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Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 999/m

DATED 1-6-98

INDEXED *CR*

[Despatch Abstract.]

Municipal Commission

Recording proceedings of the meetings of the Madras Munl. Commⁿ. held on the 23rd and 28th February 1898.

988 *honey*
27-5-98

Procs for Com
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BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No.



From

THE PRESIDENT,

Municipal Commission,
Madras.

G. No. 76.

Dated 18 May 1898

Received

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V.R.
26/5/98

26.5.98

SUBJECT.

Forwarding full proceedings
as also copies of abstract
proceedings of meetings of
the Commissioners held on
23rd and 28th February 1898.

23-5-98

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PRESENT :

The Revised Estimate for 1897-98.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARIAR :—Otherwise the Government will come down on us.

THE PRESIDENT:—I have sent to Government an account of the expenditure from the 1st April to the 31st December as they called for a return of it. First of all they called for a return up to 31st December.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR :—How much have you spent?

THE PRESIDENT:—About Rs. 28,000 up to the 31st of December. It is altogether Rs. 40,000 which entirely accounts for the deficit of Rs. 37,000.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARIAR:—But beyond that we ought to have at least Rs. 20,000 as opening balance.

THE PRESIDENT:—Well, you cannot get it this year.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR :—Is not that generally the case?

THE PRESIDENT:—That is in regard to the budget. I do not know whether the Government are going to give us a grant. The Accountant-General has called for a quarterly return of the expenditure.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR :—Will we be in order in asking the Government for a grant ?

THE PRESIDENT:—Certainly. I think in sending up this and the budget we may point that out.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR.—Indirectly we prevent the disease from coming in.

THE PRESIDENT :—I think it is an imperial question which the Government of India ought to take up.

DR. VARADAPPA NAIDU :—In page 7 there is put down contribution to Native Infirmary Rs. 2,500. When we are out of funds what necessity is there for that expenditure?

THE PRESIDENT :—It is a very trivial amount as compared with the deficit.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR :—Which is the Native Infirmary?

THE PRESIDENT :—The Monegar Choultry.

MR. W. S. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU :—Is that an annual contribution?

THE PRESIDENT :—No, it was only for this year.

MR. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU :—Was it sanctioned by the Commissioners?

THE PRESIDENT :—No, they simply said "let us wait till the revised estimate."

MR. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU :—Then, we will have to sanction it now.

THE PRESIDENT :—Yes.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—The best thing will be to propose the adoption of the revised estimate for 1897-98 and then Dr. Varadappa Naidu may propose the amendment.

It was proposed by Mr. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar, seconded by Mr. Cowasjee Eduljee, "that the revised estimate for 1897-98 be adopted".

DR. VARADAPPA NAIDU :—I propose the following amendment: "that the contribution of Rs. 2,500 be struck out."

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY seconded the amendment.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—I should like to know the circumstances under which this grant was applied for and the circumstances under which we deferred it to a later period instead of refusing it.

THE PRESIDENT :—The circumstances were that the Monegar Choultry showed a deficit to that amount and if they are to make good they would have to draw on their funded capital and therefore the Directors applied to the Commissioners for this grant.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—As the Secretary to the Directors of the Monegar Choultry, I am at least expected to know something about this matter. The Monegar Choultry in the North Madras is supplying the place of the Royapettah Hospital in the South and the General Hospital in the South of Black Town. It has large funds no doubt, and the funds of the Choultry have been very well maintained for many years without asking for any aid whatever from the Municipality. You must know that there are about 100 beds in the hospital giving relief to a very large number of people who are living in the northern portion of Madras and if that institution did not exist there, I suppose, we will be spending every year about Rs. 15,000 or 20,000 from our funds. Fortunately for us there is a charity institution which spends nearly Rs. 80,000 in relieving the poor from diseases. The North Black Town Dispensary is located in a portion of the buildings of the Monegar Choultry. Two or three years ago the President thought that the building in which the North Black Town Dispensary was situated was not enough and therefore wanted a more extensive place. There was one building next to it called the Lord Napier's school building and the Directors on a requisition had the kindness to lend you that building, and in doing so they thought that it would be an act of grace if they put the building in perfect order; and in order to assist the Commissioners in transferring the North Black Town Dispensary they spent about Rs. 2,000 in repairs. It was repaired by the Municipal workshop and the President knows full well that the Directors paid Rs. 2,000 for it. Thus you will see that two years back the Directors of the Monegar Choultry were put to an expense for repairing a building where we had to locate our dispensary. That is one thing. The next thing is they are spending a very large sum of money towards the relief of the suffering people and thus relieve the Municipal funds from being spent on a hospital in the northern portion of Madras. Thus there is a saving of 15 or 20 thousand rupees a year. If you remember aright, last year there was a move to build a hospital there and the Directors of the Monegar Choultry were to hand over some portions of the buildings to have our own hospital. The estimates came to Rs. 150,000 or 2 lacs of rupees. If that is maintained by us it may cost us more than Rs. 20,000 a year. All this trouble is relieved by the Directors of the Monegar Choultry. The funds of that institution are wanting by Rs. 2,500 in the current year's budget and as the Directors have already given Rs. 2,000 for repairing a building, they think that they can come to you for aid.

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY :—Did they draw upon their funded capital?

THE PRESIDENT :—No.

MR. W. S. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU :—Is that not an understanding on which we are to consider this proposal?

THE PRESIDENT :—We have nothing to do with that.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—They find that they are not able to meet all their charges this year unless they draw on their funded capital. You will see that this would not be a recurring charge. Having spent Rs. 2,000 in repairs of the building they are not able to meet the current expenditure. That is the main ground upon which we ask you for relief. If you do not grant it you may find the Directors next year telling you that they are not able to maintain so many beds. They must cut their coat according to the cloth they have and if they find that a sum of Rs. 2,500 is wanting they will cut down the number of beds; immediately there will be a cry and we will have to give them relief. We have given grants to Gosha Hospital, St. Thomé Dispensary and another dispensary somewhere in the south. I think you may have confidence in the Directors of the Monegar Choultry that the money you are pleased to grant will be properly spent.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR :—While fully approving of all that Mr. Theagaroya Chetty has said, and just using the same arguments that we must cut our coat according to the cloth we have, I may tell you that it is not that we have the money and that we grudge to pay it. At least most of us do contribute our mite towards the maintenance of the Monegar Choultry and there ought to be no two opinions on the matter that it is a very useful institution. But the question is whether we can spare the amount. If they come to us for help next year when our finances improve, we may contribute that amount. The case as put by Mr. Theagaroya Chetty is not one of such dire necessity in that they can fall back upon their funded capital, unlike St. Thomé Dispensary or the Gosha Hospital where they have no funds at all. But the Monegar Choultry has a capital and if they spend out of the funded capital and if they find themselves in a difficulty afterwards we will be the first to assist them.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—The Directors cannot touch the funded capital.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARRIAR :—It is unfortunate that they cannot do it. Considering that we have to begin with a minus opening balance the question that we have to decide is whether we will be justified in granting such a large sum as Rs. 2,500 when the Directors of the Monegar Choultry might try to meet the deficit in other ways. For these reasons I support the amendment of Dr. Varadappa Naidu.

MR. W. S. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU :—Is that the dispensary that provides medical treatment for the northern portion of the City?

THE PRESIDENT :—Yes.

MR. W. S. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU :—Is there no hospital maintained by Government or contributed to by the Municipality?

THE PRESIDENT :—No. But we pay for the Black Town Dispensary which is in the Monegar Choultry.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—It is only for this year we ask.

THE PRESIDENT :—The question is, "is it to be or not to be?"

The amendment was then put to the vote and there were 7 votes for and 7 against it.

THE PRESIDENT :—As there is so much to the bad I will give my casting vote against the amendment.

The amendment was thus lost.

M. R. Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu, supported by M. R. Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu, called for a poll.

The poll was taken with the following result :—

Pro.

M. R. Ry. P. M. Sivangnana Mudaliar Avargal.

M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners for the City of Madras, held at their Office Premises, No. 22, Errah Bauloo Chetty Street, Black Town, on Monday the 28th February 1898, at 3 p. m. under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT :

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George MOORE, K.T., C.I.E., *President*.
M. R. Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
Cawasjee Eduljee, Esq.
M. R. Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
The Hon'ble Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.
Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M. R. Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillai Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
Mir Muzher-ud-din Sahib Bahadur.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. V. Masilamani Pillai Avargal.
N. Subrahmanyam, Esq.
M. R. Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Walker.
M. R. Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. Maitland.
M. R. Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal.

The Lighting of the City.

THE PRESIDENT:—The first business before the meeting is the Resolution No. 5 of the Commissioners at their General Meeting held on the 31st January 1898 *re* the lighting of Municipal lamps on cloudy moon-light nights.

This resolution was deferred at the last meeting and it was put in the agenda paper because I was in hopes that we might have the estimates ready. We shall have them in a week. I have had Mr. Mansfield with me to-day. The plans, &c., are all ready and they have only to calculate the cost of piping. The Electric Construction Company's estimates have also arrived and have been sent to Mr. Hanning to make a supplementary estimate. Under these circumstances the best thing to do will be to appoint a committee to go into the whole question of the lighting of Madras—whether to light the city by electricity or gas—you will have to appoint a committee to settle the question as to what form the improved lighting of Madras is to take and if a committee is now appointed it can go into the whole questions directly the estimates are ready.

DR. VARADAPPA NAIDU :—Are we in a position to undergo the expense ?

THE PRESIDENT :—That is one of the things the committee will tell you.

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY :—We all know that it will cost double of what it does now. Are we prepared to increase our expenditure ? What is the good of appointing a committee unless we are prepared to spend more money ?

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—If you appoint a committee it can do good many things.

1
1717 hrs

THE PRESIDENT:—We will have to spend extra money whatever the form of the improvements decided on is. If you want to carry out that resolution you will have to spend more money.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—I propose.

“that a Committee consisting of
The President.

M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.

M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.

M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.

with power to add to their number, be appointed to enquire into and report upon the lighting of the City of Madras.”

MR. P. SUBRAMANIA IYER seconded the proposition.

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMA CHARRIAR:—My suggestion is whether it would not be desirable instead of appointing a committee to consider the propriety of testing the quality and cost of different kinds of lights, and to ask the different Companies to try their system in certain parts of the city.

THE PRESIDENT:—What Companies?

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMA CHARRIAR:—Gas lighting Companies.

THE PRESIDENT:—We have got only one.

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMA CHARRIAR:—There is Electric lighting Company.

THE PRESIDENT:—They are going to send in their estimates.

MR. G. SUBRAMANIA IYER:—I do not see what a committee can do in this matter. There are not many facts at issue to be considered. If you want to improve the present system of lighting, the contract binds our hands. If we want to improve it when we are at liberty it becomes a question of expense. I think the President is more competent to go into and furnish these facts to the Commissioners. I do not think that a committee can do much and it is better that the question is considered by the President and that the President collects such facts and other information that are available. Then the Commissioners will be able to deliberate upon the question and arrive at some conclusion. At the present stage a committee cannot do much. While I appreciate the honour that Mr. Theagaroya Chetty did me by adding my name to the committee, I do not think I could do any work on the committee because the issue is so simple, namely, that we cannot improve the present lighting.

THE PRESIDENT:—You could improve it if you like to-morrow.

MR. G. SUBRAMANIA IYER:—I wish I could. The present state of lighting is very bad. It is worse than what it was two or three years ago. If the present kerosine oil system is to be done away with, it becomes a question of expense. If the Commissioners are prepared to incur expenditure it would be time for us to consider the question.

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY:—May not the suggestion of Mr. G. Subramania Iyer be accepted that you should ascertain first what the cost is. Then we may go into the question.

THE PRESIDENT:—You will have to appoint a committee then.

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY:—Mr. G. Subramania Iyer thinks and I think so too that all this can be done by yourself.

THE PRESIDENT:—I can give you all the information.

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY:—That is all we want at the present stage. I do not see what the committee can do.

THE PRESIDENT:—Whatever information I may give you, you cannot settle the question. You will have to appoint a committee.

The proposition was then put to the vote and carried.

Miscellaneous.

THE PRESIDENT:—The next business is the statement of landed property owned by Municipal out-door employees. It is under an old resolution of 1876.
The statement was recorded.

THE PRESIDENT:—Next we come to the Proceedings of the Standing Committee, dated 24th January and 4th February 1898 and Resolution No. 5 of the Proceedings, dated 15th December 1897. The proceedings of the 24th January and 4th February 1898 were recorded. As regards resolution No. 5 of the Proceedings, dated 15th December 1897, one of the Commissioners wanted to know whether there were any fees for licensed plumbers. We have no scale of fees. If you adopt the same system in regard to licensed draftsmen, I don't think there can be any harm. 15 have already been licensed and there would not be any difficulty in selecting any one the people may want. The bye-law as framed runs thus: “that the plan, statement and particulars referred to under Section 265 bear the signature of a licensed draftsman or competent Engineer in token of its having been prepared by such draftsmen or Engineer or under his supervision.” As a matter of fact it will be of great assistance to the public. You may depend upon it that out of 15 there will not be over-charge, competition being a sufficient guarantee. The system of licensed plumbers has worked well and I do not see why there should be any complaint in regard to licensed draftsmen.

MR. R. N. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—That resolution is rather hard and binding on the rate-payers. All that the Municipality wants is that proper plans should be submitted in accordance with the Act.

THE PRESIDENT:—Very seldom we get them.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—Then reject them. Suppose they get proper plans according to your wishes, drawn up scientifically and according to scale, what objection can there be?

THE PRESIDENT:—None whatever, we want to ensure our getting proper plans.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—Suppose a plan is sent drawn by a draftsman who has passed out of the Engineering College, will you accept it?

THE PRESIDENT:—Yes.

Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar said that were it alone for the purpose of encouraging the system of hand and eye training, he would vote for the employment of licensed draftsmen for preparing proper plans in future.

It was then resolved to amend the bye-law as follows:—

“that the plan, statement and particulars referred to under section 265 bear the signature of a licensed draftsman or competent engineer or draftsman in token of its having been prepared by such draftsman or engineer or under his supervision.”

Statement of receipts and disbursements from April 1897 to January 1898 was recorded.

Progress report of works for December 1897 and January 1898 was recorded.

Madras Roads.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—My proposition is a very small one and runs as follows:—

“that in view of the steady rise in the cost of reforming and repairing roads in the City of Madras, a Committee consisting of

THE PRESIDENT.

M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.

M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.

M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.

M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.

M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.

be appointed to go into the question and to suggest measures for improvement.”

I suppose I must say something to justify this proposition. Before I go into the question I will give you a history of the old system and the new system under which we have been working for the last ten years and show you what the difference in cost is for a mile of road between the old system and the new system and how under the new system the cost has been steadily rising. Before 1886 there was a system in vogue called the “liability system” under which the contractor used to supply the road material directly on the road on which it is to be laid and stack there. It would be measured by the Municipal officials and spread on the roads under our executive supervision. It was spread, tamped and rolled and the contractor was held liable for any damages to the

road up to a period of three years. Under that system we were working for several years before 1886. Just two years before that, the then Vice-President complained very much against that system of working, firstly because the materials were not supplied at the proper time—that is if a fortnight was given for supplying the material on the roads the contractor took a month or two—and secondly that it was not possible to have proper supervision because the material was not supplied in sufficient quantities with the result that only two or three portions of the road were completed and thirdly because the roads were not properly rolled or smoothened for wheel traffic by hand rolling. Steam-roller was then got out, and a committee was appointed to go into the question and that committee with the assistance of the Engineer proposed to adopt a system which to their mind was found to be very good. The whole thing was to be taken over by the Municipality, the metal was to be brought into Madras by Railway and stacked at convenient depôts where they can check the actual measurements of the material supplied with the Railway traffic receipts, so that there may not be any cheating on the part of the contractors; and the materials were to be carted off at a short notice from the depôts to roads which were only one mile or half a mile off, within a week or so and the roads made earlier. That system was adopted but somehow or other within two years it was found that they were not able to check the measurements of materials they had in the depôts with the Railway receipts and quietly they gave it up. One check that was absolutely found necessary was thus given up. Next there were special contractors for carting and these contractors were found to be very negligent in their work. Again we found the same difficulty and you must have seen that our roads are not formed within a week or a fortnight. You must have seen the materials lying on the Mount Road opposite to Messrs. P. Orr & Sons and Round Tannah for 25 days.

THE PRESIDENT :—That was done on purpose. We purposely delayed it for a fortnight.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—You will see the same thing in other places. That advantage which we expected did not result from the system. Then there is the question of rolling. They thought that before this system was introduced hand-rolling was not very good. After steam rolling has been introduced they find that the present system has made the roads worse. You must have observed that the roads for the last 7 or 8 years were not as good as they were 15 years ago. I cannot say that steam-roller was the cause of it. However it appears to some that it is one of the causes, as the great weight smashes the materials. This committee will go into that question also. I will give you some statement as to what it cost us to make roads before 1886 and what it cost us after that date. I was able to collect figures from the Administration Report from 1878 to 1884-85, and they give me an average of 45 miles of road made every year.

In 1878	43 miles.
1879	47 "
1880	34 "
1881	60 "
1882	48 "
1883	49 "
1884	50 "

That is, every year we reformed 45 miles of road before this new system was introduced at an average cost of Rs. 1,225 with 3 years liability. Whereas from the same reports I gather that in the year 1887-88 we reformed $23\frac{1}{2}$ miles of road, in 1888-89, 32; in 1889-90, 20; in 1890-91, 36; in 1891-92, 21; in 1892-93, 23; in 1893-94, 26; in 1894-95, 26; in 1895-96, 31; and in 1896-97, 19. That gives an average of 25 miles a year an average cost of Rs. 2,850. That is from 45 it came down to 25 and the cost per mile increased from Rs. 1,825 to 2,185, that is excluding rolling. But including rolling it comes to at present Rs. 3,070, that is, the cost has increased from Rs. 1,185 with 3 years liability to Rs. 3,070 per mile.

THE PRESIDENT :—The Committee will go into all that.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—You may say that our charges from the year 1888 to 1896 are much less than what they were before that period. But we are spending 45 % more than what we have spent. The average amount we spent between 1877 and 1886, for reforming and repairing roads was 109,000 whereas the expenditure from 1887 to 1897 comes to 146,000 or including the cost of rolling Rs. 151,000.

THE PRESIDENT :—That cannot be. We never spent more than 106,000 which was in 1890-91. That was the heaviest. The real reason is that you have not got much money to spend. All these matters will be gone into by the committee.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—You will find from Administration Reports that the average cost for making roads is at present Rs. 3,070 instead of 1825 per mile. Now we come to steam-rolling. Our cost for hand-rolling before steam-rolling was introduced was 2 or 3 pies per square. But after the steam-rolling was introduced in 1886-87, it went on rising.

In 1886-87 it was	0	1	8	per square for rolling.
" 1887-88	"	0	1	2
" 1888-89	"	0	0	11
" 1889-90	"	0	1	6
" 1890-91	"	0	1	4
" 1891-92	"	0	4	6
" 1892-93	"	0	3	7
" 1893-94	"	0	3	10
" 1895-96	"	0	5	6
" 1896-97	"	0	8	6

That is, it rose from 11 pies to 8 as 6 pies. In the matter of repairs I will show you that there is steady rise.

THE PRESIDENT :—There is no use going into these details. Everybody admits that there has been a steady rise in the cost of road repairing in Madras.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—If that is admitted it is time for us to consider whether that steady rise is reasonable and if it is not reasonable whether we cannot try and find out some means by which we can improve matters.

MR. R. N. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—I beg to second this resolution. Without expressing any opinion as to the correctness or otherwise of the figures quoted by the mover of the resolution I may state that considering that the present state of the roads is very bad as compared with what it was some years ago, I think it is as well that the committee should go not only into the question of expenditure but also into the question of suggesting such measures as will secure to us better roads than what we have.

MR. P. SUBRAMANIA IYER :—Has the mover of the resolution any objection to be a member of the committee?

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—No objection.

The name of Mr. Theagaroya Chetty was then added to the committee.

THE PRESIDENT :—I think it would be a very good thing to have a committee to consider the question. Though I do not quite admit what Mr. Theagaroya Chetty says yet there is no doubt that our roads are starved. We have not got enough money. The roads were in excellent order in 1891-92 when we spent 106,000 but since then the largest amount we spent was in 1893-94 viz, Rs. 86,000 and in 1896-97 we only spent Rs. 62,000. It has to be remembered everything has been steadily going up, granite is 15 % dearer now than it was in 1891-92. I quite admit that the roads are not in the state as they ought to be. It may have been the case that the old liability system had its faults but it is also undoubtedly a fact that the present system is not nearly perfect. It may be possible therefore that with certain alterations a reversion to the liability system may prove advantageous. These however are matters for the committee to thresh out.

The resolution was then put to the vote and carried.
The meeting then terminated.

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of a SPECIAL MEETING of the MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS for the CITY of MADRAS, held at their Office Premises, No. 22, Errah Bauloo Chetty Street, Black Town, on Wednesday the 23rd February 1898, at 5 p.m., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT:

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Moore, *Kt.*, C.I.E., *President*.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
Cawasjee Eduljee, Esq.
M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. P. M. Sivagnana Mudaliar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Walker.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. Maitland.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

No. 1.

Revised Estimate for 1897-98.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by Mr. Cawasjee Eduljee—
“ That the Revised Estimate for 1897-98 be passed.”

To this, as an amendment, M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu proposed and M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu seconded—
“ That the contribution of Rs. 2,500 to the Native Infirmary be struck out.”

The amendment, on being put to the meeting, was lost by the President's casting vote.

M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu, supported by M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu, called for a poll.

The poll was taken with the following result—

Pro.

M.R.Ry. P. M. Sivagnana Mudaliar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

Con.

Surgeon-Lieut.-Col. J. Maitland.
Cawasjee Eduljee, Esq.
M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
President's casting vote.

The original proposition, on being put to the meeting, was carried.

No. 2.

Budget for 1898-99.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu—

“ That the meeting resolve itself into Committee.”

Carried.

The meeting resumes.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu—

“ That the Budget, as submitted by Standing Committee, be passed for the following items:—

	Rs.
Receipts	15,54,420
Expenditure—	
Grant I—	
1. New Works—	
(a) Communications	500
(b) Buildings	89,700
(c) Drainage	1,58,540
(d) Water-supply	1,000
(e) Miscellaneous	200
2. Repairs—	
(a) Communications	1,01,490
(b) Buildings	3,200
(c) Drainage, Repairs to Works, etc. ..	1,86,300
(d) Water-supply do.	56,750
(e) Miscellaneous	100
3. Establishment—	
(a) General	29,820
(b) Steam Road-roller	1,580
4. Tools and Plant	28,100
5. Miscellaneous	18,470
Grant II, Education	14,000
Grant III, Sanitation and Medical Services ..	3,50,150
Grant IV, Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes ..	1,93,280
Grant V, Supervision and Management—	
(1) Salaries	29,180
(2) Head Office	6,250
(3) Assessment and Collections	52,460
(4) Contribution to Audit Establishment ..	2,500
Repayment of debts, Sinking Fund	54,770
Interest on Loan	1,53,220
Refunds	5,000
Pensions and Gratuities	10,970
Carried.	

2
17/7/98

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu—

"That the President be requested to move Government for a Special Grant of Rs. 60,000 for expenses in connection with the prevention of plague."

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu—

"That during the official year 1898-99 the taxes be levied as proposed in the Budget—

1. Tax on arts, professions, trades and callings (section 103).
2. Tax on salaries (section 114).
3. Tax on buildings and lands at 10 per cent. (section 119).
4. Payment for occupation of lands vested in the Commissioners (section 136).
5. Water-tax on buildings and lands at 4 per cent. in the populous parts of the City and 2 per cent. elsewhere (section 138).
6. Lighting-tax on buildings and lands at 1½ per cent. (section 148).
7. Tax on vehicles with springs and on animals (section 153).

8. Tax on carts and other vehicles without springs (section 164).
9. Tolls on vehicles and animals entering the municipal limits (section 170).
10. Tax upon places used for the retail sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors (section 179).

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu—

"That the amount allotted in the Budget for law charges be passed on the understanding that no civil suit or criminal proceedings other than those provided for under the Act, be instituted or defended without the sanction of the Standing Committee."

Carried.

The meeting terminated.

G. M. J. MOORE, Lieut.-Col.,
President, Municipal Commission.

Municipal Office, Madras,
February 1898.

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of a GENERAL MEETING of the MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS for the CITY of MADRAS, held at their Office Premises, No. 22, Errah Bauloo Chetty Street, Black Town, on Monday the 28th February 1898, at 5 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT :

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Moore, Kt., C.I.E., President.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
Cawasjee Eduljee, Esq.
M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
The Hon'ble Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.
Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M.R.Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
Mir Muzheruddin Sahib Bahadur.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. Masilamani Pillay Avargal.
N. Subrahmanyam, Esq.
M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmanachariar Avargal.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, G. L. Walker.
M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, J. Maitland.
M.R.Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal.

No. 1.

Resolution No. 5 of the Commissioners at their General Meeting held on the 31st January 1898 re the lighting of Municipal lamps on cloudy moon-light nights.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal—

"That a Committee consisting of

The President.
M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.

M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
with power to add to their number, be appointed to enquire into and report upon the Lighting of the City of Madras."

Carried.

No. 2.

Statement of landed property owned by Municipal outdoor employees.

Recorded.

No. 3.

Proceedings of the Standing Committee, dated 24th January and 4th February 1898 and Resolution No. 5 of the Proceedings, dated 15th December 1897.

The proceedings of the 24th January and 4th February 1898 were recorded.

Resolution No. 5 of the proceedings, dated 15th December 1897, was recorded amending the bye-law as follows :—

"That the plan, statement and particulars referred to under section 265 bear the signature of a licensed draftsman or competent engineer or draftsman in token of its having been prepared by such draftsman or engineer or under his supervision."

No. 4.

Statement of receipts and disbursements from April 1897 to January 1898.

Recorded.

No. 5.

Progress Report of Works for December 1897 and January 1898.

Recorded.

No. 6.

M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu moved the following resolution of which he had given notice—

"That in view of the steady rise in the cost of reforming and repairing roads in the City of Madras, a Committee consisting of

The President.
M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.

be appointed to go into the question and to suggest measures for improvement."

M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal seconded.

Carried.

The meeting terminated.

G. M. J. MOORE, Lieut.-Col.,
President, Municipal Commission.

Municipal Office, Madras,
March 1898.

copying

Genl. Dept.
13.

G. No.

76

MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS,

General Department,

Madras, 10th May 1898.

From

LIEUT.-COL. SIR GEORGE MOORE, RT., C. I. E.,

President, Municipal Commission.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 171766

To

The Secretary to Government,

Local and Municipal Department,

Fort St. George.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit herewith for the infor

Enclosures

4

-mation of Government full proceedings as also copies of ---

abstract proceedings of Meetings of the Commissioners held

on 23rd and 28th February 1898.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Geo. Moore

Lieut. Col.,

President, Munl. Comm.

to

4
171766

copying _____
_____ 189 .

G.O., No. _____
189 .

No. _____

REURNS TO C. No. _____

OF GOVERNMENT

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STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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