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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2009 Press ~~Mis.~~

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Dated 23.12.1863 ~~11~~ .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 23rd December 1863.

No. 205. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 30th November 1863, No. 3248.

General Department.

I venture to draw the attention of Government to paragraph 9 of my letter, dated 17th June 1863, No. 1508, on the subject of obtaining the services of a few Supernumerary Assistant Superintendents in the Police.

Experience has proved that the supervision of truthful European Officers is quite indispensable. Natives do and will make fair Policemen, but they must be guided and closely watched by the European gentlemen.

3. The greater number of our Districts are of such enormous area, that this European supervision really cannot be efficiently done by two Officers; especially in such Districts as Cuddapah, Bellary, the populous and intriguing District Tanjore, and the like.

4. Police has proved the most arduous of the services of Government. The tear and wear, physical and mental, are often beyond the powers of even robust men. Sickness has searched us sorely; for 20 per cent. of our Officers are actually in Europe on sick leave. I have several more in an exceedingly shaky condition who will need change. They stick to their work, because neither they nor I can see our way to relieve them; although their Medical attendants urge relaxation and rest.

5. Officers, worked as Police Officers are, *must* be allowed their privilege leave. Men cannot hold on for years at the high pressure that Police duty in heavy Districts entails. I speak from personal experience when treating of this point.

6. But as the service is now constituted, the utmost difficulty is felt in supplying the gap that either sick leave or casual leave necessarily causes. There are no young Officers now in training to take the place of absentees.

7. I beg that the Government will take this matter into consideration, and allow the employment of six Officers as Supernumerary Assistants.

8. The Police Department could furnish a Staff salary of 150 Rupees per month, by reducing an equal number of Inspectors from the establishment. The pay of these men would be available as Staff allowance for the Supernumerary Assistants.

9. The travelling charges of these additional Officers would not raise the amount now budgetted under this head; as the three Officers would probably not be obliged to travel more than the two over-worked men now do.

10. The Military pay proper and allowances of the Officers must be found, as now, in the Military Budget. This cannot possibly be found out of the Police Budget as it now stands.

11. This latter is probably the only point on which it will be necessary to take the orders of the Supreme Government. The rest can be locally managed within the Budget allotment.

12. I beg to append a Memorandum by Captain C. S. Hearn, Deputy Inspector General on the same subject. He is an Officer of mature judgment, and long experience in Police matters.

MADRAS, *29th November* 1863.

MEMORANDUM.

Experience has developed a weak point in the working of the Police Department.

The duty devolving on each individual Officer is admittedly severe, and close personal supervision of an extensive range of country forms an essential part of that duty. This kind of duty is not capable of expansion beyond a certain point; and the highest point of pressure having already been reached, in the space of country assigned to each Officer, it is not possible to throw extra work on any one, without causing relaxation and neglect in some direction or other.

2. Examples are numerous of the evil arising from the temporary absence of Officers, whose places could not be filled. Other Officers have vainly attempted to perform these duties effectively, in addition to their own work, and parts of Districts have fallen into great confusion.

3. Thus too the anxiety of mind, which is inseparable from earnest working in this Department, is greatly increased; Officers become harassed and disheartened.

4 It seems to be a point of vital importance to be able to fill gaps, when they occur, satisfactorily and efficiently. Such gaps will constantly occur. The nature of the work impairs the health of some, and moreover renders it essentially necessary, that Officers should be able to avail themselves of privilege leave whenever due. This privilege has been hitherto withheld from the majority of Officers, by the exigencies of the service, though many absolutely require it.

5. Unfortunately the nature of the work is also such that gaps cannot be satisfactorily filled by mere outsiders who undertake the duty temporarily. No one can be of real use without some practical experience of Police duties. Hence temporary vacancies for short periods have hitherto been provided for, either by throwing the whole work of a heavy District on one Officer, which entails the consequences already described, or by calling in aid from above, and placing the Deputy Inspector General of the Range in immediate executive charge of the distressed District—a position which is quite incompatible with the effective discharge of his proper duties.

6. Undoubtedly the Department suffers much from this cause, and is likely to suffer more as time goes on. Moreover there has long been a cry from heavy Districts for a third European Officer. The ranges of country, as at present distributed, are felt to be too large for one Officer effectually to supervise. And thoroughly effective and *trustworthy* supervision is the main stay of Police working in India.

7. The establishment of a grade of extra Assistants, say one to each District, or at all events to each of the heavier Districts, would prove a great comfort and advantage to the Force. The working will be more complete and less painful. The percentage of Officers, compelled to relinquish their duties by sickness, will show that the powers of all are somewhat unduly taxed. This evil, if allowed to continue, will eventually sap the vitality of the Department. Some support is needed, and this will probably be best supplied by the means adverted to. A nursery of Officers will thus be formed, practically versed and tested in Police duties, from amongst whom it will be easy to supply vacancies, whenever they occur. Under all circumstances they will be found most useful, and will supply a want in the Department. The few English gentlemen, who have entered the ranks of Inspector in some Districts, and who are employed in the supervision of one or more Taluqs, are highly appreciated by their Superintendents. Conscientious supervision and report can then be relied on. The establishment of the grade of extra Assistants would provide this aid in all Districts. Young Officers would doubtless accept the appointment in the hope of advancement. The expenditure might be met by a slight reduction of Inspectors, a grade which it has been found difficult to fill up to its proper strength satisfactorily.

8 On a former occasion I brought to the notice of the Inspector General the expediency of employing a third Officer in the large and difficult Districts of Bellary and Cuddapah. The Superintendent of North Arcot has since made an urgent appeal for a third Officer, and I consider that the District requires one. And the Department generally needs the grade. My own range (which is probably not more hardly pressed than others) is in some risk of breaking down, from absolute want of Officers, and the impossibility of providing them from outside at short notice.

(Signed) W. H. HEARN,
Deputy Inspector General

No. 206. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Fort Saint George, 23rd December 1863, No. 2009.

In my letter of the 4th August last, No. 1248, in reporting on a proposal for employing a large number of young Military Officers as Probationers in the Police Service, I stated (paragraph 5) that the Inspector General of Police in this Presidency was in favor of a limited number

of young Officers not exceeding seven or eight being selected for employment as Supernumerary Assistants in some of the heavier Districts, and that the Governor in Council saw no objection to the experiment being tried to this extent, provided that the Officers appointed were picked men selected with reference to their apparent fitness for the work.

2. Mr. Robinson has now made a definite application for permission to employ six Officers as Supernumerary Assistants on Staff salaries of Rupees 150 per mensem to aid in the Police management of some of the larger Districts, and furnish a supply of trained men to fill the vacancies caused by sickness, retirements, &c. Mr. Robinson proposes that only the Staff salary of these Officers shall be charged to the Police, and that this charge shall be met by the reduction of an equal number of Inspectors. In his letter of the 30th ultimo, of which a copy is annexed, he urges in strong terms the necessity of this addition to his over-worked Staff, and the Governor in Council has no reason to think that the case is in any way overstated.

3. I am accordingly to request that the sanction of the Supreme Government may be granted for debiting to the Military Department the Military pay and allowance of such Officers not exceeding six as may be appointed Supernumerary Assistant Superintendents of Police.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Rad. T. McMootry.

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by the P.&O. st...

Judicial Department

No.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.

Department.

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In lieu of 1863 Ist Jan. 64

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To: The Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Dated 23rd Nov 1864

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