| Date taken out. | For what purpose. | | | Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender. | Date returned. | Initials of attender. |
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| | Department. | C. No. | Year. | | | |
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[L. & M. 3,000—28-10-07.]

# Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 345 M.

DATED 9-2-98.

INDEXED. CR

[Despatch Abstract.]

Madras Municipal Commission — Recording proceedings as also copies of abstract proceedings of the meetings of the ——— held on 11th & 27th Octr and 1st Novr 1897

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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# Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 642 M

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT * 3--FEB.-1898 * LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

*From*

THE PRESIDENT,

*Municipal Commission,*
*Madras.*

W
Misc
Order No. 345 Muni dt 9-2-98

G. No. 546

Recorded.

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11/2/98

Q.S.M. 8/2/98

*Dated* 1st February 1898

*Received* 3-2-98

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*Spare copies*

SUBJECT.

Forwarding draft proceedings as also copies of abstract proceedings of the meetings of the Commissioners held on 11th, 27th October and 1st November 1897.

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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Fuel (1) to Fuo: 546

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 Monday the 11th October 1897, 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, KT., C.I.E., *President.*
M. R. Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
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. Sivangnana Mudaliar Avargal.
The Hon'ble Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.
Haji Mahamad Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M. R. Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillai Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. S. Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal.
E. H. Elliot, Esq.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
The Hon'ble P. Rungiah Naidu Garu.
N. Subrahmanyam, Esq.
M. R. Ry. M. K. Lakshmanacharriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. Rai Bahadur A. Dhanakoti Mudaliar Avargal.
R. F. Grant, Esq.
Surgeon-Lieutenant.-Colonel. G. L. Walker.
M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariyar Avargal.
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.

**G. O. No. 1966, M., dated 11th September 1897, proposing means for financing the New Drainage Scheme for the City of Madras.**

THE PRESIDENT :—Gentlemen, I think it is now time to go on with our business. I don't know exactly the best way to do it. Don't you think we had better go into Committee and talk it out ?

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—I wish to make a few remarks about the G. O.

THE PRESIDENT :—But we must have a resolution.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—I will move a resolution in the end.

MR. DESIKA CHARIAR :—Won't it be better if you mention the resolution so that we may understand the bearing of the remarks you make.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—My resolution is for an adjournment of the meeting for one week to enable us to consider the various facts and figures.

THE PRESIDENT :—I think I can give that to you now ; but then you don't want to adjourn for a week. What is it you wish to speak about ? Is it the question of the conservancy staff being free ?

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—Not only that, many others.

THE HON'BLE MR. RUNGIAH NAIDU :—Will a week be sufficient ?

THE PRESIDENT:—I think I had better make a remark or two first before going into Committee. I am not going to move a resolution, but I may perhaps simplify the discussion if I make my remarks at this stage. I have put down in my notes that you would not require more than 4 per cent. increase on the tax on houses. There has been some misapprehension as to the proposal of the Government that the tax was to be raised 6 per cent.—I would here remark, not 40 per cent. as some of our friends said. The Government says that the present water-tax was 4 per cent. maximum. They propose by the new tax to do away with that and make it a water and sanitation-tax with a maximum of 10 per cent if necessary; so that if you could meet the required expenditure by making it 5 % well and good; but it is extremely necessary that you must have a maximum of 10 % to go up to if necessary. Government has accepted the proposal to enhance the tax on vehicles and animals, but it has reduced the estimate by Rs. 7,000. This was a mistake both on the part of the Government and on our part, because in the statement of suggestions sent up to Government (B) we only referred to increasing the tax on vehicles and animals under Section 153, whereas the estimate for Rs. 74,000 included taxes on vehicles and animals under Section 153 and carts, under Section 164. We were wrong in not having put in 164 so that the original estimate of Rs. 37,000 was correct. For 1897-98 there will be only Rs. 36,000 as Rs. 72,000 is the estimated receipts from these two sections, and that would give us another Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 7,000, more than was calculated by Government. Then we are now paying under conservancy and drainage Rs. 97,696 per annum, including flushing &c. If the new scheme is introduced a portion of this sum would be set free to meet the cost of the new system. Of course we would keep the Black Town conservancy system still going. That will be about Rs. 37,000 a year; so that we will have Rs. 60,000 set free on paper at least, because in the drainage scheme estimate we have allowed a certain amount for conservancy on each section. We will be justified when the system is in working order, in saying that Rs. 60,000 will be freed from the Budget. That would give us another Rs. 60,000. Thus I make out that we would want Rs. 1,70,000, more. An increase of four per cent. would give you two lakhs.

THE HON'BLE MR. RUNGIAH NAIDU:—Will not one of our loans be discharged in a few years—the water-works loan?

THE PRESIDENT:—It won't be discharged till 1903. You can devote that money towards the Water Works Scheme. In the present I think Rs. 1,70,000 over our present income, would be sufficient, that is, if you take the paper transactions I have alluded to. If the provision in the drainage scheme estimate is more than sufficient for the conservancy of the drains, then we will have not only Rs. 60,000 but the difference in the estimate.

MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARIAR:—Is that taking it at its lowest?

THE PRESIDENT:—Taking it at its lowest I say we can do it in 1,70,000. We have got in the estimate in the scheme for the conservancy Rs. 37,600. We are now paying for all these places Rs. 60,000.

THE HON'BLE MR. RUNGIAH NAIDU:—You don't require the whole amount to be raised at once?

THE PRESIDENT:—No, but don't you think when we have got a nasty thing we had better do it all at once. If you eventually have to raise 4 per cent. would it not be better to raise 4% at once than to keep raising 1 per cent. first, then another 1 per cent. and so on?

THE HON'BLE MR. RUNGIAH NAIDU:—Supposing Triplicane takes three years.

THE PRESIDENT:—I don't think it would. We proposed in the scheme that we should begin in one year. The Committee proposed that 12 lakhs should be devoted for the main. This is what I wish to say in amending my note. I say we can do it for 4 per cent.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—Allow me to read a paper which I prepared which refers to all these points.

GENTLEMEN,—Just 27 months since we submitted for the favourable consideration of Government a scheme of taxation for raising a lakh and forty thousand rupees to finance our Drainage Scheme, the initial outlay on which was estimated at nearly 32 lakhs, and the annual maintenance charge for pumping and conservancy at about Rs. 1,27,000. On the 31st March 1896, we submitted our final scheme to Government and pointed out that if sanction was granted for raising a loan of



12 lakhs we could with the 3,50,000 already granted by Government at once start the Mylapore Drainage and the High Level Main, and thereby cleanse the Cooum to some extent by diverting the sewage now flowing into it, to the Black Town Sewage Farm. To-day we are met to consider the orders passed by Government on the above proposals. Gentlemen, like the case of the mountain in labour, the product of their prolonged incubation in the Government office has been most disappointing to us. We are told that the long looked for contribution from Provincial Revenues cannot be granted, thanks to the famine which afflicted the Presidency and to the recent revision of the Provincial contract by the Government of India, by which, our Benighted Presidency as usual fared worst. It has been the misfortune of this unfortunate Presidency that the "squeezing" process is always applied to it with relentless rigour, and it is forced to contribute a disproportionately larger share of its hard-earned revenue to the Imperial Exchequer than is the case with the other Provinces of the Empire. We are next told, Gentlemen, that all our proposal for raising additional revenue must be rejected with the exception of one petty item relating to the enhancement of the tax on vehicles and animals. We may probably be told sooner or later, Gentlemen, that the members of Council and of the Secretariat have betaken themselves to Guindy or Kathivak and will not be liable to pay Profession-tax, thanks to the example set by Sir Henry Havelock. Finally we are told, Gentlemen, that we had better gird up our loins and bravely face the inevitable and raise our House-Tax from 15¼ per cent. to 21¼ per cent. (an increase of 6 per cent.) There is no option left to us of giving up the long-wished for Drainage Scheme and of remaining 'Benighted' for ever. This, Gentlemen, is briefly the position to which we have been reduced, after several months of waiting and hoping. The position seemed to me, at first sight, to be 'gloomy enough in all conscience, but a careful study of the Government Order and of some reports kindly placed at my disposal by our President has convinced me that the objections raised by Government are more or less untenable, if not fallacious, and that we may yet hope to overcome our financial difficulties without making the house-owners of Madras pay their pound of flesh. Before discussing the question, however, I wish to draw your attention to two items which, by an unfortunate oversight, we omitted to take into account when framing our proposals for finding ways and means: one is the saving in expenditure that must follow on the completion of the Drainage Scheme, and the other is the additional income that must accrue from Sewage Farms. As I understand the Drainage Scheme I believe that after its completion, all our side-drains and cesspools will disappear, and with them the establishment which is maintained for flushing and cleaning and removing silt. All that would then be required is a sufficient complement of coolies to flush the house connections, and this has been provided for in the estimates prepared by Mr. Ellis for working the scheme. The savings indicated above have, however, I fear not been taken into account. Our Budget for the current year provides 20 maistries, 539 men, 110 boys and girls, 219 pairs of bullocks with drivers for cleaning the drains and cesspools, and removing silt, and the cost including supervision amounts to Rs. 1,06,800. Deducting Rs. 35,700 for the cost of the coolies, supervision, &c., for the 2nd and 3rd Divisions, where the Drainage Scheme will not be carried out, there will be a saving of Rs. 71,000 per annum in round numbers. I may here mention that the 11 house connections which were recently introduced as an experimental measure in Parish Vencatachella Iyer Street have not been flushed for the past 10 months, as it has been found that the little sewage flowing from houses was sufficient to flush the connections and keep them perfectly clean without emitting any stench. With this experience before us we might reasonably hope that it would be possible to effect a considerable reduction in the estimate framed by Mr. Ellis for 400 coolies for flushing the 28,000 house connections at the rate of 70 a head. If this cost is reduced the saving referred to above will be proportionately increased. As regards the second item, *i. e.*, additional income from Sewage Farms, we find from Mr. Ellis's Memorandum on the Drainage Scheme that an additional 208 acres, or nearly 160 cawnies of land, will be required for the Sewage Farm to utilise all the sewage that will be diverted into it. This additional 160 cawnies ought to give us a pretty good sum. Our present Sewage Farms comprising only 35 cawnies of land yield under present contract Rupees 34,500, or an average of Rupees 650 per cawnies. Lately we have added 10 cawnies which, according to the terms of the contract, yield Rupees 3,000 a year at Rupees 300 a cawnie. At this low rate the additional 160 cawnies that may be added to the farm ought to give us a further income of 160 into 300 or Rupees 48,000 a year. Our President is of opinion that our Sewage Farms should yield Rupees 1,00,000 at least when the Drainage system is complete. Thus, Gentlemen, there will be an additional income of Rupees 48,000 *plus*

Rs. 3,000 (not included in the Budget) and a saving of Rs. 71,000 or a total of Rs. 1,22,000. Deducting, this sum from our estimates for working the Drainage Scheme with interest and sinking fund at Rs. 2,66,000 we shall require only Rs. 1,44,000 and not Rs. 2,66,000 as we first thought. Gentlemen in the G. O. before us the Government has approved of our suggestion to raise the Wheel and Animal Tax by 50 per cent, but remarked that our figures are pitched too high by Rs. 7,200. Gentlemen, I am responsible for the figures (Rs. 37,000) given in our resolution of 8th July, 1895. On page 35 of our Budget for the current year you will find in column 4 the demand as finally settled.

| | | | Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Taxes on Vehicles with Springs | ... | ... | 30,300 |
| Taxes on Animals ... | ... | ... | 28,700 |
| Taxes on Carts and other Vehicles | ... | ... | 19,500 |
| | | Total... | 78,500 |
| Deduct remissions on | Rs. | | |
| Vehicles with Springs... | ... 1,900 | | |
| Animals ... | ... 1,500 | | |
| | | | 3,400 |
| | | Net... | 75,100 |

Fifty per cent. of this sum will give us Rs. 37,550, which is Rs. 550 more than the amount actually proposed. I now turn to the objections raised by Government to the other taxes proposed by us. We are told, Gentlemen, that "the enhancement of the rates of tolls which are levied on outside traffic does not, however, commend itself to Government," and that "if it were carried out the whole of the additional revenue would probably have to be paid over to the District Board of Chingleput, which, unlike other moffusil District Boards, receives at present no share of the Municipal tolls, although it maintains the roads on which the tolls are levied." It appears to me that these remarks are based on a complete misapprehension. It is a fact that the Chingleput District Board does not take any portion of our tolls, but that is because it does not allow our wheel and animal traffic to go free on its roads. Five miles from our Toll Bar on the Northern Trunk Road near the Red Hills Tank the District Board of Chingleput owns a Toll Bar where a four-wheeled vehicle drawn by a horse going into the interior has to pay a toll of annas 4 and the same vehicle on its return to Madras has to pay another annas 4 to cross the same bar. Other vehicles and animals are charged proportionately. There is a similar Toll Bar on the Western Trunk Road about 5 miles away from our limits where tolls are similarly levied. Why are these double tolls charged at these Toll Bars? We may take it for granted that the first annas 4 is for allowing the vehicle to go over the Chingleput District Board Roads. But why is the other annas 4 charged on coming into the town? Is it not for the use of the roads between our Toll Bars and those of the Chingleput District Boards? Is this allowing our wheel traffic free of charge on the Chingleput District Board roads? Now let us see what our tolls are for: a carriage coming into the town pays a toll to enable it to go over our 200 miles of roads and when it goes out it goes out free; and the tolls paid by our carriages and animals are simply penalties for not taking out licenses in due time. We certainly do not charge tolls for traffic over Chingleput roads, and there is no reason whatever for asserting that any portion of the additional tolls of Rs. 20,000 that we proposed to raise, much less the whole, shall have to be paid over to the Chingelput District Board. I must here mention one fact and that is that on the Kathivakam road of about 6 miles and on the Saidapet road leading to Guindy and the Race Course, both belonging to the Chingleput District Boards, no tolls are collected by the said Board. These two roads, however, do not cost much, the Kathivakam road maintenance being about Rs. 300 a year at Rs. 50 a mile and the Saidapet road about Rs. 300 a year at Rs 200 a mile and we might gladly undertake to pay a portion of their maintenance charges. The next tax objected to by Government is the Profession Tax. The Government is strongly opposed to any increase under this head on the ground that it will be a further encroachment on the field of the Imperial Income Tax, and that it will press with particular hardship on the upper classes of the population. The Government has overlooked the fact that the Profession Tax provided by the Municipal Act has been in existence from a period long anterior to the introduction of the Income Tax. It is not the Municipality therefore that can be charged with attempting to encroach upon the field of Imperial Taxation, but it is the Government that is



endeavouring by its power of veto to trench upon our just rights and privileges and deprive the Municipality of its lawful resources. As regards the alleged hardship upon the upper classes I need only observe that out of the population of 4,50,000 in this city, not more than 175 persons at the outside (excluding companies) will be called on to pay a tax of more than Rs. 100 per annum, and of those not more than 60 will have to pay the maximum rate, a little more than Rupee 1 per cent. I leave it to you, Gentlemen, to say whether this is at all heavy, considering the immense advantage which the upper classes enjoy for carrying on their professions within Municipal limits. There is no doubt some inequality in the incidence of the tax under the different classes, but this exists more in the present classification. On some the incidence comes to annas 2 pies 8 per cent. rising in some cases to annas 11 per cent. A person earning Rs. 100 a month has to pay annas 6 pies 8 per cent. If his income rises to Rs. 200 a month the incidence dwindles down to annas 3 pies 4 per cent. If the income begins with Rs. 200 he has to pay annas 6 pies 8, but when it rises to Rs 500 his taxation falls to annas 2 pies 8 per cent. To obviate this inequality in the incidence I would suggest for your consideration whether it would not be better to propose a uniform rate of rupee 1 per cent. on all incomes above Rs. 50 a month? I do not think that this is at all excessive considering the great benefits that will be derived by the people from the improved method of drainage and the consequent immunity from diseases. The Government too cannot decently object to this taxation when it is levying 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as Income-Tax for the so-called Famine Fund, the benefits of which do not reach the Town People. Let us now see what this taxation of 1 per cent. will give us. The Imperial Income Tax at pies 4 per Rupee on incomes up to Rs. 2,000 and pies 5 per Rupee on incomes exceeding this limit or at 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. yields a revenue of more than Rs. 4,50,000 for the Madras City. At 1 per cent., the realisation might be taken at Rs. 2,00,000. For purposes of the Income-Tax, however, house valuations are also included and also incomes between Rs. 500 and Rs. 600 a year. Deducting Rs. 20,000 for these items we may safely expect Rs. 1,80,000 from the proposed Profession-Tax of Re. 1 per cent. as against Rs. 68,000 now derived from this source. This leaves a gain of Rs. 1,12,000 which will go partly towards the cost of maintenance of the new Drainage Scheme and partly towards the proposed Water-works improvement scheme. Gentlemen, it may be urged that the Imperial Income-Tax already involves much inquisitorial enquiry and that the Profession-Tax will be equally inquisitorial in its working. To avoid this double infliction upon the rate-payers we might ask the Income-Tax Department of Government to undertake the Administration of the Municipal Profession-Tax also. This they can do without any difficulty on terms which can be mutually agreed upon. We now come to the last item of Tax objected to by Government, *i. e.* the tax on Liquor shops. Under schedule E. attached to Section 179 of the Municipal Act, liquor shops are licensed under 4 classes, and the revenue derived by us from that source up to 1887 averaged Rs. 13,600 per annum (Rs. 6,170 from Toddy and Rs. 7,430 from Arrack shops). In that year the Government changed the then existing Dowle system and introduced the Tree Tax system for toddy shops and excise system for arrack shops. In the Dowle system the Government only got the value of arrack supplied to arrack shops and a certain rate per diem for each class of Toddy shops and nothing more. The Municipality collected its license fees direct from the shop-keepers. In the year 1887 the Government compounded with us under the powers vested in Section 99 of the Municipal Act to pay a sum of Rs. 13,600 per annum for all the Arrack and Toddy shops in Madras and introduced its own system of Tree Tax and shop licenses by which its revenue from toddy was raised from Rs. 3,84,830 in 1886-87 to Rs. 5,75,584 in 1896-97, an increase of over Rs. 1,90,700. The figures include 'License Fees' which amounted to Rs. 69,099 in 1896-97, while the Government has been paying us only Rs. 6,170 since 1887 on account of Toddy Licenses. Under the old system the Government was simply getting the Dowle amount from the toddy shops according to their classification but no License fees. In lieu of the Dowle, a Tree Tax was substituted and from this alone the Government is now deriving Rs. 1,21,000 more than it did under the Dowle. The imposition of the shop licenses was, I hold, a distinct encroachment on the rights of the Municipality, and I see no reason why the Government should not be called upon to make good to the Municipality the greater portion, if not the whole, of the amount of Rs. 69,997 collected by Government under this head. I must here mention that the Government, has almost doubled its license fees this year. As regards arrack, I regret that the information given in the Abkari administration reports is not sufficient to enable me to institute a proper comparison between the revenue under the old and the new system, nor to find out what amount is realised from license fees under this head. I find, however, that the

total revenue from country spirits (Putta Arrack) and foreign spirits (Colombo Arrack) rose from Rs. 5,34,646 in 1887-88 to Rs. 7,36,967 in 1896-97, an increase of Rs. 2,02,300. I do not think that I shall be far wrong in assuming that the income from Arrack License Fees will be much less than similar amount derived from Toddy Licenses, *i. e.*, about Rs. 70,000. The total amount under license fees from Toddy and Arrack may thus safely be taken at Rs 1,40,000. Deducting from this about Rs. 20,000 as revenue for the Saidapet Taluq included in the Madras Circle we have Rs. 1,20,000 as the amount of license fees levied by Government within Municipal limits and which should properly go to the credit of the Municipality. With these facts before us I feel not a little astonished that Government should have grudged to pay us twice Rs. 13,600 we begged for when the true facts of the case were not known to us In this connection it will be interesting to know what amount the Bombay Government pays to the Bombay Municipality and what amount the Bombay Municipality realises as Town duty on Liquors. The Administration Report of the Bombay Municipality for 1895-96, which was kindly placed at my disposal by our President, gives the following startling figures :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wines and spirits at annas 4 per Imperial Gallon, deducting refunds. | Rs. | 2,10,364 | 0 1 |
| Beer at pice 6 per Gallon, deducting refunds. ... | Rs. | 11,139 | 10 5 |
| Liquor licenses received from Government. ... ... ... | Rs. | 1,43,750 | 0 0 |
| Total | Rs. | 3,65, 253 | 10 6 |

Gentlemen, comment on these figures would seem to be perfectly unnecessary. I leave to you to judge why Madras should be treated so differently from our Western Sister. Now that we are in possession of solid facts we shall be wanting in our duty to the rate-payers if we do not assert our rights to levy license fees which would yield us at least 1/5 of the income which Bombay enjoys. Our requirements for the new Drainage Scheme in the shape of interest, sinking fund and working charges are Rs. 2,66,000, towards which I have pointed out savings to the extent of Rs. 1,22,000, and we want only Rs. 1,44,000. We lately sent an estimate for Rs. 16,00,000 for improvement of the Water Supply for the apprpvol of Government and for the interest, sinking fund and maintenance. On this account we may require another Rs. 1,00,000. We shall thus want Rs. 2,44,000 for both the Drainage and Water-work schemes. If the views put forward now are accepted we may hope to realise the following sums :—

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Increase from Vehicle and Animal Taxes ... ... ... | 37,550 |
| Additional Tolls (present Toll income being Rs. 42,000)... ... | 21,000 |
| Increase from Profession Tax at 1 per cent. ... ... ... | 1,12,000 |
| Increase under license on Liquor Shops as originally proposed by us | 13,600 |

Total 1,84,150, or in round numbers, say, Rs. 1,84,000. This leaves only Rs. 60,000 to be provided for, which we can easily raise without enhancing the House Tax as proposed by Government. Our Act under Section 341 provides a maximum of annas 6 per ton on firewood and under the same section a maximum of Rs. 5 per ton on timber is provided for. Our collections from firewood at present at annas 3 per ton is Rs. 20,000 and from timber at Rs. 3 per ton is Rs. 74,382. If these two taxes are raised to their maximum limit we can get an additional income of Rs. 20,000 from firewood and Rs. 50,000 nearly from timber, in all Rs. 70,000 which will meet all our requirements. I shall now make a few remarks on the suggestion made by Government regarding the enhancements of the House Tax. As already stated the Government proposes to enhance our house-tax by 6 per cent. or from 15¼ per cent., to 21¼ per cent. and tells us that this increased rate will still be less than what is paid in Bombay. Here again I find that the Government is mistaken in its assumption. It states that the property tax in that Presidency Town is 12 per cent. This is the maximum provided for in the Act, while the rate actually levied is only 8 per cent. as shown by the Administration Report of the Bombay Municipality for 1895-96. Even this rate is levied only on the net value after deducting 10 per cent. for repairs, whereas in Madras the tax is levied at 10 per cent. on the gross value. Again in Bombay in the case of rented houses a 'draw back' of 1/5 of the assessed value is allowed for the possible contingency of portions of houses being left vacant ; in Madras no such deduction is made. Further in Bombay



a remission of 2-3rds of the property tax is granted for vacant houses, whereas in Madras the remission does not exceed one-half. In Bombay Water and Halalcore Taxes are fully remitted on vacant houses, while in Madras only half the water and lighting taxes are remitted. There is no lighting tax in Bombay. Bearing these facts in mind we find that the taxation in Bombay is much less than it is in Madras. The assessed value of land and House Property as given on page 20 of the Administration Report of Bombay for 1895-96 is Rs. 282,390,000.

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Property Tax at 8 per cent. and Fire Brigade Tax at 1 per cent. on the above... ... ... ... ... ... | 19,57,704 |
| Water Tax at 4 per cent. ... ... ... ... ... | 6,12,233 |
| Halalcore Tax at 3 per cent. ... ... ... ... | 5,35,770 |
| Total... | 31,05,707 |

which comes to only 11 per cent. on the value as compared with Rs. 14-15-0 per cent. for Madras after allowing for remissions. If due allowance is made for the fact that in Madras the citizens have to pay separately for their own scavengering, which is not the case in Bombay, and for the fact that we do not require fire brigades here, it will be found that our taxation is really greater than the figures given above. In 1882 when the Government proposed to raise the House Tax in this city, the Commissioners entered a very strong protest and pointed out the great hardship that would be caused to the poorer classes especially. The Taxes on house property then yielded an income of Rs. 5,24,000. This has now risen to Rs. 7,82,600, or an increase of 50 per cent. which is chiefly due to enhancement in the valuation of houses. It would be cruel, therefore, I submit, to add to this heavy burden by still further raising the taxes. The only effect of this measure will be to greatly increase overcrowding, which is already prevailing to a frightful extent, and thereby endanger the health of the city which it is attempted to improve at an enormous outlay. In support of its proposal to raise the House Tax in this city the Government finds out particulars that the incidence of taxation here is only Rs. 2-2-3 a head as compared with Rs. 612-7 in Bombay, Rs. 6-11-6 in Calcutta and Rs. 3-12-2 in Rangoon. I regret that I am unable to obtain statistics for Calcutta and Rangoon. As regards Bombay I find from the Administration Report that the average rental value per each house is Rs. 628 and the rental value per head of population is Rs. 34-6-0. In Madras the figures do not exceed Rs. 133 and Rs. 11-8 respectively. Again the Income-Tax levied in Bombay City averages Rs. 2-8-0 per head, whereas in Madras it is only one Rupee. The rates of wages in the two towns also exhibit considerable variations. In Bombay an able bodied labourer earns Rs. 11 per mensem, whereas Madras pays only Rs. 6 for him. A Madras syce or horsekeeper gets Rs. 6 a month, whereas a Bombay syce gets Rs. 9-8-0. A common mason, carpenter, &c., earns, from Rs. 27 to Rs. 42 a month in Bombay, whereas the Madras man gets Rs 13 to Rs. 16 a month. There can thus be no proper comparison between these two Presidency Towns. Gentlemen, Bombay with its immense trade and shipping and with 101 Cotton Mills and 25 Silk and the other Mills necessarily enjoys advantages which places her far ahead of Benighted Madras. Gentlemen, I much regret that I have been forced to take up so much of your time, but I trust that the importance of the questions involved will be accepted as a sufficient excuse for the infliction. I shall now simply leave the further discussion of the subject to abler hands, so that any errors into which I might have fallen owing to want of fuller information might be corrected before we send up our reply to the Government Order. I venture to think, however, that my estimates cannot be far short, but even if they are eventually found to fall short of our requirements, I feel sanguine that if our difficulties are properly represented to him, His Excellency Sir Arthur Havelock will see his way to granting us further contributions from Provincial Revenues, rather than force us to raise the Tax on houses. Those of us, who have seen the sympathetic orders issued by His Excellency in connection with the Famine administration and Forest Conservancy need not despair of receiving equally sympathetic treatment at his hands in the matter of Municipal contribution.

With these remarks I propose the adjournment of this meeting till next Monday. I would meanwhile ask the Executive to say if the facts and figures are correct.

Mr. G. Subramania Iyer :—Would you mind making it four weeks instead of one week.

Mr. Desika Chariar :—Four weeks are too much ; three weeks will do. In the meantime the President might verify the figures.

THE PRESIDENT :—I can't verify the figures more than he has done. The only figures I take exception is Rs. 71,000, I make it Rs 60,900.

MR. DESIKA CHARIAR :—I have great pleasure in seconding Mr. Theagaroya Chetty's proposition to adjourn the meeting for three weeks. I need hardly say that we are very thankful to Mr. Theagaroya Chetty for having collected all this information. We came into this room—at any rate some of us, if not all—perfectly ignorant of how we should tide over these difficulties, especially in the face of the discouraging G. O. circulated to us. Now as we see the way of getting out of the difficulty we had better try and get out of it as best we can. I would only place a few more facts and figures before you in addition to what Mr. Theagaroya Chetty has already given. With the help of the President I have been able to arrive at the present state of our finances. The total amount of loans already raised was 33,70,000 of which we have already spent 11½ lakhs upon our Black Town Drainage. I don't blame anybody in particular but during the last 9 years we have been spending 11½ lakhs upon a drainage system and we find that that drainage system was wrong and we are going to introduce a new thing. These things must be experimented on, and only then we come to know the wrong thing. Now we are going to spend an equally large amount. On our water-supply we have spent 21 lakhs during the last 5 years. Nobody can blame us for being stingy in not allowing their requirements. With regard to drainage and water-supply we are always trying our best to make both ends meet. Then we are spending 30,000 for the third item the Smithfield market and one lakh for the new market building in the People's Park. Out of the large amount outstanding so much as 21 and 11½, *viz.*, 32,50,000 has to be spent in these directions. We are trying our best to meet these requirements. One other fact I should like to place before you is that in 1903 we shall have paid 14,30,000 the loan which we raised between 1869 and 1874. That will go towards the Water Improvements scheme which we submitted to Government. That amount we can again raise in the market and spend upon the expansion of water-supply. Turning to Taxation I find that House Tax including Water and Lighting tax came to an average for five years Rs. 7,39,695. The total ordinary receipts of the Municipality is only 12 lakhs, that is more than 50% of the original receipts of the Municipality upon lands and buildings. It is certainly inequitable to go on adding more to it. The tax on Arts and Professions amount to 61,710. Turning to the last Administration Report I find absurdly low figures. The total number of persons assessed were 3,751 out of a population of ten lakhs or so. Many persons are let off rather than lands and houses. One other fact we must bear in mind in this connection is the remark made by Government in the G. O. with reference to our encroaching upon the field of Imperial Exchequer. This argument is fallacious in more than one way. Mr. Theagaroya Chetty has pointed out we were in the field before them. The real encroachment comes in from the other side. After all Government don't say they are going to raise Income tax. Our lands and buildings upon which we charge 15¼ per cent. in addition to the animal rental is made a basis for Income-tax. That is in the case of owners occupying buildings, they are allowed one-sixth for their own use while five-sixths are again made the basis for rental. Therefore there is another encroachment on that side also. As for the Government's remark that they won't find it possible to give us any bonus or contributions, within the last five years they have only given us 1,37,000, and the only contribution we are now asking is 26,000. There is no hardship even if we look at that. If the Government, with the present frontier war and famine are not able at the present moment, to give us any contribution they may in the immediate future be able to render us some help. But they once for all say they are not going to help us. That is merely a threat so that we may raise our house-tax. It may teach us a lesson of self-reliance when they have taken rights which we legitimately ought to possess, such as the tax on liquor shops certainly they are only paying us small returns. Mr. Theagaroya Chetty has told you that the liquor shop tax was 1½ lakhs. If they pay us a quarter of that amount annually we should have no reason to complain. With these facts before you if we take some time to consider we may arrive at a definite conclusion and be able to place before Government some definite proposal by which, without burdening the already heavily taxed rate-payer, we may be able to get out of the difficulty.

MR. G. SUBRAMANIA IYER :—It is rather important that the facts should be verified, as the future discussions will depend upon the statistics given us. It will be a very convenient basis for future discussion. I think the President will apply his mind to the figures and see if Mr. Theagaroya



Chetty's figures have been accurately deduced ; especially in regard to license fees, you must write to the proper authorities.

THE PRESIDENT :—I have already written, but I have received no answer.

MR. G. SUBRAMANIA IYER :—Perhaps, if it is not improper, you might in a demi-official manner obtain the opinion of Government which will save a good deal of trouble afterwards. We must come to some conclusion and when that conclusion is placed before Government the whole aspect of the matter might be altered.

THE PRESIDENT :—What you want is practically a report from me on Mr. Theagaroya Chetty's remarks.

MR. G. SUBRAMANIA IYER :—That will make our position safer.

MR. SUBBIAH CHETTY :—Will our position be safe if adjourned till 1st November? Government may not wait.

COMMISSIONERS :—O ! yes.

It was proposed by Mr. Theagaroya Chetty, seconded by Mr. Desika Charriar and carried "that this meeting be adjourned to the 1st November for the further consideration of the subject pending the submission of a report from the President."

THE PRESIDENT :—I have no objection to this although I rather think you had better send Mr. Theagaroya Chetty's report straight up to Government.

The meeting then dissolved.

THOMPSON AND CO., MADRAS.

Encl (2) to Jus: 546

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 Wednesday, the 27th October 1897, 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.*
H. Ormerod, Esq.
M. R. Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
Cowasjee Eduljee, Esq.
M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbiah Chetty Garu.
The Hon'ble Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.
Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Sahib.
M. R. Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmanachariar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariyar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

**Election of Standing Committee Members.**

THE PRESIDENT:—We have got to elect two members of the Standing Committee in the place of Messrs. Pragasa Moodeliar and Venkataramanjuloo Naidu.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—Who are all on the Standing Committee now?

THE PRESIDENT:—The Standing Committee now has the following members:—Messrs. Venkataramiah Chetty, Lukshmana Chariar, Tirumalayya Naidoo, P. Subramania Iyer. The Hon'ble Mr. Rungiah Naidoo went out on the 20th, so that we shall be one short still.

The election was then proceeded with, and the undermentioned gentlemen elected:—

Mr. Theagaroya Chetty, 10 votes.
,, Varadappa Naidu, 8 ,,

**Proceedings of Standing Committee.**

THE PRESIDENT:—The next subject for consideration is the Proceedings of the Standing Committee, dated 17th September and 1st and 15th October 1897.

MR. VARADAPPA NAIDU:—I wish to know with regard to the Proceedings of the 1st October, in regard to the tender for boilers. The first is the lowest rate, the second the next lowest and the third is the next. I don't understand the receipt of a telegram from Mr. Ellis recommending the 3rd. I simply want to know what advantage is gained by taking the highest tender, the third.

THE PRESIDENT:—Because the third is not a direct action boiler. The second tender is for a direct action. We find that by taking the direct action, the Machinery wears out doubly as quick as it does when driven by belting.

MR. SUBBIAH CHETTY:—Would it work as efficaciously as the other?

THE PRESIDENT:—Just the same; the only thing is by direct action you have the whole thing. The revolution of direct action is doubly as quick as when driven by belting.

The Proceedings were then recorded.

**Statement of Receipts and Disbursements &c.**

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements and Progress Report.

These were also recorded and the meeting terminated.

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Encl (3) to Proc: 546

Proceedings of an Adjourned 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 27th October 1897, at 5-30 p.m., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT:

Lieut-Colonel Sir George MOORE, KT., C.I.E., *President.*
H. Ormerod, Esq.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
Cowasjee Eduljee, Esq.
M. R. Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbiah Chetty Garu.
The Hon'ble Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.
Haji Mahamad Abdul Hadi Padsha Saheb.
M.R.Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Chariar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariyar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Chariar Avargal.

**Special Legislation *re* Plague.**

THE PRESIDENT:—I will explain why I took the opportunity to call this meeting. You will remember we had a meeting which we kept going so that it might be called at any moment. You all know that a case of plague happened. To-day I got an order of Government which I will read:—

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government.*

Read the following paper:—From the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, No. 2092—S., dated 12th October 1897 submitting details of the incident and of the action taken in the matter regarding the occurrence of bubonic plague in Madras.

ORDER No. 2286 M. MIS., DATED 26TH OCT. 1897.

Recorded. The Government notices with satisfaction that all possible action was at once taken by the Sanitary Commissioner and the President of the Municipal Commission and other Officers con[illegible].

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
*Secretary to Government.*

That was not what I wanted you here for this evening. It was in connection with the segregation camps. There seems to be considerable misapprehension about them. The public of Madras seem to think I am responsible for them. As a matter of fact neither the Commissioners nor myself are responsible. The matter is entirely in the hands of the Health Officer and the District Medical Officer. The regulation runs as follows:—"The Municipal Commissioners shall provide and maintain in such localities, whether within or without the Municipal limits as in the opinion of the Health Officer of the Municipality may be proper for the purpose, suitable and sufficient accom-

2/642 in 1898

Encl (21) to fwo: 546

Proceedings of an Adjourned 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 Monday the 1st November 1897, 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. 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.
M. R. Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. S. Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. M. K. Lakshmanacharriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
M. R. Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

*G. O., No.* 1966, *M., dated* 11*th September* 1897, *proposing means for financing the new Drainage Scheme for the City of Madras.*

THE PRESIDENT :—Gentlemen, I suppose we had better go on with the business. It is now past 5 o'clock. We have rather a poor attendance. Since I sent out that Memorandum on the subject, I have received the statement from the Abkari Department. I find the income they now get is Rs. 3,30,550, out of which they pay Rs 13,600.

Mr. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—That is 4 p. c.

It was proposed by Mr. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal, seconded by Mr. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal and carried—"that the Meeting resolve itself into committee."

After discussing the subject for over one hour, the Commissioners resumed into meeting.

It was proposed by Mr. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu, seconded by Mr. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu and carried unanimously :—

"That Government be informed that the Commissioners are prepared to undertake the construction of the main at a cost of 12 lakhs and that to provide the necessary funds they propose to increase the Timber and Firewood tax to the maximum under section 341, thereby realizing Rs. 70,000, to raise the Vehicles and Animals tax under section 153 and the tax under section 164 thereby realizing an additional Rs. 37,550 and they should ask Government to reconsider their decision as to the tax on tolls and allow the Commissioners to increase it by 50 per cent. as originally proposed, thereby increasing the revenue by Rs. 20,000—That the President address Government on the subject of the compensation under section 179 which the Commissioners are of opinion ought to be very considerably increased in view of the income of Rs. 3,30,550 derived by Government from that source, the compensation now paid being only Rs. 13,600. The Commissioners do not consider it unreasonable to ask that the compensation be raised to 1 lakh."

It was proposed by Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal, seconded by Mr. J. DeCaster and carried—"that the Meeting adjourn."

THOMPSON AND CO., PRINTERS, MADRAS.

3/12 Aug 1898

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 Monday the 11th October 1897, 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. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. P. M. Sivangnana Mudaliar Avargal.
The Hon'ble Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.
Haji Mahamad Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M.R.Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillai Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal.
E. H. Elliot, Esq.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
The Hon'ble P. Rungiah Naidu Garu.
N. Subrahmanyam, Esq.
M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmanacharriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur A. Dhanakoti Mudaliar Avargal.
R. F. Grant, Esq.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Walker.
M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariyar Avargal.
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.

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*G.O. No.* 1966, *M., dated* 11*th September* 1897, *proposing means for financing the new Drainage Scheme for the City of Madras.*

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal—

"That the Meeting adjourn till 1st November 1897 for the further consideration of the subject pending the submission of a report by the President."

Carried.

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

Municipal Office, Madras,
October 1897.

MADRAS: PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

Pub(b) to Proc: 546

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 Wednesday the 27th October 1897, at 5 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT:

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H. Ormerod, Esq.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
Cowasjee 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 Mahamad Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M.R.Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
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M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
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M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmanacharriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariyar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

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No. 1.

*Election of two Members of the Standing Committee.*

A ballot was taken with the following result—

| | Number of votes. |
|---|---|
| M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu .. .. .. .. | 10 |
| M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu .. .. .. .. | 8 |

They were accordingly elected.

No. 2.

*Proceedings of the Standing Committee, dated 17th September and 1st and 15th October* 1897.

Recorded.

No. 3.

*Statement of Receipts and Disbursements from April to September* 1897.

Recorded.

No. 4.

*Progress Report of Works for August and September* 1897.

Recorded.
The meeting terminated.

Municipal Office, Madras,
October 1897.

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

MADRAS: PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

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MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of an ADJOURNED 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 27th October 1897, at 5-30 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT:

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H. Ormerod, Esq.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
Cowasjee 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 Mahamad Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M.R Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.
M R.Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. S Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmanacharriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

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*Special legislation in connection with the Plague.*

The President read G.O , No. 2286-M., Mis., dated 26th October 1897, and informed the Commissioners of the steps taken in connection with the Segregation Camps.

The meeting adjourned.

Municipal Office, Madras,
October 1897.

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

---

MADRAS: PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of an ADJOURNED 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 27th October 1897, at 5-30 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

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M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Chariar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

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*Special legislation in connection with the Plague.*

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The meeting adjourned.

Municipal Office, Madras,
October 1897.

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

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MADRAS: PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of an ADJOURNED SPECIAL MEETING of the MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS of the CITY of MADRAS, held at their Office Premises, No. 22, Errah Bauloo Chetty Street, Black Town, on Monday the 1st November 1897, at 5 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

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M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmanacharriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. G Subramania Iyer Avargal.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

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*G.O., No.* 1966, *M., dated* 11*th September* 1897, *proposing means for financing the new Drainage Scheme for the City of Madras.*

Proposed by M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal—

"That the Meeting resolve itself into committee."

Carried.

The meeting resumes.

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

"That Government be informed that the Commissioners are prepared to undertake the construction of the main at a cost of 12 lakhs and that to provide the necessary funds they propose to increase the Timber and Firewood tax to the maximum under section 341, thereby realizing Rs. 70,000, to raise the Vehicles and Animals tax under section 153 and the tax under section 164 thereby realizing an additional Rs. 37,550 and they should ask Government to reconsider their decision as to the tax on tolls and allow the Commissioners to increase it by 50 per cent. as originally proposed, thereby increasing the revenue by Rs. 20,000—That the President address Government on the subject of the compensation under section 179 which the Commissioners are of opinion ought to be very considerably increased in view of the income of Rs. 3,30,550 derived by Government from that source, the compensation now paid being only Rs. 13,600. The Commissioners do not consider it unreasonable to ask that the compensation be raised to 1 lakh."

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal and seconded by Mr. J. DeCaster—

"That the Meeting adjourn."

Carried.

Municipal Office, Madras,
November 1897.

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

MADRAS: PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

Genl. Dept.
13.

G. No. 546

MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS,

General Department,

Madras, 1st February 1898.

642 M

From

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

*President, Municipal Commission.*

To

The Secretary to Government,

Local and Municipal Department,

Fort St.George.

SIR,

Enclosures 8

I have the honor to submit herewith for the in--
-formation of Government full Proceedings as also copies of abstract Proceedings of the Meetings of the Commissioners--held on 11", 27" October and 1" November 1897.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Geo Moore

Lieut.-Col.,

President, Muni. Comm.

8
642 M of 1898.

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READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED
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CURRENT No.

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