our resources and be ready to face the enemy in defence of the empire. H. E. The Viceroy replied reaffirming India's loyalty and her proud resolve to stand firm in defence of the Empire. The historic conference met at Delhi the capital of the Empire and the inspiring words of the King's message and the Viceroy's speech are still ringing in your ears. "The Empire's need is India's opportunity." That is the gracious message delivered by the King Emperor to the loyal Princes and peoples of India and there is no Indian who does not feel the full weight of the pronouncement and faithfully carry it out. "Great as has been India's contribution to the cause of the Allies, it is by no means the full measure of her resources and her strength". So said the King fixing his faith upon the adequate response that His Majesty expected would be made by the country. The Viceroy said, "I want to feel that I am carrying India herself along with me

with the Empire at large and I want India herself to realise that this is her war and that her sons who go forth to fight go to fight for their own motherland". "While I am speaking the great issue still hangs on the balance upon the battle fields of France. It is there that the ultimate decision of India's fate will be taken". Again, he said "In this great world conflagration all the nations are being tried by fire, and the dross is being purged away. We may ask ourselves how can this thing be but we may be confident that it is not without divine purpose that the peoples are being tested as by fire and for those who come out purified and refined, there are spacious days ahead. So may it be with India and you who have come to this Conference have India's good name in your hands. The eyes of the world are upon you. I am sure you will quit yourselves like men". Who will not be inspired with the loftiest sentiments of loyalty and martial fervour by these words? Speaking about the political reforms. "But if we are to do this, we must close up our ranks. In the face of the common danger, there is no room for smaller issues. The liberty of the world must be won before our aspirations for the liberalising of Indian political institutions can acquire any tangible meaning". From the above it would appear that the reforms are not likely to take shape till after the war. The Viceroy's ideal seems to be that India, while contributing her might to this fight for the freedom of the world, should feel that her sons are fighting also for their mother-land. The Viceroy's momentous utterance gives remote echoes of the Premier's speech with respect to Ireland but the difference in the tone and language is apparent. India is longing to enter the fight not for the sake of reforms. It is in no huckstering spirit; her loyalty has no price. She desires to enter the fight to serve the Empire in her supreme hour of need, show herself worthy of her proud position as a free and equal partner of the Empire and do the behests of her sovereign. If it was felt that any pronouncement on the question of reforms should have been made at all, it would have been

higher statesmanship to have promised full freedom. The Viceroy's speech contains no definite assurance of the grant of freedom or the political reforms watched with the keenest interest by the country. On occasions like this, it is only natural that the people should give expression to the desires that sway their hearts and for the Rulers to comply with them. The case of Ireland is a strong instance in point. As has been already observed, it is not setting down a price upon loyalty, which is not a commercial commodity. We humbly desire the Government to discharge their own duty, create great enthusiasm among the people for the fight and utilising the best of India's resources, and the flower of her army to win the fight.

The Indian Man-power.

In a land inhabited by over 33 crores of people, it ought not to be difficult to raise an army of at least a crore of men, able to take the field. Fully alive to the undying importance of the history and martial traditions of our past, bearing in mind the highest moral and religious precepts inculcated by our own Shastras, epics, and the puranas, keeping steadily before our gaze our clear path of duty ahead, it is our bounden duty as the descendants of the heroes of the past, our Dharma, to enter this fight in defence of the honor and glory of the Empire and of the arms of the King Emperor. Brethren, I wish to recall to your mind the great and matchless teaching of our Lord Sri Krishna on the righteous battle field of Kurukshetra, meant for the instruction of the world but communicated by way of advice to Arjuna at a critical moment.

“యద్భవ్యాయోవపస్మత్ స్వర్గద్వార మపావృతమ్।
 సుభినః క్షత్రియః పార్థ లభంతే యద్ధమిదృశమ్॥”
 అథ చేత్త్వం ధర్మమిమం సంగ్రామం నకరిష్యసి।
 తతస్త్వధర్మం కీర్తించ హి త్వా పాప మవాప్సుసి॥
 హతోవా ప్రిప్సుసి స్వర్గం చిత్వా వా భోక్ష్యసి మహిమ్॥”

“O Arjuna! This war is raging throwing the gates of Heaven widely open. It is only Kshatriyas endowed with the highest bliss that can hope to take part in a war like this”.

“If you fail to take part in a righteous war like this, you will lose your Dharma or duty and your reputation and incur sin”. “If you perish, you will enter heaven, if you win you will enjoy the world (or Empire)”.

These inspiring words to this day touch our hearts and are almost part of our daily prayer. After imparting sound advice as regards Arjuna's duty, the Great Lord enjoined “Therefore fight O! Bharata”. It is thus a sacred duty for us Indians to take part in this righteous war which has as its highest ideal the achievement of the liberty of the world and if we fail to enter it, we shall be incurring sin as the Great Teacher has said. We forego our Dharma and our reputation. The mighty occasion has arisen when all the inhabitants of this vast Indian continent should resolve to rise like a single man in defence of right and of their own common Motherland irrespective of all distinctions of caste, creed or colour. Our ancient writings contain abundant references to the part taken by even Brahmins in the past leading armies in the battle field and wielding the sword and training the Kshatriya youth in the pursuits of warfare. The Brahmins were holding proud positions in the army as commanders. The Baudhayana Smruti says: that martial life for a Northern Brahmin is not prohibited. To this day the Brahmins are largely employed in the Indian army in the North sometimes in separate battalions and sometimes mixed with others. When the country's safety is threatened, it is the duty of all citizens to fight in her defence. The Sub-Committee at the Delhi Conference recommended and it was resolved, that there is no need for conscription in India and that armies should be raised by voluntary recruiting. Some of our Indian leaders however outside the Conference sought to introduce

conscription as a means for whetting the latent martial spirit of the people which has long gone out of use under the peaceful reign of our British Rulers. But is the desire for conscription not a slur upon our loyalty and patriotism and the history of our country in the past? It is quite possible to raise by voluntary recruitment hosts after hosts of Indian armies which can completely overpower and easily outnumber the enemy forces in the field of battle. Thousands of armies will march under the banner, if the Government is pleased to remove restrictions, confer commissions in the army on deserving and capable Indians' equalise pay and prospects, and treat the Indians and the Europeans on a footing of perfect equality. It is indeed a matter for considerable regret that the Government have not yet been pleased to order the repeal of the Arms Act.

The Second War Loan.

Although our country has rendered pecuniary help in several shapes in this war there is much more to be done. The policy has been in the past to keep India and the war apart from one another. With the march of events, the time is now come for all of us to feel, as the Viceroy said the other day, that India herself is going along, in this war, with the other parts of the Empire at large. Verily India should now shine as the brightest jewel in the Imperial Diadem. Prices may rise, gold and silver become scarce, food itself scanty, India will not fail to discharge her duty loyally, but she never deserves to be pointed out as not giving while she could. It is not proper to suppose that large treasure is buried by the ignorant folk in the earth or that the Indian womanhood is sinking in jewellery any wealth that could be more usefully employed in other ways. True it is that the Indian wife is fond of jewellery as her sisters are elsewhere, but she considers it to be an inseparable part of her own wifelyhood, an inestimable possession which cannot be severed therefrom—and no woman cares to

preserve her ornaments when her house or husband is in danger. The time is one for great sacrifices, all luxuries must be scrupulously avoided, and the country should prepare itself for the fight, by the practice of the strictest Karmayoga and to win victory. It is our firm conviction that India will not shrink from the sacrifices necessary or the self-restraint needed, to achieve the objects in view. When the budget for the current year was introduced by the finance member of the Imperial Council, all members congratulated him that he has steered through most difficult times, preserving our financial equilibrium and without imposing fresh taxation. In England several new taxes have been imposed. In times of great national emergency, the wealth of the nation is at the absolute disposal of the sovereign for so our Shastras say. It is our earnest desire therefore that India should excel herself over the former occasion and contribute liberally towards the success of the second war loan.

The Political Reforms.

The visit of the Right Honourable Mr. Montagu, the Secretary of State for India to our country during the current year, has been a very remarkable event in the history of our political progress. From the speech of H. E. the Viceroy we learn that the Secretary of State is on his way back to England. The whole country should have been rejoicing if it had been possible either in the King's message or in the Viceroy's speech to announce any definite policy as regards the coming reforms but no definite assurance such as has been given to Ireland has been vouchsafed to us. The Secretary of State has throughout maintained perfect silence according to the instructions given to him at home. The Self Government resolution attempted to be brought before the Conference at Delhi has been ruled out of order by the Viceroy, giving some reasons for the said act and in his concluding speech the Viceroy held out promises for the future. The Secretary of State however declared

in the House of Commons as his opinion that unless the Government in India is made responsible to the people, there can be no progress. We earnestly hope and we cannot fail to be convinced, that he will use his best endeavours to achieve that end. The unfettered caprices of the beauracracy must yield to responsible popular Government. When throughout the whole of the civilised world, democratic ideals are gaining ground it is impossible to expect that India alone of all countries will not be keenly alive to the new quickening impulses. The ancient Aryan saying “సంఘశక్తిః కలయన్తి” “That power resides in the multitude in the Kaliyuga or age” is about to come to pass. This is the true import of the said Aryan saying. There have been several instances where, during the stay of the Secretary of State for India in this country, the beauracracy has given proofs of its despotic methods and implacable attitude. Such being the case we cannot expect that they would easily part with their powers. Except by a stroke of bold statesmanship, the Government of the country cannot be metamorphosed at once into popular and responsible Government. The political sky is changing every hour with its varied hues like the evening sunset. The Government of any country requires for its stability strong popular support and it must accordingly be broad-based upon the popular will. The idea should never be entertained that in ancient India the Kings and Emperors were despotic rulers. They never discarded the Dharma but held themselves absolutely bound thereby. Even where public opinion was misguided and faulty, the ancient Kings suited their policy in accordance with popular prejudice even. Under the present system popular opinion can make itself hardly felt—as witness the fate of the resolutions sent up for discussion in the Legislative Council. The Honourable the Rajah of Ramnad elicited some interesting particulars as regards the way in which resolutions have been dealt with in the Council. 924 resolutions have been sent up by non-official members. 209 have been rejected under various rules 66 alone were accepted. 180 were

opposed. Divisions were called for and votes taken in 51 cases and in three out of the number popular majority succeeded. This state of things needs no further comment. To remedy this condition, the Congress and the Muslim League have elaborated a scheme of reforms and put it forward as the result of their joint effort. Viewed in any light, the Congress-League scheme represents the minimum of the reforms that the country requires to set matters right and anything short of that will only increase the volume of the discontent. It would not be sound statesmanship or policy to reject a scheme put forward after due deliberation by the two great national assemblies of India as the minimum required for the good of the country. The Home Government should see its way to passing an act of Parliament at once for establishing Self Government in India. The various departments of the Government can be liberalised and brought under popular control by successive steps; but as a first step the Congress-League scheme should be adopted as the safest and the best.

Our Domestic quarrels.

It is indeed a matter for considerable anxiety and regret that in our Southern Presidency alone, in political matters, our social condition should create internal disputes and disturb our fraternal harmony. The non-Brahmin problem does not seem to be so prominent elsewhere. Perhaps in our Presidency singularly, Brahminism is so transcendental ! I am neither partial to, nor hostile towards Brahmins. To hate another, is never in accordance with our Dharma and hatred in any form is a grave and serious evil. If we examine the question rather dispassionately, it would appear that the Brahmin is more sinned against than sinning. In some unfortunate cases the Brahmin dislike is assuming an aggressive and militant attitude. For all the ills that the non-Brahmin community is suffering from, to say that the Brahmin alone is to be held responsible is exceedingly strange and perverse thought.

If in the past the Brahmin gained some supremacy in the matter of appointments and other powers, it is to be attributed to the result of the environments and circumstances of the Hindu society as at present constituted but is by no means to be regarded as brought about by the viles and machinations of the crafty and unscrupulous Brahmin intrigue. We should be throwing the blame on the Creator, if we say that the caste system has given such undue predominance to the Brahmin. The true Brahmin never harbours ill-will or hatred towards another. We leave out of account the pseudo-Brahmin whose thoughts and deeds belie his Brahmin birth. Even now, the hatred of the Brahmin towards other communities does not seem to be so great as theirs towards Brahmins. Among the Avatars of Sri Maha Vishnu, Vamana alone is a Brahmin. Parasurama is a kshatriya by his pursuits. Sri Rama was a Kshatriya and Sri Krishna was only a Yadava or a cowherd. Do not the Brahmins worship these? Even if there should be quarrels among brothers about the partition of family properties, the brothers do not ordinarily become blind to their filial duty towards their parents on that score. Granting for argument's sake that the evils of Brahmin predominance are real, to oppose reforms on that score or to suppose that Self-Government if established, would only perpetuate Brahmin tyranny, would be perverse reasoning, betraying the narrowness of the political vision of the protagonists of such a theory, and further leads to the suspicion, that such an attitude is less, the outcome of their own inward convictions than of external influences. The Hindus and Mahomedans have joined hands and their united voice demands common political rights. Many among the non-Brahmin leaders have seen through the danger of such a blind policy and have already declared their unflinching adherence to the Congress cause and have demanded the grant of reforms according to the Congress League scheme with only communal representation added to safe-guard the interests of non-Brahmins in Southern India. This has been generally approved and conceded

by generally liberal minded Brahmins in the South. In any province in the country, the non-Brahmin population is the mainstay of its prosperity. It is the non-Brahmins, that, by their endeavour should contribute to the progress of the country, by their agricultural, commercial and industrial pursuits, and it is again the non-Brahmin that should bear mostly the burdens of the taxation and contribute towards its revenues. It is therefore clear that no one can afford to disregard or minimise their importance and it would never be true political wisdom to stand in the way of the reforms necessary for the good of the country either from the fear, of or the hatred towards, the Brahmin.

The Linguistic Ideal and the Andhra Movement.

The redistribution of the provinces on a linguistic basis has been advocated by some responsible politicians as conducive to the harmonious and the material progress of the country towards the Self-Government ideal. Mr. Curtis also seems to support this ideal. The resolution moved by the Hon'ble Mr. B. Narasimheswara Sarma in the Imperial Legislative Council has been lost. Still the strength of the movement will not be affected but will be gaining ground and bear its fruit in due time. The attitude of some of our great leaders of political thought in the country towards the resolution and their undeserved remarks against Mr. Sarma and the resolution, created quite a surprise and a sensation in many quarters in the country. No one ever desired that the country should be divided into as many provinces as there are languages, great or small, in the country. Our administration is the costliest in the world, even as it is, and we have no desire to increase the cost thereof by providing more posts with high salaries and emoluments, by unnecessarily breaking up the provinces. Our ideal is to economise the administration and to redistribute the provinces, on a linguistic scale, having regard to the im-

portance, and literary development of the languages and the capacity of the people for separate administration. The tie of a common language is the strongest of its kind and it is therefore an ideal to be attained in the political reconstruction of the country. Ideas are gaining ground that the proceedings of the Legislatures, of the Courts of justice, instruction in schools in the arts and sciences, are to be conducted only in the mother tongue, and it is by no means an impracticable thing to cherish the language ideal as basis for provincial administration. The future development of the administrative policy of the British Indian Empire, will have to be on a federal basis carved on linguistic lines. It is therefore essential that this cardinal principle should be kept constantly in sight in shaping the progress of the Government of the country. In our Presidency about 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of the population speak Tamil, about 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ Telugu, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ Uriya and an equal percentage Kanarese and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ speak Malayalam. Other languages prevail to a minor extent. Tamil and Telugu, thus hold a prominent place in the country. My Uriya brethren live in the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Districts of our Presidency. The mother country Orissa known as Odhra Desa or the Uriya country is separate. My Uriya brethren have for sometime before even the Andhra movement took shape, been agitating for the union of all the Uriya speaking people under one administration, but their desires are yet far from fulfilment. If the linguistic basis is to be adopted, the Tamil and Telugu countries have to be separated and the Uriyas joined on to their brethren in Orissa, according to the natural course of division. This ideal has been catching the imagination of the people in the other Provinces also. The people of Sindh and Maharashtras have well recognised its force and beauty. Our Bengali brethren fought for it bravely and achieved it in a large measure. It is high time the Government also should take up the ideal and work towards its accomplishment. The unity of common language fosters the spirit of the highest and best patriotism in any place or country; like

brethren nurtured at the common breast of the same mother, the people cultivate common love for their mother land and tongue, bound by the strongest fraternal ties. The language that the child learns to lisp in the lap of its mother is no other than its mother tongue and its magic influence is more to be felt than described. I need not expatiate to you separately and at length on the virtues of the Andhra movement. It has captured the popular imagination and has gained a firm and lasting footing in the country. Though I am not an Andhra by birth, the Andhra country and the Andhra language are like foster mothers to me. The Andhra movement has my warmest and most cordial sympathy. The recognition by the Indian National Congress of the claims of the Andhra Desa to a separate provincial organisation is itself a happy augury for the future. The Andhra brethren deserve the gratitude of the nation for holding aloft this high ideal before the country. The Andhras and the Uriyas should mutually wish for the formation of the Andhra and the Uriya Provinces and it is a matter for regret that the brethren in Ganjam should have any quarrels or differences among themselves on these matters. May the Great Ruler of the Nations bless the Andhra movement so that it may bear fruit in the formation of a separate Andhra Province.

National Education.

The National spirit has spread in the country. Self respect is shining bright. Foreign articles and customs and costumes, however attractive, are not exciting the same spell over the nation as before, but are regarded as standing next to our own. Our birth, our nationality, our dress, our language, our manners and customs, however humble and uncivilised in the eyes of other people, are exercising a strong influence over our hearts and filling them with a peculiar national pride. This I understand to be the special feature of the growth of Nationalism in our land. The liberal education imparted by our Rulers

to us, is the root of the cause and the development of this National idea. Some time ago, it appeared as though the country would lose its individuality and identity completely and become merged in the western ideals. But the awakening has come and the feeling has been realised that there is no home better than one's own, however humble, and that there is no benefit deluding ourselves by foreign allurements and attractions. Fully alive to the importance of English education for purposes of transacting the business of the State, for acquaintance with the latest and best developments in science and art, and for imbibing all that is best in the modern civilisation, we realise and we firmly believe that national education is absolutely essential for awakening and illuminating the national ideal, for creating self-respect and self-reliance and for shaping the national character and characteristics which are lying dormant in the nation. The mind of the nation has been long enslaved by foreign domination, and as a first essential, unless the incubus of fear and pusillanimity sitting tight over our breasts expelled, and a manly sense of freedom and independence is fostered and burnished and kept bright, the nation cannot rise to its full height of manhood but stands dwarfed and stunted in its growth losing all vigour and lustre. National education is the best means of developing the manhood of the Nation. That education is the best, which inculcates and implants the national ideas in our breast, and that education alone is to be hankered after. The other methods of education are only means for gaining our daily bread and no more.

There is a great educational reawakening in England and in India and educational methods are being thoroughly overhauled to make them suit the requirements of the age, calling forth the best endeavour to train up the youth of the country, male and female, in the best way possible so as to equip them in the best way possible as the future citizens of the country. This is one of the first lessons of the war learned by us and our

Rulers. In former times, Brahmacharya and its stern discipline, were an integral and essential part of a boy's student life. Avoiding luxuries with religious scrupulousness, and practising self restraint of the strictest kind, the youth devoted themselves to pursuits of knowledge. The said regimen trained the body and the mind in a marvellous manner. The body, fully developed, shining with inward purity and outside beauty, well delineated and marked out, each part and limb perfect in itself, fitted the man admirably for the task before him in after life and the mind followed the course of the development of the body, shone bright and sharp and with native lustre. Unless the same spirit of stern discipline and devotion, again prevails, it is useless to expect that the physical and mental development of the nation would be on a par with one another or other nations or would regain their former strength, vigour and beauty.

Elementary Education.

The darkness of ignorance envelopes the masses of the people. The sun of knowledge has set. The greatness of India has become a matter of ancient history. The sciences, arts and industries have all disappeared. The national intellect has degenerated. The present gloomy condition is perhaps the result of the loss of the national freedom and of due support of her native Rulers. Of late, the national life is slowly reviving and Indian nationalism is manifesting itself in art, and the sciences. New endeavours are being made and finding adequate response in the people. At this juncture, to dispel the gloom and to spread the beneficent rays of knowledge, it is essential that knowledge should spread far and wide and permeate the darkest recesses of the national life and to begin at the very bottom, Elementary education should be imparted to the masses freely and compulsorily. The late Gopala Krishna Gokhale perceiving the utter darkness pervading the masses sought to introduce a bill to make elementary education free and compulsory. Though

temporarily his efforts then failed, they soon began to take firm root and fructify and today we see the principle recognised as absolutely sound and endeavours contemplated to reach the ideal. It is indeed a matter for gratification that the Madras Government has been moving in this direction and the reassuring pronouncement of H. E. Lord Pentland in the last Legislative session and the small conference invited to Ootacamund to discuss the question are hopeful signs. We are yet in ignorance of the details of the scheme but are confident that national good will result therefrom. The spread of education is one of the chief functions of the State. In Mysore, the cry is raised that even secondary and collegiate education should be made free. In England Elementary Education is compulsory for all children between the ages of five and fourteen and is provided free in Public Elementary Schools maintained by local authorities and aided by the State.

It would be highly regrettable if at this day, we cannot succeed in making Elementary Education even free and compulsory. The Aryan saying goes “ವಿವ್ಯಾಪಿ-ನಃ-ವಃ” : “The man devoid of knowledge is a brute.” That man is really blind whose mental eye cannot see the light of knowledge of both things mental and divine, and the path of wisdom is closed against him. Even the methods so far pursued in imparting knowledge to children, do not seem to be quite what they ought to be. A casual glance at any of the text books prescribed, would reveal the fact that they are filled with material not easily comprehensible even to mature minds and mostly relating to unfamiliar and strange objects. The teachers are not men possessed of high educational qualifications. It would be an unwise and imprudent policy to employ as teachers in Elementary Schools, men who are unable to make a living otherwise and whose educational qualifications for the place are only a little above the standards they are required to teach. The plastic mind of youth has to be moulded into right shapes in the beginning and the teacher's vocation makes it particularly desirable to make

the young mind the receptacle of healthy and fresh ideas to enable them to grow. It has been the unfortunate condition in our country that when a man is unable to earn an easy livelihood by other means, he betakes himself to the profession of teaching in Elementary Schools, or the practice of medicine in the villages, document writing or purohit duties. Elementary Education must remain in an unsatisfactory condition unless a better class of teachers is recruited for the service with better pay and prospects. Similar defects are also noticeable in the secondary and collegiate education. The limit of sixteen years for the school final does not appear to be quite reasonable. The teachers of our Queen Mary High School for girls not being acquainted with the vernacular, are obliged to impart instruction in English even from the I Form; and it is needless to observe that the girls are mostly unable to follow the teaching and profit by the instruction. It is the opinion of several competent persons that secondary education also can best be imparted in the vernaculars. In higher and collegiate education the courses of studies do not cover sciences or systems of knowledge useful for the advancement of the country and its material prosperity. Physics, Chemistry, Economics, commerce, and Agriculture, should have a more prominent place in the University. Improved life is the end and aim of all similar education. If it fails to secure the said object, such education is not only useless but even harmful.

Industrial Education.

After this war, a greater economic war will have to be faced by the country. The resources of all the belligerent nations have been completely dried up by this devastating war. All the wealth has been squandered. Commerce has been injured. Produce became scarce. In the economic reconstruction which all countries will undertake to rehabilitate their former trade and industries it is natural to suppose that they will fall upon helpless countries like India. India is the trading centre and market

for the world's goods, paper, pen, ink, thread and needle and such other common articles of daily use, have become unprocurable except by importation from foreign countries. If the national life of India is indeed to reawaken and see the glorious day, India should at once adopt the Swadeshi vow. The present is the fittest time when on account of the war, foreign commodities are unable to flood our markets, to establish our industries on a sound footing and make the country economically and industrially independent. As the people are indifferent and unable to finance great schemes, the Government should help the industries. Education must be so moulded that each Indian will be enabled to pursue some handicraft and earn a decent living thereby, instead of merely depending upon his general education for his means of livelihood. The Department of Industries has been constituted by the Government but till now it has not been productive of any appreciable advantage to the country. Adequate measures are not being taken to spread industrial education among the people. Some people are of the opinion that for a considerable length of time, India must remain content with producing the raw material necessary for manufactures and exporting it to foreign countries, but such a state confers no material advantage upon India and cannot add to her industrial prosperity. We are extremely grateful to the Government for the preparations that are being made to establish an Engineering School at Vizagapatam. A well equipped Industrial School and an agricultural college for the Northern Districts have been long felt wants and we hope that these wants will be supplied by the Government ere long. A weaving school at Pondur has long been an urgent necessity and the attention of the Government has again been drawn to the subject recently in the Legislative Council. The Government replied that the difficulty is mainly in securing a suitable expert during the war and that, after the war, suitable steps will be taken and that meanwhile some help might be gained from the peripatetic weaving party. Food and raiment are the foremost necessities of life, and now there

is a great want in respect of both of them. The Government do not appear yet to have clearly perceived the misery of the situation. People are suffering severely from the enormous rise in prices. Some Municipalities are selling articles at fixed prices, to control the high prices and it is highly desirable and necessary that similar steps should be undertaken by the Municipalities and other authorities in our district also. Unconscionable profiteering is growing rampant under the pretext of war emergency and it is high time that Government should step in to relieve the situation, and provide adequate safeguards.

Local Self-Government.

It has been recognised as an accepted principle by the Government for sometime past that for the better foundation of Self-Governing institutions in the country, the basis of local Self-Government should be improved. The principles laid down for the improvement of local Self-Government even so early as Lord Ripon's Viceroyalty have not yet been put fully into operation and the recommendations and observations of the Decentralisation Commission even, have not been given effect to. Even the provisions of the Municipal and Local Boards Acts are not yet fully carried out in some instances. The number of institutions has remained almost stationary and no rapid strides forward are made. We cannot lay the charge at the door of the people alleging that they are apathetic, because wherever such institutions are established and powers conferred, the people are showing keen interest in their working and development. There is deeprooted mistrust of the capacity of the people ingrained in the mind of the bureaucracy and that accounts in a large measure for the tardy pace of advancement in these matters. Till that mistrust vanishes, no real progress is possible. When local Self-Government is improved and real and genuine interest is created in the people then the capacity of the people will become manifest. Otherwise, it becomes rusted for want of proper use. Constant en-

deavour alone will confer the necessary capacity and skill. Lack of independence and initiative will curb the development of the capacity of the people as well as a sense of due responsibility. The real power now vests in the hands of the Government in shaping the budgets and sanctioning the expenditure of the Municipal and Local bodies and local Self-Government exists merely in name. The power of electing Presidents of Taluk Boards has been conferred upon a very few and till now the Collectors have been the Presidents of the District Boards. Of late four District Boards have been allowed to have the privilege of having non-official Presidents. In our District, the Hon'ble Rajah of Bobbili has been nominated President of the District Board but he has resigned within three months of the appointment. No successor has been nominated but the privilege has been conferred upon South Canara District. The Hon'ble Mr. Akella Suryanarayana Rao interpellated the Government on the subject and got the reply that no such nomination will be made at present. As usual the Collector has become President and one of the pensioned and retired officials of the Government has been gazetted Vice-President. When a non-official in the person of the Hon'ble the Rajah of Bobbili became President it became necessary for the present Vice-President to resign and an official, the Huzur Deputy Collector had to fill the office of Vice-President. The Rajah having resigned, the Collector and his former Vice-President have again stepped into their former usual places. This kind of transmutation cannot but excite wonder and surprise. When the privilege was first conferred upon our District, whether or not the Government considered that the Hon'ble Rajah was alone the fit and proper person for the place, they could certainly not have imagined that the Rajah could ever continue to be the non-official President of our District Board. To appoint a Zamindar deeply immersed in his own affairs when there are qualified gentlemen is a strange phenomenon in our District. The Local Boards Act even contains a provision for the election of a President by the members of the Dis-

trict Board when the power is conferred by the Government and it is passing strange that the Government has not yet conferred the power on any of the District Boards. There are many in our District who are eminently qualified to fill the place of the President of the District Board. Can we suppose that the Government is wholly unaware of their existence or their capacity? Among Taluk Boards in the District Narasapatnam alone remains under an official President and the Parvatipur vacancy remains unfilled yet. Why? The answer to these two questions cannot be easily imagined. When the present Municipal and Local Boards Acts are revised, we hope that every endeavour will be made to confer real independence on the local bodies and make them really Self-Governing institutions.

Village Panchayats.

Our thanks are due to the Government for endeavouring to change the law governing village courts and to establish new courts for the speedy and inexpensive administration of justice in the villages. Litigation and its extravagance have been eating away into the vitals of the ryot population. The number of suits has been daily progressing. If temporary and additional courts are established for relieving congestion in the ordinary courts such relieving courts are themselves getting congested by increased volume of litigation. A temporary court once established bids fair to become permanent. The people are losing self consciousness by the intoxicating power of litigation. This state of things only points to their degradation and is by no means an index of their prosperity. The village courts have to be invested with exclusive authority over the civil and criminal matters falling within their jurisdiction which should gradually be extended as public confidence and the utility of these tribunals increase. The regular courts should have the power to hear appeals and revision against the decisions of the village tribunals under certain safeguards

and conditions. The number of Panchayat Courts should exceed the number of Courts presided by single Village Munsiffs. The old Panchayat regulation has been in existence very nearly from the time of the permanent settlement. Suitable men should be appointed Panchayatdars. The communal life of the villagers and their individuality has gradually degenerated but has not yet disappeared entirely. There is thus a hope of its being again resuscitated by proper methods. It has to play an important part in the process of reconstruction of the political institutions of the country on a self-governing basis. Several representations have been made to the Government to establish Panchayats not only for the administration of justice but for various other useful purposes. Forest Panchayats have rendered useful work in the places where they were constituted and irrigation Panchayats worked well in the Nellore District.

Land Revenue Settlements.

The Re-settlement operations of our District have been commenced. There are only three Government Taluks in our District, Palakonda, Golugonda and Sarvasidhi. Of these, the two former and a greater part of the latter were Zamindaris at the time of the permanent settlement but only became government property by confiscation afterwards. About 9/10 of the land in our District is Zamindari and the remaining 1/10 is Government. The Estates Land Act thus applies to roughly about 9/10 of the entire area of the District. The three Government Taluks are administered on a different system, in the present Land Revenue System of the Government. Of these Sarvasidhi is the home of famines and remissions. We do not know how the Taluk got its name Sarvasidhi (which means all round plenty) but at present the name is certainly a misnomer. A large body of the influential ryots of the Golugonda Taluk have sent in a petition to the Government to discontinue the re-settlement operations as their lands are already heavily assessed but the

operations are in full swing. Others elsewhere have urged that resettlements should be postponed during the war. The Government, unlike ordinary landlords who rackrent people, should take only a proportionate part of the produce of the land as revenue for state purposes. The periodical resettlements usually result in enhancements of revenue and hence the apprehensions of the people. The land has already been heavily assessed and taxed and any additional burdens will become unbearable. The subject has come before the Government in several shapes on various occasions but the policy remains unchanged. Water cess again is another impost pressing unduly heavily on the people. The Urlam Judgment has preserved certain rights of the landholders and it remains to be seen in what manner they will be permitted to be enjoyed.

The Agency Tracts.

Most of the agency is Zamindari land. It is now nearly eighty years since the agency was separated. The economic condition of the people dwelling there, their wealth, the administration of justice are all in keeping with their sylvan surroundings and life. Till very recently, this tract of the country having been mostly inaccessible, its resources and fertility have not been well investigated. This land beautifully endowed by nature has of late years been attracting the eye of the Government. To instil knowledge into these aboriginal people, to afford adequate medical aid, to open up the country by Railways, to reform the rules regarding the administration of justice so as to bring it into a line with the enlightened system in the plains, these are some among the chief agency reforms. Godavary, Vizagapatam and Ganjam agencies are now under systems of rules and there is no difference in the social life of the people inhabiting the three portions. There is no longer any need to keep them separate and one set of rules may be usefully framed so as to provide for all the three agencies. We are

glad to note that the Government are making certain efforts to remedy this state of things. The need of education is all the greater. There is only one Board High School at Jeypore. In other places there are only a few scattered Elementary Schools. During the time of the late Governor's Agent Mr. Harris, certain Hill Schools have been newly established but no progress has since been made. It is my earnest desire that special efforts should be made to improve the material condition of the agency and its people by my cousin the Maharajah of Jeypore Sri Maharajah Sir Vikrama Deo Maharajulungaru, K. C. I. E., The Vizianagram Parvatipur Railway line was originally proposed to be run at least as far as Kalyanasingapur and other new proposals were again made to run another line through Jeypore to the Central Provinces. But all of them have come to a standstill and the present war puts them beyond the reach of expectation of early accomplishment. In the ordinary portion of the Vizagapatam District, Railway cess has been collected for the past nearly two years, but there is no prospect of any Railway being laid out in the District within a reasonable time. It would therefore seem desirable that the Railway cess should be stopped for the present. There are great possibilities for the future of our District and it behoves us to take early steps to ensure its prosperity. The construction of the Vizagapatam Harbour has been determined upon and with it, if the Railway line is connected with the Central Provinces, the agency will be developed, an outlet will be provided for the produce of the Central Provinces and the prosperity of our District will be ensured. I fully believe that though there is great financial stringency now, on account of the war, still the attention of the Government will be directed towards this important subject and proper steps will soon be taken.

The Plague.

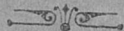
Excellent situated on the sea coast, with its salu-

bricious climate, our town of Vizagapatam with its suburb Waltair, has been justly famed as a favourite health resort. The Plague has recently broken out in the town for the first time in its history and has carried off about 500 people. It is now abating but it is apprehended that there may be a recrudescence with the first onset of the next winter season unless proper precautions are adopted from now, there is no chance of this fell disease being altogether wiped away from our midst. The Government have graciously promised help to free us from the ravages of this disease and our gratitude is due to the Government for the same. The sanitary and other measures require a large outlay and it is our earnest hope that Government will finance the several schemes necessary for the improvement of the town and the eradication of the disease, and considering the prospective greatness and importance of our town, we trust that no efforts and no money will be spared to achieve the said objects.

Conclusion.

Brethren! To the best of my humble ability, I have tried to place some of my little ideas before you. I am grateful to you for the kind and patient attention with which you have listened to my words. Every moment, our hearts and our eyes, stand fixed on the battle plains, and with the varying successes of the allies, our hopes, our fears and our aspirations and our joys vary. H. E. the Viceroy observed that our destinies have to be finally determined there at the western theatre of the war. The concluding words of H. E. the Viceroy at the Delhi Conference fill us with hope. "Nor do I underrate the importance of these questions which they would like to have brought up before this Conference but let me assure them that no prejudice has been done to the cause they have at heart, that rather the attitude of those who have been present here today, the fact that men who also feel strongly on those questions should have been ready when the empire calls

to drop for the moment these matters and say "no this comes first." "I say that this attitude will raise sympathy which must bear its fruit in due time." These words clearly indicate to us the path of duty lying before us in this grave crisis. As Sir Sivaswami Iyer observed at the Delhi Conference with considerable force and foresight all mistrust must vanish, mutual confidence and trust must reign, and popular ideals should bear fruit. It is our duty therefore, born as we are at such a critical period in our national history, to brave the situation like men, with self-respect loyalty and patriotism. The call of the empire and of our patriotism is one and identical. Service to the Motherland and the need of the empire are synonymous. India always first deserves and then desires. At this time of the empire's need, India likewise resolves to serve the empire and strive to maintain the peace of the world along with the other parts of the empire and then herself firmly established on the throne of freedom to shine for ever with her native lustre as the brightest jewel in the Imperial Diadem of the freedom-loving British Nation whose flag floats over free countries. May the God of all Nations bless her with the realisation of her hopes.



Home (mis) Dep't

[c. 1797]

X
Please Return to Section
after issue 2
Letter

1122
22.6.

22/6

Letter No 1797-1 9224

To,

M.R. Ry. Sree Vikrama Deo Varma Garu
President of the Thirteenth
Vizagapatam Dt. Conference
Vizagapatam.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge
the receipt of a copy of the resolutions
passed at the Thirteenth Vizagapatam
Dt. Conference held at Anakapalle
in May 1918 and ^{also} a copy of the
Presidential Address at the Conference
forwarded with your letter No. 6
dated 2nd June 1918.

To, The President of the 13th
Vizagapatam Dt. Conference.
Vizagapatam

18.6.18
Per
20.6.18

21.6.18

Subject Home (edu.)

'Vizagapatam District Conference'

P. C. C. 1797. Letter from the President of the 13th Viz. Dt. Conference D/ 2-6-18

Regr.

This department is concerned only with the resolution no. 6, but no action seems called for.

2. Submitted that the file may be sent u.o. to the departments noted in the margin for such action as may be considered necessary.

3. A draft acknowledgment is submitted for approval.

J.P.
18.6.18

CA
21.6.18

(Letter 1797-18
22.6.18)

back
20.6.18

Home (edu.) up 1797-2
24.6.18

Home (edu.)
@ no. 1639A
24.6.18

Home Education Dept.

Resolutions nos. XII, XV and XVI appertain to this department. ~~As action is necessary. It is for consideration whether the file may be sent to the departments.~~

Se
27.6.18

Submitted for His Excellency's perusal. The file may be passed on to Judicial.

MS
28/6/18

for perusal
1.7.18

3/7/18

H. E. P

3.7.18.

CURRENT NO.
2257
JUDICIAL-B

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
-4-JUL-1918
DEPARTMENT OF JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

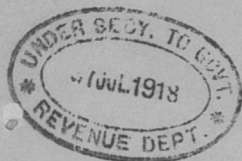
Home (edu.) up
no. 1639A-1
(Jud.) 4.7.18

Home (220) 2/11/18

For the 2/11.

Resolutions XVII, and XXVII.

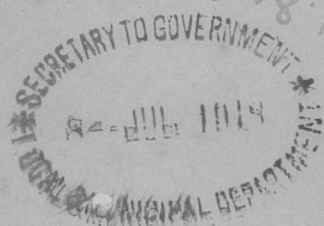
Concern this Dept. The former relates to the bifurcation of the Vizagapatnam district. The file is now with the Hon. No action is called for. The latter is about the indiscriminate use of sections 203 & 250 CrPc. ^{by subordinates} A free resort to these two sections was enjoined by Govt in their review (para 5) on the Criminal Justice Report for May 1916. No action is needed. The file may be passed on to d & M.



at 1/11/18

Jul 2257 B1
6.7.18

C.No. 28740
8.7.18



Circ. in Box 12

29.7.18
LHM No 28740
31.7.18
Circulated in Bx No. 23
22.7.18

4-7-18
5-7-18

to LHM. u.o.
6.7.18

24th Sept.

Resolutions XVI, XVII, XXIV, XXV, XXIX,

XXX, XXXII and XXXIV relate to 24th sections.

The order of the Honble member may, it is submitted, be taken as to whether any action should be taken on them.

Resolution X relates to Medical.

10.7.18

10.7.18

10.7.18

10.7.18

10.7.18

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10.7.18

3/4/18

3/4/18

3/4/18

3/4/18

3/4/18

3/4/18

V.T.K

17/7

14/7/18

H.M. L.M.

H.M. Med-

The paper needs to be seen for the purpose of the Commission

Revenue Dept. Rpt

1494 A 18

to under Aug.

³
p.c.R.

Resolution IX Importation of outsiders into the Vijayapattam Collectorate
In connection with a Resⁿ (since disallowed) which was to have been moved by the Hon^{ble} Mr. Venkataraj Raju a report on the subject has been called for from the Board of Revenue. No action seems necessary on the present file.

linked file.

P. 6 of the list of Resolutions 2K
5-8-18

Resolution XXII Opening of a vernacular agri. school and deputation of a member of the farm staff for district work.

(One of the proposed middle schools will be near the Annapalle farm in Vijay.)

This may be submitted to the Hon^{ble} with reference to para 141 of Office Manual. The file may then be passed on to Revenue (Special)

^{2K}
⁵⁻⁸⁻¹⁸ I think HM's remark on p.2. means that he has seen enough of these Resolutions: it is unnecessary to circulate to him again.

Rev (Spe) Jno. 9/8/18

Rev. W.O. W.O. 14944/8-1
7-8-18

Rev (Spe) u.O. 97/18-7-8-18

4
New (Sp^e) Drift

15

To us

Resⁿ No XXVIII at p. 10 CF
may be submitted to Hm. (For) with
reference to para 141 of the office manual.

PA
8.8.18.

2

Resⁿ No XIV (Priority certificates for the
transport of textile machinery) at p 5 CF.
may be submitted to H.M. (Priority) for with
reference to para 141 of the office manual.

Hm. has seen checky
M

Section II

2/8/18

Nos 8, 19 & 20 also concern Rev. (Spec.).

C.
9. P. IV

Hm. (For) no XXVIII

OK No. 34

inculcator 20.8.18

clerk 22.8.18

M
10.8.18

Lodge
22.8.18

To us

The file may now be passed on to
the P.W.D.

M
22.8.18.

P.W.D.O.

C.
24.8.18

Pro. D.

8251210



Dep't

Rev. (Spec.) No. 48 91/18

23.8.18 DS.

P.W.U.O. No. 2631 AD-1
DATED 23/8/18

WORKS DEPARTMENT.

NO. 2631 A.D.

DATE 26.8.1918

H.M.P.W.D. has already
seen the resolution
and is satisfied about it.

Pro's S. 10/18

27.8.18

Resolution no: XIX concerns this Dept.

No action seems necessary

as the work will apparently be taken up by the B-N. R. Co.

the file may be

548-9W of 11.3.14 H. 1.

C^{no}. 1333
Marnie
Rqd. 14.9.18.

Marine Department

For the U.S.

16

Page 7 of C.F.

Resolution no. ~~XIX~~ concerns this department. Please see the H.M.'s note dated 25.7.18 on page 2 ante. The file may be passed on to Separate Revenue. We have already had this paper.

Sep. Rev. v.o. Bu.
1914

^{Vijayalaya}
The construction of the Rhabnus is to be undertaken by the Bengal Nagpur Railway Company. 50.10.108-9
Pub (mss) 3.4.18.]

Marnie 1333-1
19.9.18



C^{no}. 1407 S.R.
Rqd.
19.9.18

To R.S.

Sep Rev Dept

Resolution no. ~~XXX III~~ (p. 12. cf) concerns this Dept. No action seems to be necessary. H.M. (S-R) has seen the papers (p. 2 ante). The case may be returned to Home (mis).

REV
19.9.18

Home (mis.) no.

20/9/18

Sep Rev. w.o. no. 1407/12-1
20.9.18



M.H.S. in C.R.
23.9.18

Home (mis.) Dept.

Regt.

A draft order recording the resolutions is submitted for approval. H.M. has seen the file.

J.P.
26.9.18
Paek.
30.9.18

1.10.18

27/9/18

Recording the Proceedings of the Thirteenth _____ held at
Anakapalle in May 1918. 17

19

C. No. 1797, From the President of the 13th Vinaya, No., dated 2-6-1918.
Gopabandhu at conf. ce

" " Memo to " " _____ " 170 " 22-6-1918

” ” ” ” ” ” 19 .

No. 688 dated 2.5. 198

Miss

Recorded

J.P.
26.9.18.
Paid
30.9.18.

CA
1.10.18

Worm

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

191

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
191

DATED

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.

F.E.—

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