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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2118	Press
45-76		Mis.
Dated	6-9-	1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th September 1872.*

No. 75. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Railway,) dated Simla, 12th August 1872, Nos. 1,286—91-G.R.:—

Proposal for a conference of the Auditors and local Examiners of Accounts of Guaranteed Railways to consider general rules and standard forms for dealing with traffic accounts and their audit, also to consider the question of the desirability of establishing a clearing-house for Indian Railways.

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution Nos. 561-65 R., dated the 29th March 1871.

Read also the following papers:—

Letter from the Oudh Administration, No. 2,154, dated 13th October 1871, and enclosure.

Docket from Joint Secretary to Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, No. 1,269 G., dated 19th June 1871, and enclosure.

Public Works Department No. 1,216 R., dated 12th July 1871, to ditto.

Letter from ditto No. 1,577 G., dated 1st August 1871, and enclosure.

Letter from Secretary to Government, Bombay, in the Public Works Department, (Railway,) No. 1,281, dated 19th October 1871, and enclosures.

Letter from Secretary to Government, Bombay, in the Public Works Department, (Railway,) No. 1,468, dated 6th December 1871, and enclosure.

Letter from Secretary to Government, Madras, in the Public Works Department, (Railway,) No. 1,400, dated 6th June 1872, and enclosure.

RESOLUTION.—The papers now read are the replies of the Local Governments and of the Oudh Administration to Public Works Department Resolution Nos. 561-65 R. of the 29th March 1871, calling for an expression of their opinions and those of the Agents of the several Guaranteed Railway Companies on the proceedings of a conference which was held in Calcutta in January 1871, to consider the question of the form of vehicles most suitable for railway traffic in India, and the best mode of working the traffic; also, on the proposal to hold an annual conference composed of Government and Railway officers, to discuss railway questions of general interest. The Punjab Government has not replied. In the present resolution on the subject, matters connected with accounts are dealt with.

2. Opinions are divided as to the present necessity for a clearing-house on the English system, the majority of authorities considering that one is not yet needed. There is a general agreement in favour of annual meetings of the Government and Railway officials.

3. Although it may not yet be necessary to establish a clearing-house, the Government of India are of opinion that the time has arrived for laying down, if possible, some general rules and standard forms for dealing with the traffic accounts and audit of the several railways in India, in view to a uniformity of system being attained, and there appears to be no better step towards bringing about such a result than that of holding a conference of the Auditors and local Examiners of the several railways. But before these officers meet to discuss the several systems in force on their respective railways, it appears desirable that each Auditor should draw up a full account of his own system, and prepare a complete set of the forms of accounts, which should be circulated for discussion and thorough

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th September 1872.*

comprehension by the other Auditors and Government Examiners of Accounts. Copies of the descriptions of procedure and forms in force on each railway should also be sent forward to the Government of India and the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, with as little delay as possible.

4. Time, place, and the officers of the Railway and Account Branches representing Government, will be hereafter named, but it may now be stated that the conference should be assembled with the full understanding that the decision of the majority, as regards the procedure and forms to be followed, shall be recommended for adoption on all Indian Railways, both Guaranteed and State. A conference thus assembled may, the Governor-General-in-Council is of opinion, be held with advantage, and a fair hope of a good practical result being attained.

5. The question of the necessity or desirability of establishing a clearing-house for Indian Railways is one that can be most fitly dealt with by the proposed conference, and this matter should be gone into thoroughly and exhaustively with a view to a recommendation on the subject being sent forward.

ORDER.—Ordered that this Resolution and copies of the papers now read be communicated to the Governments and officers named in the margin for information and early action in connection with the officers of the several Guaranteed Railway Companies with a view to the assembly of the proposed conference in the ensuing cold weather:

(Signed) H. DRUMMOND, Colonel, R. E.,
Officiating Deputy Secretary.

No. 76. ORDER THEREON, 6th September 1872, No. 2,118.

RAILWAY, No. 15.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Engineer and the Examiner of Railway Accounts for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
.. Examiner of Railway Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY.

To

Nos. 1286—91 G—R.

Dated Simla, 12th August 1872.

Received. 26th — 1872

London Due

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer & the Examiner of Railways Accounts for information & guidance.

No 2118-6-Sept/72

Proposal for a conference of the Auditors and local Examiners of Accounts of Guaranteed Railways, to consider general rules and standard forms for dealing with traffic accounts and their audit, also to consider the question of the desirability of establishing a clearing-house for Indian Railways.

With Order

Sept 14²

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS. ✓

To The Consulting Engg
for Railways

Date:

Recd.

Encl. / 1

G. O., September 1879, No. 2118.

Nos. 75 & 76

Accounts. No. 75

Govt of India forwarding
a resolution regarding
the proposal for a con-
ference of the Auditors &
local examiners of accounts
of Government Railways to con-
sider general rules & standard
forms for dealing with traffic
accounts & their audit and the
desirability of re-establishing a
clearing house for Indian Railways
concerned.