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LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL
DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records
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Press. No. 1742m 1897
Miscellaneous.

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[L. & M.
2,000-4-5-97.]

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1742m

DATED 9-8-97

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine

Informing the C. C. Cannorou that
the Govt. regrets its inability to sanction
the proposal of the M. C. Council to expend
Rs 1000 from M. C. funds for the relief of the
poor in the M. C. & stating with remarks that
if there is — in the locality existing orders require
that it should be dealt with under the Famine Code

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Read

Cur^t no 155/0 of 1897 d 27th July 97 from
Chairman M. C. Cannonore

Note

I telegraphed yesterday
the substance of the order
to the Chairman (S.H.)

To Rev Dept for counter-
initials S.H.

What the Rev Sec says in para
2 of his note is true. After plan
I wd say, "expecting or desirous
that if there is famine it shd
be dealt with under the
Famine Code" - & let the
order stop there.

S.H.
7/8/97

Very well - I assume of course
that the Govt has been told on municipal funds, & apart
in the R.D. that he must do by
the Famine Code if anything at all
needs to be done - That is, I take
it he must begin by opening out works,
not kitchens

S.H.
7/8/97

7 fully cover in the R.D. as amended.

9.4.97

existing orders require that
if there is famine it shd be
dealt with under the famine
code.

S.H. 8/8/97 Issue

20th Sept

Order No 1742 M. mis - d 9.8.97

M.C. the Govt. M.C., while sym-
pathising with the spirit wh.
dictated the proposal of the
Mun. C., yet regrets he is unable
to sanction it. Apart from
objections arising from the
difficulty of confining relief
granted by the Mty to persons
who belong to the town or who may
be deemed to have claim

very limited means at its dis-
posal, to distribute such relief
on a sound & systematic plan

it is evident that if ^{local} distress
is as widespread as it has

be represented to be, it is the
business of the Govt, not of
the Mty, to undertake the
necessary measures for its
alleviation. The collector will
accordingly be called upon in
the Rev. Sp. to report, after enquiring
on the spot, whether in his
judgment (as a whole & the
district in wh. it lies sh^d.
be brought under the operation
of the Famine Code, & any re-
presentation on the matter
which he may think proper
to make will receive the
fullest consideration of H.C.

S.D. 7/6/77

To M^r of Malabar ✓
Chairman M.C. Cam^{on} ✓ Despatched.
Rev. Sp^t ✓ N.H.S.
9/8/97

Hms & H.C.

Can this be correct? I have
always understood that the
Mal^{abar} district did not grow enough
food to feed its people & had to
import largely H.S.

The draft order refuses to allow
the poor house but directs the Collec-
or to report whether the Famine Code
should be applied. Both the Sub-Collector
or and the Collector have already
pledged themselves to the need of re-
lief in this case and Mr. Dance has al-
ready in this rept, and is still in
others, I believe trying to make a fa-
mine in Malabar. Malabar has never known
scarcity dangerous to life and cannot
now feel it. On the contrary money is
flowing into it in an immense stream
in payment for its surplus grain. That
money is not hoarded as in other places
and is being spent as usual in improve-
ments or in many other ways by which
ultimately it must come to the lower
orders and the condition ^{of these} cannot be
worse than it often is or than it was
in 1877 when it is admitted relief was
not thought of. Mr. Dance's letter ^{in this defect} con-
sisted of foolish claptrap (it has been
^{as is not available} sent to the Press) and he gave no facts
to shew that relief was needed. His only
relevant point was high prices (which
it is true last week ^{was} scarcity
rate) but that alone is not enough. If
so relief should at once be opened in
^{other} districts in the Presidency. Mr.
Dance has shown himself unfitted for
the inquiry suggested and if such in-

an inquiry should be deemed necessary
some other officer should in my opi-
on be sent to make it.

It seems to me also that the draft
rejudges the matter and pledges Govt.
to an admission of the existence of
wide-spread distress which may be used
against it hereafter.

~~It~~ It would be better if
the request of the Municipality were
refused without making any reference
to general relief or assigning too many
reasons & however good they may be.

1897
To
The Hon. W. Grose & Circ
8/27/97

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Again G.O., dated

Current No. 153/0

Current No.

189 , No.

of 1897, dated

of 189 , dated

from the Chairman. M.C.
Cannause
from the

FOR ORDERS.

The Cannause Municipality
request sanction for an
expenditure of Rs 1000 from
municipal funds to relieve
the destitute poor & infirm
who now undergo considerable
hardship on account of abnormal
high prices in the district due
to scarcity elsewhere. It is
reported that the people
are now living on Cassia tora
and hyperasethera muringa ^{leaves} mixed
with coconut-oil cake —
pinak, and that the result
according to the Civil Surgeon
has been to produce diarrhoea
which often develops into
Cholera. Clauses (II) and (V)
of Section 113 of Act. IV of 1882
(M) as amended by Act. III
of 1897 (M) are wide enough
to allow of this expenditure for

municipal funds and there
seems therefore to be no objection
for according sanction to the
proposal.

There is a surplus
balance of Rs 1820 in the
budget estimate for 1897-98
and the municipal council also
states that by strict economy
they could effect a large saving
in the expenditure under all
heads & that they could more
than make up the sum ^{thus appropriated} from
the reserve fund (balance)

Sum 3/10/97

H.M.

The section of the Act quoted
above relates to the "construction
'maintenance & repair of poor-
houses", and it also empowers
the expenditure of funds on
"measures of public utility
calculated to promote the safety
health, comfort or convenience
of the people".

Thus the expenditure contem-
plated wd, if sanctioned by p.t.,
be within the law; but the question
is whether it is politic or expedient

to give such sanction.

If relief were given at
the expense of public municipal
funds ~~in the town~~, there wd be
the great danger of an un-
mediate rush ^{into the town} from all parts
of the district to participate
in it. How is this to be
prevented? If relief is to be
restricted to destitute townsfolk,
well & good: but nothing is
said as to ~~the~~ whether this
point has been considered, or,
if so, how it is proposed to
arrange that relief shall be
so restricted.

The municipal funds available
are very limited. The sum of
Rs:1000 mentioned is the
max^m that the city can
afford; & when this is ex-
pended, if the proposal were
sanctioned, the city wd have
to ~~stop~~ ^{close} their relief.

Up to the present, private
charity seems to have done
all that was necessary;
Malabar is the wealthiest
district in the Prov; & I shd

be inclined to leave those who
are temporarily suffering
to obtain the needed assistance
from the generosity of the
~~more~~ wealthy & well to do
classes. Public relief is often
apt to close the purse strings
of private benevolence.

J.F.

3/8/97

I quite agree. If famine
relief (substantial relief) is required
in the district, as I imagine it is,
the Govt. should undertake it on a systematic
plan, not as a casual remedy. The
C.M. should be told (in the R.D.) to take
the matter in hand under the Famine Code.

B.S.

3/8/97

I quite agree. If Relief is
as necessary as the Comm. think, it
is as necessary in other places as
in Cannanore, & should be given
under the Famine Code. The
letter of the Act allows of the
sanctions of the proposal, but
the spirit of it does not.
The four houses of Sec 113 are
not Famine Kitchens, & it is
the business of Govt. not of
the municipality to supply
food for the famine-stricken.

3/8/97

FOR ORDERS.

1401 Seci

A.

Calicut.

31st July 1897

My dear Forbes,

I send you the enclosed resolution of the
Cannanore M. Council direct, instead of in the usual way,
because I think the matter is most emergent. I have al-
ready brought to the notice of the Govt the distress
which prevails in Malabar. Nothing like it has been
known in the memory of man. Even in the famine of 73
the people of Malabar were very little affected because
the scarcity was only local, & there ^{was} not the same ~~facilities~~
facilities for sending grain away.

But for the liberality of many private persons the
Govt wd have been obliged to grant relief. Thousands of
Rupees have been spent by private individuals who have
joined together all over the Dt to open relief kitchens.
It is therefore only fair that this ^{private} charity shd
be supplemented by public funds, for this drain on pri-
vate purses cannot much longer continue.

When the Madan (upland rice) is harvested next month,
& the ports are ~~reopened~~ reopened we may hope for an im-
provement. But the interval will be the period of the
most acute distress, & I therefore beg that the sanction
of Govt to the Chairman's proposals may be communicated
to him by telegram.

A report was recd.

in the Rev. Dept regarding
high prices prevailing in

Calicut & it was recorded
by that Dept. The order is

now in the Press. Sd/-

Yours sincerely

W. H. D. S.

I must say I agree with the Sec. what the Sec.
says in the last para. of his note, marked A.
I should say to the Collector that we cannot sanction
the proposal of the Municipality. But that
if after enquiry on the spot, he considers
that Cannanore and the Dist. in which it lies
should be brought under the provision of the
Famine Act, we will consider any representation
on the matter, which he may think proper to
make.

2.9.97

2419
27

Local & Munl. (1897) Department

CURRENT No. 155

Forwarded.
I strongly support the proposal.
Private charity is not forthcoming and the only other alternative to the present proposal is State relief.

M. J. Murphy
M. J. Col.
30/7/97.

Order COLLECTOR

31 JUL-1897

MALABAR

I also strongly support the proposal.
2. Sec. 113 (ii) permits municipalities to spend money on the maintenance of poor houses.
3. It is most necessary that the relief shd. be granted at once. I therefore beg that the proposal of the Council may be sanctioned by telegram.

Calicut S. J. Col.
31st July 1897

From

The Chairman and
Commons Municipal

No. 417

Dated 27 July 1897

Received 2nd August 1897

Registered do.

Enclosures, M. J. Murphy

Spare copies

30 JUL 97

SUBJECT.

Requesting sanction for an allotment of Rs. 1000 for opening a poor house during famine.

poor
of the

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Extract from Proceedings of the Municipal Council
of Cannanore at a meeting held on
the 27th July 1897.

Present. Mr. J. Conjamboos, Awoyal Chairman.

Surgeon. Captain. E. M. Wright.

Mr. L. B. Rego.

Mr. N. Krishnan Awoyal

do. N. Choyee — do —

do J. Chirukantau — do —

The question of opening a poor-house
for the helpless class etc. during the
famine.

The Board is of opinion that
one of the chief sources of the now
prevailing Cholera is want of proper
food, in consequence the helpless
poor are forced to live upon Cassia
Tora and hyperasethera moringa
mixed with pinnak (coconut oil cake).
The hardship from famine is not
felt so much amongst the beggars
as by those who feel it a shame
to beg and who are unable to work
owing to old age or want of proper
work, or who are females having
none to support them, & by those
who have no means of living. The
Councillors are unanimously of opinion
that it will be expedient to request
Government to sanction the allotment
of Rs 1000 from Municipal Fund
for the relief of such persons and they
accordingly resolve to request Government
to sanction that amount.

True Extract.

Municipal Office
Cannanore 27th July 1897.

Chairman
of the
of the

73/8/97

Proceedings of the Municipal Council
at a meeting held on
the 27th July 1897

Present: Mr. J. B. Bago
Mr. J. B. Bago
Mr. J. B. Bago
Mr. J. B. Bago
Mr. J. B. Bago

The question of obtaining a loan for the purpose of erecting a new building for the Municipal Council is under consideration. The Council is of opinion that the loan should be raised in the form of a loan of £10,000 at 5% interest, to be repaid by the Council over a period of 25 years. The Council is of opinion that the loan should be repaid by the Council over a period of 25 years.

155/10

1/19/97

Load 155/10
No. 157

Municipal Office
Cambridge 27th July

From The Chairman
Municipal Council

To The Secretary
Government

Sir, Thro' Sub-Collector

In submission with a copy of the report of the Council for their special meeting today. I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Government the circumstances.

Nearly 2. inhabitants of the portion of the Old Port were dependent on the ways on the this station and on the the major garrison. been reduced poverty of the chief of the med all of them

will in this looking to the and gravity of

the draining off of the food-
supply of the station by the
famine now raging in
other parts of India these
unfortunate people are
now actually starving.

Cholera that dire disease
which appears in the wake
of such distress & scarcity
has now unhappily broken
out in their midst and is
now carrying off a large
number every day.

3. The Civil Surgeon
is of opinion that most
of the cases are the results
of scanty food & frequent
starvation. Owing to the
prevalent scarcity these
unfortunate people have
taken to eating leaves of
Cassia lora & hypericaria
moringa mixed with pinna
(cocoanut oil cake). Both
of these leaves & oil cake
are laxative and the use
of it predisposes one to
an attack of diarrhoea
which often develops into
Cholera morbus. The
Civil Surgeon

loaf about the outa pretty
decent livelihood (at least
they do not suffer by the
scarcity), but it is the
labouring class with their
family, whose works have
gone out and those petty
traders who find their
trade dull, and who
at the same time are
far too self respecting
to go about a begging that
are the greatest sufferers.

It is to give relief to these
people that the Council
have now decided at
my suggestion to appeal
to Government to sanction
as a tentative measure the
opening of a poor-house
and for this purpose to
request the allotment
out of the closing balance
a sum of Rs. 1000 towards
its maintenance & up keep.

It is hoped that by
strict economy we could
effect a large saving in
the expenditure under all
heads & that we could
more than make up the
sum thus appropriated
from the reserve fund.

5. The Council humbly
trust that the Government
will not refuse to sanction
this looking to the
and gravity of the

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

I must add that
in passing the resolution
there was not a dissentient
voice and all of the members
were fully convinced of
the extreme necessity
of taking such a remedial
measure at once

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servant
[Signature]
Chairman

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. N.

DER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

DER OF GOVERNMENT

EMENT WITH DITTO

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