

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1817 M

DATED 6-12-99.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Munl. Commission.

Recording Copies of Proceedings of a
General meeting of the Madras Munl. Com-
missioners held on 29th August 1899, together
with abstract Proceedings of the same date.

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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. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No.

3083 M



From

THE PRESIDENT,

Municipal Commission,
Madras.

In
Munl
Order *No. 1817* *Munl* *6/12/99*

G. No. 507

Recorded.

Dated 30-11-99

Received *1-12-99*

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Enclosures Two

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding full proceedings of a
General Meeting of the Commission
held on 29 August 1899, together
with Abstract proceedings of the
same date.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1501	11-10-99	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Encls No II to G.O. No 507 of 30-11-99

Encls No I to G.O. No 507 of 30-11-99

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners for the City of Madras held at their Office premises, No. 22, Errabalu Chetty Street, Black Town, on Tuesday, the 29th August 1899, at 5-15 p.m., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884, II of 1892, and II of 1899.

PRESENT:

R. E. Ellis, Esq., M. Inst., C.E., *Ag. President.*
H. Ormerod, Esq.
M. R. Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
M. R. Ry. P. M. Sivagnana Mudaliar Avargal.
Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.
M. R. Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
E. H. Elliot, Esq.
Mir Muzher-ud-din Sahib Bahadur.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M. R. Ry. Dewan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M. R. Ry. V. Masilamani Pillai Avargal.
M. R. Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. Rai Bahadur A. Dhanakoti Mudaliar Avargal.
W. D. Smith, Esq.
M. R. Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. Maitland, I.M.S.
M. R. Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.
M. R. Ry. M. Punithavelu Mudaliar Avargal.

The Red Hills Lake.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Gentlemen, we have a long agenda before us this evening and we had better get on to business as soon as possible. The first question before the meeting is the consideration of the G.O., No. 1317 L., dated 5th July 1899, requesting the President to report the steps which the Commissioners propose to take for the protection of the water in the Red Hills Lake from contamination.

This is a very old question. In 1882, the President received a G.O. from Government forwarding Dr. King's Report. In reply to that, the President said that no action had yet been taken on Dr. King's Report for an improvement in the Red Hills Water-supply and that the real remedy was the removal of the villages in the north-west of the lake, the cost of such a removal being a serious matter. The Government, passing its order on the subject, said "the correspondence will be communicated to the District Magistrate of Chingleput. He will at once consider the propriety of putting at once into force the provisions of Section 45 of the Police Act in the villages and will bring the matter to the notice of the Local Fund Board in view to sanitary arrangements being made therein. The matter is one of pressing importance." Thus the Government threw a great deal of responsibility on the District Magistrate. The matter has cropped up again; and I have written to the Collector asking him what the amount of compensation would be for the removal of huts in the villages, and what steps he has taken to prevent the huts from coming within the catchment area.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—In the absence of an express order by the President authorising the Engineer to exercise the particular powers vested in the President alone, the exercise of those powers by the Engineer must be illegal.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT :—That is a matter which may be referred to our Solicitors.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—Why should we waste our money?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT :—The section says "the President shall assign." When Sir George Moore returns, I shall call his attention to the point that has been raised.

MR. V. VARADAPPA NAIDU :—There is no necessity for referring the matter to our Solicitors. That will be another increase to our expenses.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—Under the circumstances reported, the resolution might be recorded.

MR. GURUSAMI CHETTY :—I do not think it necessary for Mr. Pragasa Mudaliar to press his resolution.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—I have no mind to press the resolution. If it is to be looked upon as a withdrawal, it may be so.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—Have you given orders to knock down the temple.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT :—I have asked the Acting Engineer to take steps for it. Don't you want it removed?

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—Once it has been built, we do not want to have it knocked down. The resolution was withdrawn.

The Estimates for the New Drainage.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—The proposition of which I gave notice runs in these terms :—
"That the estimates for the new drainage be prepared without any deviation from the lines recommended by the Commissioners in their proceedings of the 18th November 1896, and sanctioned by the Government in G.O., No. 209, dated 12th February 1897, that each block, as it is taken, be complete with house-connections, and that no cement pipes be used for sewers."

You will find that the proposition is divided into three parts. The first is that the estimates be prepared according to the sanction of the Commissioners and what was accepted by Government; the second portion is that each block as it is taken up be completed with house-connections; and the third portion is that no cement pipes be used for sewers. I have framed the resolution in this way so that the Commissioners may vote on each portion separately, if necessary. Why I was obliged to bring forward this resolution was this: Just two days before Sir George Moore left us, some estimates were placed before us amounting to 13½ lakhs for the new drainage scheme, and when we wanted some information, we were asked to communicate with the Acting President and get all the information that was necessary. I have communicated with the Acting President and got certain information which is here. You will find that the estimates are something like these: About 7 lakhs or so for the High Level Iron Main, something like a lakh for pumps and machinery in three places, viz., D'Mellow's Road, Chintadripet, and Kistnampet, and the rest for two storm overflows in Chintadripet and North Triplicane. I was one of the Committee that was formed in 1896; Dr. Maitland, Mr. Pragasa Mudaliar and several others were also on that Committee. That Committee sat for about eight months and after making several experiments came to a definite conclusion as to a certain way of action. In their Report, dated 18th November 1896, they formulated a certain course which was unanimously accepted by the Commissioners, and when it went before Government, it was also accepted. It is clear from this that we ought to follow that course which was recommended by the Commissioners. But the estimates which are now prepared and sent round for acceptance and which are actually passed by the Standing Committee seem to have a great deal of difference from what was once sanctioned. When I asked the President, he tells me that there is no such arrangement as to what course we should follow except the laying of the high level iron main. This is

what he writes: "I can find no record showing that the Rs. 12,00,000 was to be expended as stated by you, namely:—"

	Rs.
Outfall main	8,10,600
Engines	1,43,000
Black Town Farm	2,49,600

Total ... 12,03,200

When the matter came before the Committee they recommended that the high level main be first undertaken, but no mention was made as to how the rest of the 12 lakhs was to be expended. On the 1st November 1897, the matter came before a Special General Meeting when your Resolution was carried. But no mention of any work except the outfall main was made." I am obliged to differ from the President with regard to the facts mentioned here. You will see, gentlemen, from the Report that was placed before the Commissioners in November 1896 upon which action is being taken, what was meant. Para. 6 of the Report says:—The Committee advocate the High Level Iron Main from Triplicane to Black Town Farm with Pumping Stations at Kistnampet, Chintadripet, Langs Gardens, Choolay and Tondiarpet. That the Sewers should be laid with provision for house-connections where found suitable—the connections referred to above in Parish Venkatachellier Street having proved very satisfactory—that existing side drains may be connected with the sewers, that side drains should be constructed where house-connections are unsuitable.

From this paragraph you will find that with 12 lakhs they propose to provide the high level iron main and the pumping stations at Kistnampet, Chintadripet, Choolai and Tondiarpet.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT :—It is not so in the Report.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—Paragraph 10 of the Report says:—It will, however, be seen that this abstract provides Rs. 2,49,000 for extension of Sewage Farms to an extent of 208 acres, and also for an increased length of Outfall calculated above to cost Rs. 1,55,000, making a total of Rs. 4,04,000 which if added to the Rs. 27,25,000 gives a total of Rs. 31,29,000 or almost the same as the present figure.

Connecting these two with the last paragraph what the Committee recommend is that the high level iron main be first undertaken and they allotted 12 lakhs. What good will come out of the main if no pumping stations are erected and no sewage farms provided? If the mere high level main is put either from Triplicane or Mylapore to Tondiarpet without connecting it with any of the pumping stations and without diverting the sewage to a sewage farm, of what earthly use would the main alone be? The iron main will cost 7 lakhs according to the estimate. It is true that when I moved the proposition in November 1897 no special mention was made about the pumping stations and sewage farms; but there were other resolutions on the subject. There is one Resolution passed on the 6th August 1898 when you your self was the President. That Resolution was passed unanimously by the Commissioners. Further, when the drainage question came before the Commissioners on the 29th March 1897, there was some discussion about the scheme and a question was raised by the President whether we are to have 12 lakhs or more. The subject of pumping stations then cropped up and the President said that they should be provided out of the 12 lakhs: 7 lakhs for the main, 2 lakhs for the pipes, 1½ lakhs for pumping stations and engines and 1½ lakhs for sewage farms, thus making a total of 12 lakhs. The President put the question as to how the total amount of 12 lakhs was made out and then I made the statement. There is another proposition moved by me to the same effect. You will see from this and other propositions what was intended at the time. The Committee's Report having been adopted, the 12 lakhs should be spent upon the main, upon pumping stations in six places and also for the sewage farm. The object with which the Committee recommended the procedure and the Commissioners adopted this recommendation was that by having these pumping stations in the six places mentioned in the Report, a good deal of the sewage now going into the Coom would be diverted to the sewage farm. But according to the estimate now prepared, you will have pumping stations only in 3 places and the sewage going from Komaleswaranpettah cannot be diverted. I wanted to see if there was any advantage in having this estimate prepared as it has been done. From the explanation given by the Acting President, I find

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that there is not the slightest advantage gained by having this estimate carried out. By adopting the old system there will be plenty of advantage. You will see that the estimates that are now prepared, if carried out, not only will you have less advantage but the scheme will cost us a good deal more than was anticipated. You have sufficient evidence to show what the Committee, the Commissioners and Government once wanted to do, and you also know the difference now proposed. As to how these estimates came to be prepared, here is a paragraph from a letter of the President which throws some light. On the 17th March 1899, the President in forwarding the Budget, says in paragraph 7, "the Chief Expenditure on drainage will be the iron main from Mylapore to the northern extremity—this will probably cost 7 lakhs—the balance will be expended on Chintadripet and North Triplicane or as the Commissioners may decide."

This appears to have been done under a misapprehension.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Yes.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—That it is done under a misapprehension is admitted and we may therefore take it that the first arrangement came to by us was the proper one. Coming to the second portion of my proposition, namely, that which deals with house-connections and that each block should be complete by itself, you will see from the report which was accepted by you all, that the estimates should provide for house-connections for almost all houses in Madras except the 2nd and 3rd Divisions where we do not think of introducing the system. The estimate provided for 21,000 house-connections. Almost all the houses paying a rental of more than one rupee are included in that and only small huts will be excluded. In that estimate one important mention is made, namely, that side-drains should be constructed where house-connections are unsuitable that is, wherever possible you may have house-connections and wherever not possible you must have side-drains and at the end of each street you will have house-connection with the sewer in the street. But in the estimate now placed before us for North Triplicane and Chintadripet, the estimate does not contain any provision for house-connections.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Wherever the main is, we put the house-connections on.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—No. Provision is made for Theynampet.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—It was intended to put them in wherever the sewer is laid.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—If the main sewers are laid in the streets and if you now have side-drains—according to your estimates you must have side-drains.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—(Interrupting) No. The idea of the present estimates now placed before you, is to lay one sewer down the Ice-House Road and to connect the existing side-drains in much the same way as we have done in Sydenham's Road—to lay one sewer through Pycroft's Road straight through Triplicane, through the new street and we propose to connect it to a pump well in Napier Park. There is one sewer in Chintadripet.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—That is a street drain, will it feed the sewer?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Nor they will feed the sewer just for a time until you start the work. The idea was to lay the underground sewer in Triplicane, Ice-House Road and Chintadripet, and as soon as that is done, we should be able to have more money to go on with six inches drain and connect them with the sewers. That is the idea with which I am preparing these estimates.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—In the matter of house-connections, there is one part of the Administration Report which throws a good deal of light. "The Mylapore drainage system has been opened during the year and there could be no doubt that it is on the whole a great success. It is now possible to keep the streets clean and free from the offensive smell and the gain in the dryness of the soil will surely be made evident in the course of a year or two, by diminution of sickness and death-rate." You see from that what great advantage there is in having house-connections. What I say is, once you take up a portion, you must complete it. What is the good of taking up one portion once and another portion at the same time which means double supervision, waste of money and waste of energy. The Commissioners decided and the Government too decided that if you take up one block, you must complete it with house-connections, so that there may not be any trouble but if you connect the side-drains with the main sewers, you will have the same difficulty that we found in connection with No. 2 Sewer in Popham's Broadway and also No. 1 Sewer. Every day you will find a large quantity of silt getting into the sewer which is not possible if the house-connections are made.

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There may be a little bit of silt but it is not possible to have so much of silt as to block your sewers or give you any trouble. The Commissioners have given a good deal of thought over the matter and recommended this definite course of action. Do you think that there is anything wrong in taking up house-connections along with the sewers?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—I thought over the matter with great care from an Engineering point of view. A good deal depends upon when we are likely to get the balance of money.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—It is not a question of money.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—If you will grant 22 lakhs we might begin the work all over the town in four different places. But we have only 12 lakhs.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—What I say is, once you take up a block, complete it. That is my proposition.

MR. MUZHERUDDIN SAHIB:—Is there any objection to this proposition from an Engineering point of view?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—The thing is that we imagine that the main sewer is to be laid the whole way through. When I begin to drain a particular block such as Egmore, I can do no work in Chintadripet, because I have got no money.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—Chintadripet is not contemplated in the beginning.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—It has eventually to be carried out. What Mr. Theagaraya Chetty wants me to do is to start Egmore or Chintadripet and finish it straightway.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—Instead of Chintadripet and North Triplicane, I say take up Chintadripet or North Triplicane and finish it.

MR. MUZHERUDDIN SAHIB:—The proposition is a very good one as we will have the satisfaction of doing one thing complete.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—I will go further. I will put up pumping stations. I will put up one pumping station and finish what Mr. Theagaraya Chetty says.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—It is contemplated that we should have six pumping stations. There is no objection to your having one pumping station after another, but we must finish each block that we take up.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—I have no objection to carrying out the work in one Division or two Divisions. It is for you to decide which should be taken up. Whatever you may decide, we shall prepare the estimates accordingly.

MR. THEAGARAYA CHETTY:—Then comes the question of cement pipes. I say that cement pipes ought not to be used for sewers. Why I was obliged to bring it forward is that it was originally intended that all the sewers should be of glazed stoneware pipes. I was in the Standing Committee when we received the tenders for stoneware pipes. There was one tender from Mr. Spoor, the Manager of the Cement Works in Madras. There was another tender from Messrs Burn & Co. It was then conceded that cement pipes would not do and we wanted only glazed stoneware pipes. That was the reason why the Standing Committee accepted the tender of Messrs Burn & Co. for Rs. 86,941, though Mr. Spoor's tender was for Rs. 74,033, making a difference of Rs. 13,000 or 17½ per cent. We were obliged to accept Messrs. Burn & Co.'s tender, because we were told that Mr. Spoor's tender was for cement pipes and as it was mentioned that cement pipes will not do and that glazed stoneware pipes were suitable, but when the works were actually commenced, I do not know what took place. Nothing was placed before the Commissioners and a good portion of the sewers now contain cement pipes. I was told, I do not know if the information is correct, that we have now on hand Rs. 30,000 worth of glazed stoneware pipes supplied by Messrs. Burn & Co. unutilized. I was also told that Burn & Co. have failed to supply in time even after repeated telegrams and communications. Eventually we were obliged to take cement pipes and Burn & Co. long after began to supply us with stoneware pipes. The supply was actually taken two or three months ago, though Mylapore drainage was closed a year ago. This is probably a little bit out of the way as I am now on cement pipes. Some decided opinion has been expressed about cement pipes, and I will read to you some portion of Mr. Cousins' Report which shows that

we ought not to use cement pipes. The whole of the pipes for the sewers should be thoroughly glazed both outside and inside.

In one part of the report he says:—

"Cement is an absorbant and is as liable to the influence of damp as brickwork; so long as it is an absorbant, it must drain in subsoil liquid and when full must be discharged."

I can tell you, gentlemen, that when Mr. Loane and Mr. Ellis were examined by the Commissioners about this drainage, certain opinions were expressed. When Mr. Ellis was examined he made a statement to the effect that even the glazed stoneware pipes would get choked in course of time—would be choked so much, that even a piece of straw would not be able to pass through it. I cannot exactly quote his words, but I daresay you all remember what took place then. You will find such opinions expressed by both the Engineers. We were told that we must have glazed stoneware pipes. I say, gentlemen, that whatever has already taken place cannot be now remedied, but for future work it is absolutely necessary that having had the opinion of Mr. Cousins we ought to decide that no cement pipes ought to be used for our sewers.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—There is no reason why our sewers should not consist of cement pipes. I have seen glazed stoneware pipes, which are far worse than cement pipes.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—It is a question of absorption.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—They were far inferior to cement pipes. The only question is whether you will get sufficiently good stoneware pipes for the money we are going to spend. There is no reason why you should not get stoneware pipes, if you wish to have them.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—For all practical purposes we find that cement is an absorbant as every one knows. There is also expert opinion that it is an absorbant and it will cause danger. We wanted iron main, because there might be something like sweating in the brickwork. Here there might be sweating in the cement pipes as Mr. Cousins says.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—I think it is rather a pity to pass a resolution of this sort, for by passing such a resolution as this, our hands would be tied. We will be bound to get stoneware pipes from limited makers. The best makers are Doveton & Co., and Steven & Co., and they will probably not be anywhere within our means and we shall then be forced to get second rates stoneware pipes or go without them.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—When the Commissioners are spending 35 lakhs of rupees upon this drainage system, it is not fair on their part to put materials which will be a source of danger. We should use the best material, because though the initial cost might be more, yet it will avoid danger. If you look to economy, danger may be the result. We have the experience of Calcutta before us, and we know what amount of trouble they had. They had to spend 30 lakhs to put things in order. We may be in the same position, unless we see that proper things are used. It is not my opinion, but it is the opinion of experts, and if the opinion of experts has no weight with you I don't care what may be done.

MR. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU:—I understand it is not possible to get the necessary glazed-stoneware pipes to the extent that we may require and even if we succeed in getting them the materials will not be first-class.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—My idea is that it is more or less a question of cost. Burn & Co.'s pipes are no doubt very good, but they failed to deliver in time. The best makers are Doveton & Co. and Steven & Co., but their prices would practically be prohibitive. There are other makers and if we have a careful specification, we may be able to get the class of pipes we require. I see no great objection to your passing this resolution if you are all very much against cement pipes. But there has been a very large use of cement pipes all over the world recently.

MR. MUZHERUDDIN SAHIB:—Did you call for tenders for stoneware pipes?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Yes.

MR. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU:—It is not a matter for us to decide. You must say to what extent glazed stoneware pipes should be used, and to what extent cement pipes should be used. We cannot decide the question ourselves.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—We are having house-connections and I suppose they will all be of glazed stoneware pipes.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—You mean the trap.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—The trap as well as the pipe that goes into the sewers. It is only the question of sewers that we are considering. Out of 30 lakhs, our sewers might cost two lakhs and it may be that we will have to pay one lakh more. The question is whether we will be justified in saving this amount by using cement pipes while expert opinion is against their use.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—I think it would be better to leave the question open. If we pass this Resolution it will shut the cement pipes altogether. But if we leave the question open, the Standing Committee will decide whether we are to have cement pipes or not.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—It may be that the Standing Committee may approve of cement pipes and the question may not come before us at all. In very many cases, that has been the case recently. Gentlemen, I have expressed my views sufficiently and there is nothing more for me to say.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—I have great pleasure in seconding this resolution. With regard to cement pipes I do not know if any of you did really take any particular notice when the estimates came to you that there was an estimate for stoneware pipes. But somebody perhaps thought of it afterwards and there is an interlineation made "or Cement pipes." You will find that this is something new and inserted afterwards. I simply point out what had taken place. With regard to the deviation there is a reason assigned, the reason being that if North Triplicane and Chintadripet are taken up that will be the means of diverting the sewage from the Coom. I should like to say very briefly how the matters stand.

From the estimate for the Drainage of Madras circulated to Commissioners the other day, it appears that it is intended to alter the original proposal approved of by the Commissioners and Government and that it is proposed to spend the money to be raised, in a different way. To have undertaken the trouble of preparing estimates for a proposal *not sanctioned* by the Commissioners, seems to me to be irregular. The proper course should have been to place before the Commissioners any proposed deviation from the original plan, and after obtaining the approval of the Commissioners, to go in for an estimate. My reason for making this remark is, that in the event of the proposal now made not meeting with the approval of the Commissioners, it would be labour, money and time lost in the preparation of a second set of estimate, plans, &c.

Now let us see the reason assigned for a deviation from the original plan as approved of by the Commissioners and Government. It is alleged that by the proposed deviation, the sewage now flowing into the Coom would be diverted. This statement as to the diversion of the sewage from the Coom is, to say the least, meaningless and misleading. From the estimate, it appears, that the sewage of North Triplicane and Chintadripet is to be diverted from the Coom. But as a matter of fact, the sewage from these sections of the town are already diverted from the Coom and lead into a pumping station in the Napier Park, where it is raised and passed over the Park for grass irrigation, and it is only when there is a failure of the pump or a fall of rain that sewage from these sections finds its way into the Coom. Therefore the laying down of another series of sewers and building a larger pumping station with improved machinery, will not improve matters to any appreciable extent. What seems to me to be the most objectionable portion is, that it is now intended to permit the street drainage of these sections, I mean the open street drains, to feed these sewers. I say this as I find no provision is made at all for house-connections which is the backbone of the scheme framed by Mr. Loane. In fact this system of open street drains feeding the sewers is what we wanted to avoid, and if by spending a large amount, we are still to have the open street drain without house-connections we may as well spend no money at all. What we really intended was, to adopt throughout the City, section by section, as money is available, a system similar to the one adopted in Mylapore.

Now let us see for a moment what is the cause of the offensive smell arising from the Coom at this very time. One has only to go and stand at the Mount Road near the Vizianagram Raja's fountain or at the Stable Company's gate to feel the stench arising from the Coom. Does any one believe that this stench is caused by the sewage from Triplicane and Chintadripet. An inspection

because they were under the impression that nothing had been decided by the Commissioners. It is for you to decide what you wish done and the preparation of estimates will soon follow. We may take Mr. Theagaroya Chetty's resolution in three parts and decide what portions you wish done first.

MR. S. SUBBIAH CHETTY:—Why not put the proposition as a whole?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Even now it is not definite what the Commissioners want done. What do you resolve to take up—Triplicane, Chintadripet, Egmore or Choolai?

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—That could not be decided on the spur of the moment. It is an important matter. I think that Government made a mistake in saying that the Commissioners have proposed the carrying out of the drainage of Chintadripet and Triplicane.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—This G.O. was placed before the Commissioners and nothing was said.

MR. VENKATARAMANJULU NAIDU:—That is the reason why this was deferred from time to time.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—There are no definite lines laid down by the Commissioners. I object to the words "by the Commissioners" in the resolution. That is a reflection upon the Executive.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—I did not mean any reflection upon anybody. You can alter the proposition in any way you like and I will accept it.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—The estimates prepared are the first step in carrying out the wishes of the Commissioners. You can prepare the estimates in fifteen different ways and I have simply laid down the backbone of my proposal.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—It is admitted by all that it is a misapprehension.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—Will you leave out the first part?

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—Then there is no proposition.

LIEUT.-COLONEL MAITLAND:—I can understand your position, because it was made a point by the Committee all through that each block—whatever block you might like to take up, be it Triplicane or this, or that—was to be completed irrespective of others, and that idea was not kept up in the preparation of these estimates. Another point that is misapprehended to-night is that because no provision is made in these estimates for house-connections in a certain block, they are not going to be made at all. It is quite evident from what the Acting President said that such is not the intention. It is simply that the block will be gradually worked up—first the main, then the side-drains, finally the house-connections. According to the way in which the estimates have been prepared, the plan was to be a different one from what we thought in Committee would be. That is, the present idea seems to be that a number of blocks are to be gradually worked up and not one block *in toto* after another. The point that we have got to decide is whether each block should be taken up separately. It looks as if we waste time in making reflections and insinuations.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—The only difficulty for doing each section completely is that it takes a considerable amount of time in preparing the estimates; for instance I took over six months for preparing the estimates for Triplicane. If you wish to have complete estimates for all the divisions it will take considerable time.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—We shall decide soon which block should be taken up.

MR. VARADAPPA NAIDU:—In the last budget, Choolai was entered for five lakhs and I do not see why Choolai should not be taken up now. It was the object of the Commissioners that Choolai should be taken up first. We have already done some work there, and why not we finish it?

THE ACTING PRESIDENT:—It is for the Commissioners to decide what they wish to be done.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—I should like to make one or two remarks in connection with what has fallen from Dr. Maitland that we are wasting our time.

LIEUT.-COLONEL MAITLAND:—I did not say that we waste our time, but what I said was that we waste time in making insinuations on the Executive.

MR. THEAGAROYA CHETTY:—If any insinuation was made at all, it must have been either by me or by Mr. Pragasa Mudaliar. I meant no insinuation. I was obliged to place the matter before the Commissioners. They might not have been creditable to the executive but Dr. Maitland cannot make a remark like that and say that there is something like an insinuation. Mr. Pragasa Mudaliar said that he made no insinuation, but he placed certain facts. And those facts are actually from the records; and I don't see why his remarks should be called insinuations. I do not know whether the Commissioners present here are of the same opinion as Dr. Maitland. It is better that we in this body do not make such remarks as these as they tend to make the proceedings appear shabby.

LIEUT.-COL. MAITLAND:—If my remarks have hurt Mr. Theagaroya Chetty, I am sorry. When I made that remark I was not thinking of him at all. But I was thinking of the tone in which the remarks were made by a lot of people. The tone of the remarks, as the President complained, is meant to show that the Executive went diametrically opposite to the wishes of the Commissioners.

After a slight informal discussion, the Resolution was altered thus:

"That estimates be prepared so that each block may be completed with house-connections and that no cement pipes be used unless sanctioned by the Commissioners."

Mr. Theagaroya Chetty, having accepted this altered form, the resolution was put to the vote and carried.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—It is now 7 P.M., and you will be inclined to adjourn the meeting. There are some propositions which have been hanging fire for sometime. It is not desirable that these should be left as a legacy to Sir George Moore. I would therefore propose that this meeting be adjourned to Friday, the 1st September.

Mr. Varadappa Naidu seconded the proposition which when put to the vote was carried.

The Meeting was adjourned to Friday, 1st September 1899.

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 Tuesday the 29th August 1899, at 5-15 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884, II of 1892 and II of 1899.

PRESENT :

R. E. Ellis, Esq., M.INST.C.E., Acting President.
H. Ormerod, Esq.
M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu.
M.R.Ry. P. M. Sivagnana Mudaliar Avargal.
Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Sahib.
M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.
E. H. Elliot, Esq.
Mir Muzheruddin Sahib Bahadur.
J. DeCaster, Esq.
M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu Garu.
M.R.Ry. V. Masilamani Pillai Avargal.
M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur A. Dhanakoti Mudaliar Avargal.
W. D. Smith, Esq.
M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Aiyar Avargal.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. Maitland, I.M.S.
M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.
M.R.Ry. M. Punithavelu Mudaliar Avargal.

No. 1.

G.O., No. 1317 L., dated 5th July 1899, requesting the President to report the steps which the Commissioners propose to take for the protection of the water in the Red Hills Lake from contamination.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu—

"That pending the reply from the Collector of Chingleput regarding the amount of compensation for the removal of the 7 villages and the receipt of an estimate from the Engineer as to the cost of fencing the open channel, the consideration of the G.O. be deferred."

To this as an amendment M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu proposed and M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu seconded—

"That the Government be requested to communicate with the District Magistrate to ascertain what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken with reference to G.O., No. 1250 Mis., dated 24th October 1882."

Carried.

No. 2.

G.O., No. 1007 M., Mis., dated 17th July 1899, raising the Provincial grant from Rs 9,058 to Rs 12,000 for the maintenance of Mount and Poanamallee Roads.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu and seconded by Lieut.-Col. J. Maitland, I.M.S.—

"That the increased grant of Rs. 12,000 be accepted with thanks and that the President be requested to place a statement before the Commissioners shewing the average cost of maintenance of these two roads for the last 5 years to enable the Commissioners to make a representation for a further increase of grant, if found necessary."

Carried.

No. 3.

Resolution of the Commissioners at their meeting held on 14th August 1899 deferring consideration

of Mr. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar's proposition re erection of a building on municipal land on Wall Tax Road.

With the sanction of the Commissioners the resolution of M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal is withdrawn.

No. 4.

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

"That the estimates for the new drainage be prepared without any deviation from the lines recommended by the Commissioners in their proceedings of the 18th November 1896 and sanctioned by the Government in G.O., No. 209, dated 12th February 1897, that each block, as it is taken, be complete with house connections, and that no cement pipes be used for sewers."

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

M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu proposed the following amendment, which was accepted by M.R.Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu and the seconder of the original resolution—

"That estimates be prepared so that each block may be completed with house connections and that no cement pipes be used unless sanctioned by the Commissioners."

Carried.

M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal proposed and M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu seconded—

"That the meeting be adjourned till Friday the 1st September 1899."

Carried.

R. E. ELLIS,
Ag. President, Municipal Commission.

Municipal Office, Madras,
August 1899.

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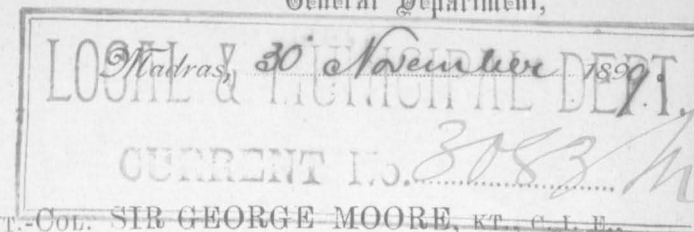
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Genl. Dept.
13.

G. No. 577

MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS,

General Department,



From

THE HON'BLE LIEUT.-COL. SIR GEORGE MOORE, KT., C.B.E.

President, Municipal Commission.

To

The Secretary to Government,

Local and Municipal Department,

SIR,

Fort St. George.

Enclosures
2.

I have the honour to submit herewith for the
information of Government full proceedings as also a
copy of abstract proceedings of a General Meeting of
the Commissioners held on 29th August 1899.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Geo. Moore Lt.-Col.

President, Munl. Commn.

2/3083 map 1899

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189 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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