

[ L. & M. ]  
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Local & Muni. (1899), Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 652 M

DATED 10-5-99.

INDEXED.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Muni. Commission.

Recording full proceedings as also  
Copies of abstract proceedings of the meeting  
of the Madras Muni. Commissioners held on  
6<sup>th</sup> + 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1899.

# BACK PAPERS.

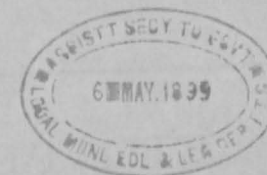
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# FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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## Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 1254



From

THE PRESIDENT,

Municipal Commission,  
Madras.

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*Kue*  
Order 80652 Minis 10/5/99

G. No. 72

Recorded

Dated 5<sup>th</sup> May 1899

Received 6<sup>th</sup>

Registered 8<sup>th</sup>

Enclosures 7

Spare copies 4

## SUBJECT.

Forwarding full proceedings  
as also copies of abstract  
Proceedings of the meeting of  
the Commissioners held on 6<sup>th</sup>  
and 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb'y 99.

Encl(1) to J. no: 72

FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |

PRESENT :

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. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.

M. R. Ry: S. Subbiah Chetty Garu.

M. R. Ry, P. M. Sivangnana Mudal

M. R. Ry. P. V. Krishnasawmy Chetty Garu.

M. B. Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.

J. DeCaster, Esq.

M. R. Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.

Capt. F. J. Crawford, I. M. S.

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

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

Lt.-Col. J. Maitland, I. M. S.

THE PRESIDENT :—The first business, gentlemen, is the revised estimate of last year.

It was proposed by Mr. G. Subramania Iyer and seconded by Mr. S. Subbiah Chetty and carried "that the revised estimate for 1898-99 be passed."

THE PRESIDENT:—Now we come to the Budget. I suppose you will go into Committee to consider the Budget.

It was proposed by Mr. P. Theagaroya Chetty, seconded by Mr. J. DeCaster and carried "that the Commissioners resolve themselves into Committee."

After considering the budget for half an hour the Commissioners resumed into Meeting.

Mr. M. Venkataramiah Chetty proposed and Mr. C. Thirumalayya Naidu seconded the following proposition which when put to the vote was carried, Mr. P. Theagaroya Chetty voting against it.

“That the Budget, as revised in Committee, be passed for the following items:—

|                    |     |     |     |     | RS.       |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Receipts           | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30,07,040 |
| Expenditure—       |     |     |     |     |           |
| Grant I—           |     |     |     |     |           |
| 1. New Works—      |     |     |     |     |           |
| (a) Communications | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,230     |
| (b) Buildings      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 52,600    |
| (c) Drainage       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11,72,240 |
| (d) Water-supply   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16,130    |
| (e) Miscellaneous  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 200       |

## 2. Repairs—

|                                      |     |     |     |          |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| (a) Communications...                | ... | ... | ... | 1,09,490 |
| (b) Buildings                        | ... | ... | ... | 11,160   |
| (c) Drainage, Repairs to Works, etc. | ... | ... | ... | 3,16,820 |
| (d) Water-supply                     | ... | ... | ... | 1,06,890 |
| (e) Miscellaneous                    | ... | ... | ... | 560      |

## 3. Establishment—

|                       |     |     |     |        |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| (a) General           | ... | ... | ... | 29,980 |
| (b) Steam Road-roller | ... | ... | ... | 1,580  |

4. Tools and Plant ... .. 5,100

5. Miscellaneous ... .. 18,470

Grant II, Education ... .. 14,550

Grant III, Sanitation and Medical Services ... .. 4,99,460

Grant IV, Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes ... .. 1,96,150

Grant V, Supervision and Management—

|                                         |     |     |     |        |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| (1) Salaries                            | ... | ... | ... | 30,080 |
| (2) Head Office                         | ... | ... | ... | 7,120  |
| (3) Assessment and Collections          | ... | ... | ... | 55,490 |
| (4) Contribution to Audit Establishment | ... | ... | ... | 3,000  |

Repayment of debts, Sinking Fund ... .. 2,65,790

Interest on Loan ... .. 1,84,470

Refunds ... .. 5,000

Pensions and Gratiaities ... .. 8,810

It was proposed by Mr. S. Gurusawmy Chetty, seconded by Mr. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar :—

“ That during the official year 1899-1900 the taxes be levied as proposed in the Budget—

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

6. Lighting-tax on buildings and lands at  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. (section 148).

7. Tax on vehicles with springs and on animals (section 153).

8. Tax on carts and other vehicles without springs (section 164).

9. Tolls on vehicles and animals entering the Municipal limits (section 170).

10. Tax upon places used for the retail sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors (section 179).”

Carried.

It was proposed by Mr. P. M. Sivangnana Mudaliar, seconded by Mr. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar and carried “ That the amount allotted in the Budget for Law charges be passed on the understanding that no civil suit or criminal proceedings other than those provided for under the Act, be instituted or defended without the sanction of the Standing Committee.”

## Mr. Loane's Salary.

MR. R. N. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—I have a resolution in connection with the Budget and it is in these terms “ That in view of the proposed amendment of section 165 and schedules B and C of Act I. of 1884, Government be moved to take this opportunity of altering section 44 of the said Act by substituting the word “ five ” for “ four ” in it in furtherance of the wish expressed by Government in G.O., No. 758 M., dated 4th May 1896.”

We know from the last Gazette that a short Bill is to be introduced at the next Meeting of the Legislative Council. You will also remember that when the Commissioners recommended the raising of Mr. Loane's pay, the Government said that though they were willing to do so they were precluded from doing anything of the kind until section 44 was amended and they further said that when the Act is next amended, the Commissioners should bring this to the notice of Government. I think this is the most appropriate time to do so. If we wait till the general revision of the Act comes up which may not be within Mr. Loane's time, Mr. Loane will not have the benefit of the increase. I need not tell you anything in praise of Mr. Loane. Enough has already been said in this hall. All that I can say is that the City of Madras and the coming posterity will be under a great obligation to Mr. Loane for his working and successful scheme of drainage prepared and submitted by him. Without detaining you any longer, I will only tell you what opinion was expressed in 1894 by Diwan Bahadur R. Raghunatha Row. It consists only of a few words and I may therefore quote it. He said in January 1894 “ We have in Mr. Loane an efficient officer, an honest gentleman and one who would work without any incentive whatever simply because he is bound to do his duty ; and a man who does his work so conscientiously and so well ought to have some hopes of bettering his position.”

I am sure you are all at one with Mr. Raghunatha Row in that opinion and you will express in 1899 the same opinion as was expressed of him some 5 years ago. With these few words I beg to move the proposition and I am sure you will give it your unanimous support.

Mr. M. Venkataramiah Chetty seconded the proposition.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—We are already paying him Rs. 500 a month.

THE PRESIDENT :—I think it is hardly necessary for me to put the resolution to the vote.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Proceedings of an adjourned General Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners for the City of Madras, held at their Office Premises, No. 22, Errah Balu Chetty Street, Black Town, on Monday, the 6th February 1899, at 3-15 p.m., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT :

The Hon'ble Lt.-Col. Sir George Moore, Kt., C.I.E., *President*.  
H. Ormerod, Esq.  
M. R. Ry. P. Theagaroya Chetty Garu.  
M. R. Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal.  
Cawasjee Eduljee, Esq.  
M. R. Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.  
M. R. Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.  
Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.  
Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Sahib.  
M. R. Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.  
M. R. Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.  
E. H. Elliot, Esq.  
Mir Muzher-ud-din Sahib Bahadur.  
M. R. Ry. Dewan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal.  
M. R. Ry. V. Varadappa Naidu Garu.  
M. R. Ry. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Nayudu Garu.  
M. R. Ry. V. Masilamani Pillay Avargal.  
M. R. Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.  
W. D. Smith, Esq.  
Captain F. J. Crawford, I.M.S.  
Eardley Norton, Esq.  
M. R. Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal.  
M. R. Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.  
M. R. Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal.

The Lighting of the City.

THE PRESIDENT:—The first business before the meeting is the consideration of a Resolution of the Commissioners on the 16th December, 1898, deferring the consideration of the question of the lighting of lamps in the principal thoroughfares from 6 to 9 every night.

At the last meeting this question was deferred for want of information as to what it would cost to light the city from 6 to 9 every night and from 9 to 12 according to schedule. The contractor wants 15 annas a lamp per month. That would be Rs. 65,748 per year as against the present cost of Rs. 64,040. The Commissioner of Police wants the light lit till 3 o'clock in the early morning. But the question is whether lighting them from 6 to 9 at night and preventing accidents is not more important than lighting them in the mornings and preventing burglaries. I have received information from him about the number of accidents. The accidents that took place at night during the past 5 years number 117 as compared with 149 of the previous period of 5 years, that is, 32 in 5 years or on an average of 6 a year. As regards burglaries the figures for the years 1896-1897 and 1898 show a decrease of 61 as compared with the figures of 1886, 1887 and 1888 on which the Commissioner of Police adheres to his opinion that the street lamps should be lighted till 3 A.M. The Commissioners cannot do better than give the new scheme a trial.

MR. MUZHERUDDIN SAHIB:—If this is passed then it will come into force immediately.

THE PRESIDENT:—From the 1st of April.

Mr. V. C. DESIKACHARIAR:—I beg to propose "that the lamps should be lighted from 6 to 9 every night, and from 9 to midnight on dark nights, and that the scheme should be tried for the next two years, commencing as soon as possible."

Mr. P. Subramania Iyer seconded the proposition.

Mr. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—I am sorry that I cannot see my way to support this proposition. In the way of preventing accidents, the lighting of the city from 6 to 9 will be no improvement at all and as regards burglaries it will just be the same. When there are accidents during the day time, I cannot see how they can be prevented at nights by lighting the lamps from 6 to 9. Although we have got some surplus fund for meeting that expenditure at present, yet eventually we will have to raise the lighting tax. My own candid opinion is that if you are going to spend any more money on lighting, we ought to do so in introducing a better system of lighting, either by gas or electricity; and any proposition in that direction I shall be happy to support. I do not think this will be a blessing at all. In some streets there will be lights from 6 to 9 and you are going to spend the money only on a few streets. I, for one would therefore oppose the proposition.

THE PRESIDENT:—No, every lamp will be lighted.

Mr. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—If you are prepared to spend any money at all we ought to go in for a better system of lighting.

Mr. VARADAPPA NAIDU:—Have we got sufficient funds to meet this expenditure?

THE PRESIDENT:—We can go on for a couple of years. We have Rs. 17,000.

Mr. ELLIOT:—I presume there will be no objection to a slight departure from the time laid down. On certain days you can light the lamps at 6-30 instead of at 6 o'clock.

THE PRESIDENT:—There can be no advantage in that.

Mr. ELLIOT:—The lights would remain longer.

Mr. V. C. DESIKACHARIAR:—If nobody has anything to say I should like to say a few words by way of reply. I do not think it necessary to say anything in respect of this proposition. This subject has been before you for sometime and I did not expect that anybody would oppose it. Seeing that Mr. Pragasa Mudaliar has said that he for one would oppose it, I hope he will be the only one that would oppose it when the proposition is put to the vote. The reasons given by him are far from convincing. His argument is that in the day time there are accidents and why should we have any lights at all in the nights and that accidents take place not because of want of light, as there is plenty of light during the day; and his other argument is the old stock reason given whenever we try to make an improvement, that we ought not to try piecemeal experiments but should wait for a perfect system. I only say that you had better try this experiment for a year or so and it would be quite open to you to say at the end of the year whether you wish to go on with it or introduce a new system. Anyhow an increased taxation is inevitable in the course of a few years. Everybody seems to agree that the lighting is as bad as it can be and I think it would be wise to light the lamps in the early part of the night.

THE PRESIDENT:—There is one thing that I would remind you of. Even if you start with lighting the lamps from 6 to 9 from next month, and if it does not suit you there is no reason why you should not go back to the old system after a few months' trial.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

#### G.O. on the Administration Report for 1897-98.

THE PRESIDENT:—The next business is the consideration of G.O.'s Nos. 2200 and 2201 M., dated 17th December, 1898, reviewing the Administration Report for 1897-98.

I think, on the whole, the Government order is a satisfactory one.

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—Are you going to do anything about the Educational Department?

THE PRESIDENT:—It is left to the Director.

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—Let us ask him what he proposes to do.

THE PRESIDENT:—I can write to the Director and tell him that in view of the Government order we consider that something ought to be done in getting a better staff of masters.

G.O. was recorded.

#### The Revenue Officer's Pay.

THE PRESIDENT:—The next business is the consideration of the G.O., No. 4 M. Mis., dated 3rd January, 1899, increasing the present pay of the Revenue Officer by an annual increment of Rs. 25 and enquiring if the Commissioners will grant him a carriage allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem. Apparently the Commissioners would give him an increased increment. A carriage allowance does not carry with it the advantages of pension; and if the Commissioners wish it, there is no reason why they should not move for an increase of the increment.

Mr. MUZHERUDDIN SABIB:—Is he to get the carriage allowance, after he gets his maximum pay too.

THE PRESIDENT:—Yes. But he would not get to the maximum for twelve years.

Mr. R. N. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—The Resolution which I move runs in these terms.

"With reference to G.O., No. 4 M. Mis., dated 3rd January, 1899, the Commissioners observe that considering the valuable services already rendered by the R.O., the annual increment of Rs. 25 sanctioned by Government is inadequate, and beg to recommend that it may be raised; that bearing in mind the fact, that the efficiency of his work depend upon the extent of his out-door work which is admittedly very heavy and equally onerous, a carriage allowance of Rs. 100 may be sanctioned to enable him to maintain the requisite number of animals; and that in view of the fact that his work for the year 1897-98 was highly satisfactory and was characterised by Government as creditable, any increment which Government may be pleased to sanction, may take effect from 1st April, 1898."

I hope that the resolution before you is sufficiently expressive and will commend itself to you. Without taking up your time I should like to state very briefly my reasons for wording the resolution as it stands.

The R.O. has already completed some 16 years in Government services. In about 9 years or so he will put in a total service of 25 years, which will entitle him to half pension. He draws at present Rs. 400. At the rate of Rs. 25 per annum which Government has been pleased to fix, he will draw at the end of 9 years Rs. 400 + 225, that is, in all Rs. 625 at the time of retirement if it should take place on the completion of 25 years' service. This means that after serving in this Municipality for over 11 years he will not be entitled to draw even the maximum salary fixed by the Act. This is hardly encouraging to a promising officer. I have no doubt that this fact did not strike Government when the increment of Rs. 25 was fixed, and under these circumstances Government may be pleased to reconsider the order and to fix a higher increment, so that the R.O. may have the benefit of enjoying at least the maximum salary under the Act at the time of retiring, 9 years hence.

It may not be out of place to remind you that in the case of the H.O. Government has sanctioned only the other day an increment of Rs. 50. The position and responsibilities of the R.O. are by no means inferior to those of the H.O. and a distinction in the rate of increment in the case of the R.O. would be invidious and is hardly fair, at any rate it would damp the spirit of an energetic, hard-working and zealous officer.

Then as regards the carriage allowance it must be noted that the R.O. has to maintain two horses at least, not to speak of the hack carriage he will have to hire from time to time, and we know too well that we cannot get a carriage and horse on monthly hire for anything less than Rs. 60. It would not be beneficial to the Municipality for the R.O. to be out of pocket in the efficient discharge of his out-door work. It must not be forgotten that the R.O. did not court the Madras appointment. It was, as it were, forced on him. As stated by him in his letter to the President he was not a gainer financially by the transfer considering the cost of living and other expenses in Madras. The R.O. has to tread every inch of ground in the city for the efficient and satisfactory valuation of houses. The more he inspects, the more the revenue. If house taxation is to be improved this officer ought not to be sparing in his inspection work, and that he did not neglect this portion of his all-important work since the time he joined the department, is more than proved by the fact that the collection in 1897-98 shows an increase of a lakh of rupees against the preceding year. I am certain, therefore, that you will be at one with me in recommending to Government the grant of an allowance of Rs. 100.

Lastly, it is proposed by Government that the R.O. should draw the increment from 1st April, 1899; probably the date entered in the G.O. is a clerical error for April 1898. During the

year 1897-98 the R.O. has shown excellent work—he has collected a lakh of rupees over and above the previous year's collection. In submitting the Administration Report for that year, the Commissioners appreciated his work and commended him highly, and Government in reviewing the report characterised it as creditable. In the fitness of things, I consider that any increment which Government may be pleased to sanction should take effect from 1st April, 1898. To use the President's own words the R.O., in the discharge of his duties has not spared himself or his pocket and in the interest of the Municipality his good work is deserving of recognition.

MR. V. C. DESIKACHARIAR :—It would be better to split up the resolution into three parts.  
MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—Then I move :—“That with reference to the G.O., No. 4 M. Mis., dated 3rd January, 1899, the Commissioners beg to observe that considering the valuable services rendered by the Revenue Officer, the annual increment of Rs. 25 sanctioned by Government is inadequate, and recommend that it may be raised to Rs. 50.”

MR. MUZHERUDDIN SAHIB seconded the proposition.  
MR. E. H. ELLIOT :—I should suggest that it should be Rs. 60. The principle of Government is that a person who is in an appointment which carries with it increments, should reach the maximum in five years.  
The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—I now move the third part of my resolution next :—“That in view of the fact the work of the Revenue Officer for the year 1897-98 was highly satisfactory and was characterised by Government as creditable, any increment which the Government may be pleased to sanction may take effect from the 1st April 1898.”

MR. EARDLY NORTON seconded the proposition.  
MR. GURUSAWMI CHETTY :—Will the Accountant-General have any objection to it?  
THE PRESIDENT :—No. They very often give pay with retrospective effect.  
MR. E. H. ELLIOT :—If he is to draw the increment from April 1898, it means that it will really take effect from the time he took up. As the resolution stands, it means he will get it from April 1899.

THE PRESIDENT :—No. He will get it from April 1898.  
MR. S. GURUSAWMI CHETTY :—Did he ask for this retrospective effect?  
THE PRESIDENT :—He did not ask for anything definite, but only asked for something.  
MR. W. D. SMITH :—We don't want the rate-payer's money thrown away by giving him a lump sum.

MR. V. MASILAMANI PILLAI :—The effect of the resolution will be that we will be giving him away Rs. 1,200—i.e., Rs. 600 for the past year and Rs. 600 for the current year.  
MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY :—It is a mistake to suppose that we would be out of pocket by Rs. 1,200. If we commence the increment now, we will end it in 1905; but if we commence it in 1898, we will end it in 1904.

THE PRESIDENT :—You will be out of pocket by Rs. 600, because he will draw it a year sooner.  
MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY :—No Sir, we will only lose the interest on it. I would begin the increment in April 1898, because it would be some satisfaction to the officer concerned.

MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—I think Mr. Masilamani Pillai has not gone far enough. It is not Rs. 1,200, but Rs. 3,000 that we will pay, if we commence the increment in 1898. I don't mean to say that I am opposing the proposition.  
THE PRESIDENT :—You will only be losing Rs. 600.

MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY :—Not at all, Sir, we will only lose the interest on it.  
MR. V. C. DESIKA CHARIAR :—We will lose not Rs. 3,000 but Rs. 3,600.  
The resolution was then put to the vote and carried.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—Lastly I move the second part of the resolution :—“That bearing in mind the efficiency of the Revenue Officer's work depends on his out-door work, which is admitted to be very heavy and equally onerous, a carriage allowance of Rs. 100 be sanctioned to enable him to maintain the requisite number of horses.”

Mr. P. Subramania Iyer seconded the proposition.  
MR. M. VENKATARAMIAH CHETTY :—I should like to have it put as an alternative—it will be Rs. 50, if the Government approves of the first resolution, if not it will be Rs. 75.  
MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—I agree to have it at Rs. 50.  
With this alteration, the resolution was put to the vote and carried.

### Standing Committee's Proceedings.

THE PRESIDENT :—The next business is the consideration of the Proceedings of the Standing Committee, dated 15th December, 1898, and 6th January, 1899.

MR. EARDLEY NORTON :—I wish to say a word as to item No. 8 of the Proceedings of the 15th November.

“Read letter from the Deputy Collector of Madras, No. 1389, dated 22nd November, 1898, forwarding for signature and return a statement showing particulars of land along the backyards of houses in South Mada Street, Triplicane, required for a pathway for the scavengers and the details of the estimated cost of the acquisition amounting to Rs. 638-11-7. Resolved that the residents be asked if they will contribute half the cost.”

With regard to this I happen to know from personal knowledge that the locality in question is filthy, and the land is needed for sanitary arrangements in connection with latrines for the people. I also happen to know that the people in the locality are extremely poor. Upon this question there has been abundant literature. When the question was originally considered the estimated expenditure was Rs. 3,000, but now the land is placed at the disposal of the Municipality for a sum of Rs. 638. The suggestion now made is that the inhabitants should be called upon to pay one-half and the Municipality should contribute the other half. The President is himself aware that the land is needed for a public purpose, namely, the general health of the people, and as the people are not in a position to contribute the half share, it is only right that the Municipality should purchase the land. I therefore propose that “the land in question be purchased by the Municipality.”

THE PRESIDENT :—I have had a letter from them to say that they cannot pay any money.  
MR. EARDLEY NORTON :—That fortifies my opinion.  
MR. SUBRAMANIA IYER :—Some years ago the Standing Committee was prepared to undertake the whole expense which was considerably more than Rs. 638. There are 20 or 25 houses in that locality and I do not see why the Municipality should not bear that expenditure.  
MR. M. K. LAKSHMANACHARIAR :—The Sanitary Commissioner also remarked that it is essential to have the lane opened.

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—I beg to second the proposition. I suggested three years ago that a regular cart road should be laid out.  
MR. P. THEAGAROYA CHETTY :—Sometime ago when I was on the Standing Committee the subject came before the Committee, and I believe it was then resolved that the house owners should pay it. It would be better to refer the matter to the Standing Committee.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR :—As a party to the proceedings now objected to, I hope you will allow me to say a few words showing the reason why the Standing Committee came to such a decision. In past years there have been similar applications and it was made a rule where any arrangements are to be made to meet the convenience of house owners those parties should contribute a moiety, the Municipality contributing the other half. If you violate that rule by granting the whole amount out of Municipal Funds I think you will be creating a bad precedent. You will get innumerable applications and I do not think it would be fair to refuse them. I think we ought to follow the rule that we have been following for the last few years, namely, that where the convenience of parties and the convenience of sanitation, so far as the Municipality is concerned are blended together, both the parties are to undertake that expenditure in equal shares. I think we ought to apply that happy rule in this case. Do you consider, sir, that these people are absolutely poor?

THE PRESIDENT :—I cannot say.  
DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMACHARIAR :—If they pay the half and we pay the other half whose property does it become?

THE PRESIDENT:—It becomes Municipal property.

MR. EARDLEY NORTON:—There is a tank in that neighbourhood which in the wet weather gets flooded and the scavengers are not able to get to the place till the water subsides. It is with the object of meeting that difficulty this suggestion is made.

THE PRESIDENT:—They cannot get in even in dry season.

MR. EARDLEY NORTON:—As to the rule itself no one suggests that it is not a sound rule. But I believe the people in this locality are poor and deserve our help.

The proposition was then put to the vote and carried.

The rest of the proceedings were recorded.

### The Road Committee's Report.

THE PRESIDENT:—I beg to propose, that the report of the Road Committee appointed by the Commissioners at their Meeting held on the 28th February, 1898, be considered. The report of the Committee is not long. The Committee did not like to recommend any radical changes. Under the scheme proposed in the report there will be a dual system. Under the old liability system if the contractor failed we were left in the lurch, because we had no material. But under the system now proposed if the contractor fails under the liability system for one range, we can always fall back on the other range for a supply of materials which we will have in our depôts. If the man fails in the North Range we can do the work with the materials of the South Range. The proposal is that we should place the North Range under the liability system and the South Range under the present system.

Mr. P. Subramania Iyer seconded the proposition.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

MR. P. SUBRAMANIA IYER:—I beg to propose "that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted."

DIWAN BAHADUR V. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—I beg to second the proposition. My own experience 15 years ago as well as that of your predecessors in office was in favor of the liability system. We then found the roads remarkably good.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

### Amendment of the Municipal Act I of 1894.

MR. PRAGASA MUDALIAR:—I beg to propose "that as the experience of the past few years has shown that the City of Madras Municipal Act needs amendment under various sections, the President, as a Member of the Local Legislative Council, be requested to move at an early date for the introduction of a Bill to amend the Madras Municipal Act I of 1884." When I formulated this proposition I had this idea that the amendment of the Act could not be delayed for one moment longer because our timber-tax has to be raised and our schedule altered. Probably the Government has taken steps in that direction. However, the Act has been in force for the last 15 years and we have noticed from time to time various sections needed amendment for the better working of them. I do not think we can get a better opportunity of doing this than when the head of our corporation is an Honorable Member of the Council. I think he is the fittest person for introducing this Bill as he understands the practical wording of the Act and he is in a better position than any one else to say what particular sections need amendment.

MR. GURUSAWMY CHETTY:—Seconded the resolution.

THE PRESIDENT:—Gentlemen, with reference to this I was under the impression that there was a note in the Government office that a Bill of this nature was to be brought forward. As regards the timber-tax I have already asked the Government to introduce a short Bill which can be passed at one meeting of the council. I have also spoken about the amendment of the whole Act, but that cannot be passed at this session. I don't think there is much argument required in regard to this resolution.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

The meeting then terminated.

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Recd (3) 4/10/92

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 Thursday the 23rd February 1899, at 5-15 p.m., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

### PRESENT:

The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel Sir George Moore, Kt., C.I.B., President.

H. Ormerod, Esq.

M.R.Ry. P. Theagaraya Chetty Garu.

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

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.

M.R.Ry. P. V. Kistnasawmy Chetty Garu.

M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal.

J. DeCaster, Esq.

M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.

Captain F. J. Crawford, I.M.S.

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

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

Lieut.-Colonel J. Maitland, I.M.S.

### No. 1.

#### Revised Estimate for 1898-99.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. G. Subramania Iyer Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. S. Subbayya Chetty Garu—

"That the Revised Estimate for 1898-99 be passed."

Carried.

### No. 2.

#### Budget for 1899-1900.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. Theagaraya Chetty Garu and seconded by Mr. J. DeCaster—

"That the meeting resolve itself into Committee."

Carried.

The meeting resumes.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. C. Tirumalayya Naidu Garu—

"That the Budget, as revised in Committee, be passed for the following items:—

|                          | RS.       |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Receipts .. .. .         | 30,07,040 |
| Expenditure—             |           |
| Grant I—                 |           |
| 1. New Works—            |           |
| (a) Communications .. .. | 6,230     |
| (b) Buildings .. ..      | 52,500    |
| (c) Drainage .. ..       | 11,72,240 |
| (d) Water-supply .. ..   | 16,130    |
| (e) Miscellaneous .. ..  | 200       |

|                                            | RS.      |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| 2. Repairs—                                |          |
| (a) Communications .. ..                   | 1,09,490 |
| (b) Buildings .. ..                        | 11,160   |
| (c) Drainage, Repairs to Works, etc.       | 3,16,820 |
| (d) Water-supply .. ..                     | 1,06,890 |
| (e) Miscellaneous .. ..                    | 560      |
| 3. Establishment—                          |          |
| (a) General .. ..                          | 29,950   |
| (b) Steam Road-roller .. ..                | 1,580    |
| 4. Tools and Plant .. ..                   | 6,100    |
| 5. Miscellaneous .. ..                     | 18,470   |
| Grant II, Education .. ..                  | 14,550   |
| Grant III, Sanitation and Medical Services | 4,99,460 |
| Grant IV, Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes | 1,96,150 |
| Grant V, Supervision and Management—       |          |
| (1) Salaries .. ..                         | 30,050   |
| (2) Head Office .. ..                      | 7,120    |
| (3) Assessment and Collections .. ..       | 55,490   |
| (4) Contribution to Audit Establishment    | 3,000    |
| Repayment of debts, Sinking Fund .. ..     | 2,65,790 |
| Interests on Loan .. ..                    | 1,84,470 |
| Refunds .. ..                              | 5,000    |
| Pensions and Gratuities .. ..              | 5,810    |

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaraya Mudaliar Avargal—

"That during the official year 1899-1900 the taxes be levied as proposed in the Budget—

1. Tax on arts, professions, trades and callings (section 103).
2. Tax on salaries (section 114).
3. Tax on buildings and lands at 10 per cent. (section 119).
4. Payment for occupation of lands vested in the Commissioners (section 136).

3  
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5. Water-tax on buildings and lands at 4 per cent. in the populous parts of the City and 2 per cent. elsewhere (section 138).
6. Lighting-tax on buildings and lands at 1½ per cent. (section 148).
7. Tax on vehicles with springs and on animals (section 153).
8. Tax on carts and other vehicles without springs (section 164).
9. Tolls on vehicles and animals entering the municipal limits (section 170).
10. Tax upon places used for the retail sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors (section 179).

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. M. Sivangnana Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal—

"That the amount allotted in the Budget for law charges be passed on the understanding that no civil suit or criminal proceedings other than those provided for under the Act

be instituted or defended without the sanction of the Standing Committee."

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu—

"That in view of the proposed amendment of Section 165 and Schedules B and C of Act I of 1884, Government be moved to take this opportunity of altering Section 44 of the said Act by substituting the word 'five' for 'four' in it in furtherance of the wish expressed by Government in G.O., No. 758 M., dated 4th May 1896."

Carried.

The Meeting terminated.

G. M. J. MOORE, Lieut.-Col.,

President, Municipal Commission.

Municipal Office, Madras,  
February 1899.

Sum (2) to p. 72

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of an ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING of the MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS for the CITY of MADRAS, held at their Office Premises, No. 22, Errah Bauloo Chetty Street, Black Town, on Monday the 6th February 1899, at 5-15 P.M., under the provisions of the City of Madras Municipal Acts I and VII of 1884 and II of 1892.

PRESENT:

The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel Sir George Moore, Kt., C.I.E., President.  
H. Ormerod, Esq.

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

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

Cowasjee Eduljee, Esq.

M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu.

M.R.Ry. M. Venkataramiah Chetty Garu.

Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur.

Haji Mahomed Abdul Hadi Badsha Saheb.

M.R.Ry. N. Appusundaram Pillay Avargal.

M.R.Ry. C. S. Theagaroya Mudaliar Avargal.

E. H. Elliot, Esq.

Mir Muzheruddin Sahib Bahadur.

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 Pillay Avargal.

M.R.Ry. M. K. Lakshmana Charriar Avargal.

W. D. Smith, Esq.

Captain F. J. Crawford, I.M.S.

Eardley Norton, Esq.

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

M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal.

M.R.Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal.

#### No. 1.

Resolution No. 2 of the Commissioners at their Meeting held on 16th December 1898 deferring consideration of the question of the lighting of lamps in principal thoroughfares from 6 to 9 every night.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. V. C. Desika Charriar Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal—

"That the lamps be lighted from 6 to 9 every night, and 9 to 12 on dark nights."

Carried.

#### No. 2.

G.O., Nos. 2200 and 2201 M., dated 17th December 1898, reviewing the Administration Report for 1897-98.

Recorded.

#### No. 3.

G.O., No. 4 M., Mis., dated 3rd January 1899, increasing the present pay of the Revenue Officer by an annual increment of Rs. 25 and enquiring if the Commissioners will grant him a carriage allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by Mir Muzheruddin Sahib Bahadur—

"With reference to G.O., No. 4 M., Mis., dated 3rd January 1899, the Commissioners beg to observe that

considering the valuable services already rendered by the Revenue Officer the annual increment of Rs. 25 sanctioned by Government is inadequate and beg to recommend that it may be raised to Rs. 50."

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by Mr. Eardley Norton—

"That in view of the fact that his work for the year 1897-98 was highly satisfactory and was characterised by Government as creditable any increment which Government may be pleased to sanction may take effect from 1st April 1898."

Carried.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal—

"That bearing in mind the fact that the efficiency of his work depends upon the extent of his out-door work which is admittedly very heavy and equally onerous, a carriage allowance of Rs. 50 may be sanctioned to enable him to maintain the requisite number of animals."

Carried.

#### No. 4.

Proceedings of the Standing Committee, dated 15th December 1898 and 6th January 1899.

"With reference to Resolution No. 8 of the Proceedings dated 15th December 1898, viz.:—

"Read letter from the Deputy Collector of Madras, No. 1389-G.L., dated 22nd November 1898, forwarding for signature and return a statement showing particulars of

2  
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land along the backyards of houses in South Madah Street, Triplicane, required for a pathway for the scavengers and the details of the estimated cost of the acquisition amounting to Rs. 638-11-7.

"Resolved that the residents be asked if they will contribute half the cost."

Proposed by Mr. Norton and seconded by M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal—

"That the land in question be purchased."

Carried.

The rest of the proceedings were recorded.

#### No. 5.

The President proposed the following resolution of which he had given notice—

"That the Report of the Road Committee appointed by the Commissioners at their Meeting held on 28th February 1898, be considered."

M.R.Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal seconded.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. P. Subramania Iyer Avargal and seconded by M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charriar Avargal—

"That the report be adopted."

Carried.

#### No. 6.

M.R.Ry. R. N. Pragasa Mudaliar Avargal moved the following resolution of which he had given notice; seconded by M.R.Ry. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty Garu—

"That as the experience of the past few years has shown that the City of Madras Municipal Act needs amendment under various sections, the President, as a member of the Local Legislative Council, be requested to move at an early date for the introduction of a Bill to amend the Madras Municipal Act 1 of 1884."

Carried.

The Meeting then terminated.

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

Municipal Office, Madras,  
February 1899.

Genl. Dept.  
13.

G. No. 72

MUNICIPALITY OF MADRAS,

General Department,

Madras, 5 May 1899.

From

R. E. Ellis Esq. M.Inst.C.E.,  
The Hon'ble Lieut.-Col. SIR GEORGE MOORE, K.T., C.I. E.,

Ag. President, Municipal Commission.

To

The Secretary to Government,

Local and Municipal Department,

Fort St. George.

SIR,

EnclosureS

4

I have the honour to submit herewith for the information of Government full proceedings as also copies of abstract proceedings of the Meeting of the Commissioners held on 6th and 23rd February 1899.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

R. E. Ellis

Ag. President, Munl. Commn.

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When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.  
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ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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