M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 99.
205-207.

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 4-1 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th January 1867.

Read the following papers :—

No. 205. Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, (Railway), to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 24th November 1866, No. 12.

1. I have had under consideration in Council your Excellency's Despatches, Nos. 41 and 43, of the 22nd and 25th August last, relative to the amount of control to be exercised by the Government Consulting Engineer over proposed changes in Railway rates and fares within the maxima of the sanctioned scales.

2. There is no doubt that the meaning of the language of the Despatches addressed to your Government on this subject by Sir Charles Wood was, that after the maxima were fixed, no change should be made without the concurrence of the Consulting Engineer, and it does not seem desirable that the authority thus vested in that Officer should, for the present, be withdrawn. At the same time, I would recommend that the power should be sparingly exercised. The Railway Company's Agent has special facilities for observation, which ought apparently to make him a very competent judge of rates and fares, and if he suggests a change in the scale, of which the Consulting Engineer does not approve, the safest way of testing the merits of the suggestion would seem to be to allow the change to be temporarily made. This course might, I think, be advantageously adopted in the case particularly referred to in the Despatches from your Government now under reply. The Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway Company, under instructions from his Directors, desires, instead of merely reducing the second-class fare from 8 pies to 6, to abolish the intermediate fare altogether, and to have nothing between the present first-class fare of 1 anna 6 pies and the present third-class fare of five pies. The Agent and the Directors appear to be as confident that this measure would be a success, as the Consulting Engineer is that it would prove a failure, and neither side can be expected to alter its opinion unless the experiment be tried. By actual trial, however, the question would in a short time be settled conclusively, unless, indeed, the result should be the still more satisfactory one of convincing both parties that some compromise between their respective proposals would be preferable to the exact adoption of either.

—

Endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 3rd January 1867, No. 1 :—

No. 206. From the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 29th December 1866, No. 2,239.

1. The Secretary of this Company has forwarded to me copy of a Despatch he has received from the India Office, relative to changes of rates and fares in the maximum scale sanctioned by Government.

2. From this I gather that while Lord Cranborne does not think it advisable that the authority vested in the Consulting Engineer should, for the present, be withdrawn, he is at the same time of opinion that the proposed alteration of fares, which is particularly the subject of the more immediate correspondence, should be permitted to be made experimentally.

3. As a copy of this Despatch will doubtless have been furnished to the Madras Government, I shall feel obliged by your informing me if Government sanction my carrying out the arrangement referred to in my letter to you of the 26th June last, No. 2,068.

of the 26th June 1866

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
11th January 1867.

1. The Despatch to which the Agent refers has not yet been communicated to this Office.

2. The Orders respecting the proposed rates and fares are—
No. 2,229, dated 14th July 1866.
„ 2,508, „ 9th August „
„ 2,691, „ 24th „ „

3. I think that the proposed change of fares may well be postponed until the receipt of the Secretary of State's Despatch through the ordinary channel.

(Signed) J. C. ANDERSON, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 207. ORDER THEREON, 11th January 1867, No. 99.

RAILWAY, No. 12.

1. Ordered that the foregoing Despatch be communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

2. Under the opinion expressed by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, the Government withdraw their objections to the introduction of the arrangements proposed in Mr. Bett's letter of the 26th June 1866, No. 2,068, and sanction experimentally for six months, subject to report at the end of that period, the abolition of the second and third-class accommodation and fares on the Great Southern of India Railway, and the substitution for them of a single intermediate class at a fare of five pies per mile.

3. The Consulting Engineer will report from what date the Agent proposes to introduce these changes.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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No 1- 3

The Despatch to which the Agent refers has not yet been communicated to this Office.

2. The orders respecting the proposed rates and fares are.

No 2229 dated 14th July 166-
No 2508 dated 9th August 166-
No 2691 dated 24th August 166-

3. I think that the proposed change of fares may well be postponed until the receipt of the Secretary of State's Despatch through the ordinary channel.

Dft Cobbe

Madras
9th Jany 67

J Anderson
Consulting Engineer for Railways

To,
The Secretary to Government.
Public Works Dept
Fort Saint George.

of the 26th June 1866

No. 239

GREAT SOUTHERN OF INDIA RAILWAY.

AGENT'S OFFICE.

NEGAPATAM, 27th Decr 1866.

From

THE AGENT,

Great Southern of India Railway,

To

The Consulting Engineer for Railways
Madras.

SIR,

The Secretary of this Company has forwarded to me copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for India relative to the Tolls and Fares in the Maximum Schedule sanctioned by Government

2nd From this despatch I gather that while Lord Cranborne does not think it advisable that the authority vested in the Consulting Engineer should be withdrawn he is of the decided opinion that the proposed alterations of fares solicited in particular by the subject of this minute immediately corresponded, should be permitted the roads experimentally.

of the 26th June 1866 >

Pro: 14th July 1866 N° 332 - 333
" 4th August " 182 @ 184
" " " 562 - 563
" 24 " "

P. W. 1867 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for January 1867 No 25

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

From

The Consg. Engineer for Railways,

To

The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Dept.

Dated 9th January 1866.
Received 14
No. 1

Enclosures, No.

Observations on a letter from the Agent G.I.P.Ry, relative to the rates & fares.

No 205

No. 99 - 11th Jany 1867.

3 — As a copy of this despatch will doubtless have been furnished to the Madras Government, I shall feel obliged by your informing me, if Government sanction my carrying out the arrangement referred to in my letter to you of date 26th June last, No: 2068.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient &
humble Servt
William Betts.

Dated 14th July 1866
Rec'd 23rd January 1867

No 99 Consulting Engineer's Office
Madras

To
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 205 of the 11th instant, forwarding for my information a copy of a letter from the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, dated the 26th June last, No: 2068, and in reply to request that I will favor you with my observations thereon.

2. In the absence of the Agent of the Company, I am unable to offer any remarks on the proposal to increase the rates and fares —

I have &c
(Signed) W. Paterson
Consulting Engineer.

Council

Railway — Public Works Dept

No 99

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 11th January 1867

From the Secy of State for India

Read the following

From the Consg Engineer for Railways

Nº 12 - 24 June/66.

Forwarded 8th Janry 1867

No 1.

Ordered that the foregoing Despatch be communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Under the opinion expressed by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, the Government withdraw their objections to the introduction of the arrangements proposed in Mr. Bell's letter of the 26th June 1866 >

No. 2068, and sanction
experimentally for six
months, subject to report
at the end of that period,
the abolition of the second
and third class accom
modation and fares
on the Great Southern
of India Railways, and
the substitution for them
of a single intermediate
class at a fare of five
pies per mile.

The Consulting Engineer will report from what date the Agent proposed to introduce these changes.

To
10. The Comptr.
for Railways.
Despr. 12 January

Sketch from the Secy: of State relative to the proposed changes in rates and Fares on the G. S. J. R. Communicated, with remarks, by the Engr. Engineer.

£205 @ 20/-