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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

P. L. 10-128.

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<i>1714</i>	Press
B.P. No.	<i>1718.</i>	Mis.
Dated	<i>3-7</i>	18 <i>72.</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd July 1873.*

No. 47. Read the following Docket of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Buildings and Roads—Military), dated Simla, 4th June 1873, Nos. 879-91 B—M. :—

Copy of the following corrected regulations forwarded to the Inspector-General of Military Works, and to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, for information and guidance.

Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Punjab.
Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, British Burma and Ouda.
Resident at Hyderabad.
Agents to Governor-General, Central India and Rajpootana.
Superintendent of Port Blair.

(By order,)

(Signed) GORDON COTTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

A printed copy of the following precautions is to be hung up in a conspicuous place in every regimental quarter-guard.

P. W. CODE, CHAP. XXI, SEC. IV, PARA. 44.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN AGAINST FIRE.

REGULATION.

Paragraph 22, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.
Paragraphs 27 and 32, Section XI, Military Regulations.
Quarter Master General's Circular No. 891 B., 5th October 1864.

Paragraph 23, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.
Paragraphs 28 and 34, Section XI, Military Regulations.
G. O., No. 342, 5th July 1869.
G. O. C. C., 15th March 1865.

Paragraph 24, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.
Paragraph 29, Section XI, Military Regulations.
G. O. C. C., 30th March 1869.

Paragraph 25, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.
Paragraphs 30 and 35, Section XI, Military Regulations.

Paragraph 26, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

1. No fires, except in regularly constructed fire-places, are to be permitted either during the day or night in any quarters. This prohibition must be strictly attended to in quarters occupied by married soldiers; but when pans of burning charcoal are used in buildings during damp weather under proper authority, they must be protected by light bamboo frames.

2. All lights, whether candles, lamps, or chiraghs, must be protected by lanterns or shades, and no fire is to be carried about on windy days, unless properly covered, either in the lines or barracks.

The above order is applicable to all Government quarters, whether occupied by Officers, Warrant Officers, Staff Serjeants, or others.

3. The discharge of firearms, or fire-works of any kind, in the lines near thatch-roof barracks, or other thatched buildings, the property of the State, is strictly prohibited.

4. The launch of fire balloons in and about Military Cantonments is strictly prohibited. Officers Commanding Stations should take every precaution for the prevention of such a practice which so greatly endangers property in a country where buildings of inflammable material are so numerous.

5. No stacks or collections of dry grass, straw, or other inflammable material, mat or jhamp enclosures, thatched huts, tents, cooking places, or choolahs, are allowed within 100 yards of any barrack, stable, or other large public building having a thatched roof.

Tents pitched for the temporary accommodation of troops, or any other purpose, are not to be pitched in the direction of the prevailing wind, but as much as possible to leeward of the buildings.

6. No hookah smoking is to be allowed in Cavalry stables during certain hours of the night to be fixed by the Local Military Authorities.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd July 1873.*

Paragraphs 37, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

• Altered by Circular of Government of India No. 1,173 B-M, dated 21st September 1872.

Paragraph 31, Section XI, Military Regulations.

Paragraph 33, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

G. O. C. C., 9th April 1859.
Paragraph 39, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Circular.
Quarter Master General's Office,
14th June 1861.

REGULATION.

Paragraphs 29 and 30, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.
Paragraph 26, Section XI, Military Regulations.

Quarter Master General's Circular
No 56 B., 7th July 1864.

G. O. C. C., 5th November 1861.

Paragraph 117, Section V, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

G. O. C. C., 21st March 1862.

Para. 119, Section V, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Para. 37, Section XI, Military Regulations.
Circular No. 2,342 B., dated 16th September 1863.

7. Barrack-Masters in charge of barracks provided with ventilators will cause them to be inspected weekly, and will prevent the accumulation of any inflammable materials therein; chimneys* will be in like manner inspected at the beginning of the cold season, and swept regularly during the season, under the superintendence of the Public Works Department.

When fires are used in public buildings, all chimneys shall be swept monthly, and the fact certified.

8. All unmustered followers who may be residing in the lines of Corps must be required to observe strictly the rules respecting precautionary measures against fires, as a condition of their being permitted to reside there.

9. The practice of burning fires at night in barracks at hill stations is strictly prohibited; all fires must be extinguished after tattoo beating. In hospitals fires may be burnt at night at the discretion of Medical Officers.

All fires in any buildings, cook-room, etc., connected with barrack ranges, are to be extinguished exactly at the prescribed hour, and all inflammable materials carefully removed from the vicinity of the fire.

10. Barrack ranges to be provided with water for use in case of fire should be supplied to all buildings having thatched roofs; the number of pots to be kept full by the Executive Engineer and Local Authorities.

For Barrack buildings of European Corps are supplied by the Commissariat Department, but kept full by the Barrack-Master under the Quarter Master.

For Native troops, at the rate of 10.0 per Troop or Company, to be kept full by the Quarter Masters, and be kept full by the Barrack-Master.

Commanding Officers are held strictly responsible that the number of pots to be kept full is regulated number always maintained. Barrack buildings are supplied in the first instance by the Commissariat Department, and kept full by the Barrack-Master occupying or using the building.

11. In all Barrack buildings, European or Native, and public buildings, when empty, it is the duty of the Executive Engineer to keep a number of pots complete and filled.

Where tanks have been constructed, and buckets have superseded water-pots, the buckets are to be suspended on ropes in the barrack verandah nearest the water-tanks.

12. Fire-engines are allowed to Regiments of European Cavalry and Infantry, and Batteries of Artillery having thatched stables, and to European Cavalry Regiments with thatched stables, one extra. One spare is also allowed at large stations.

They are under charge of Regimental Authorities, and should be kept with their appurtenances in sheds near the quarter-guards of Corps, or near the stables.

The pistons and centres of motion should be kept greased with an impure kind of fat or tallow, boiled down with sweet oil, to be obtained from the Commissariat Department on requisition.

13. Every engine with its hose must be worked weekly to ensure its efficiency. Officers Commanding Corps or Detachments to which they are attached are directed to train a portion of the men of each Company to work them.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd July 1873.*

Para. 31, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Para. 40, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Para. 40, Section XI, Military Regulations.

Altered by para. 14 of Circular No. 1 of 1873, from Inspector-General, Military Works.

Para. 35 and 39, Section XI, Military Regulations.

Para. 41, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Para. 42, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Para. 21, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

Para. 3, Circular.

Quarter Master General's Office, 14th June 1861.

G. O. C. C., 3rd November 1863.

Para. 43, Section IV, Chapter XXI, Public Works Code.

* "Addenda" of 1863, page 3.

At weekly practice only one length of hose to be used, and after use, properly cleaned, and when perfectly dry, greased, and put away.

13. The Executive Engineer and Barrack-Master are responsible that proper provision is made for securing at all times an ample supply of water for the engines in tanks capable of being filled from wells or otherwise.

14. When buildings requiring protection are left vacant, Executive Engineer will apply to the Superintending Engineer for the entertainment of the requisite number of Chowkeedars, who should be duly warned of their responsibility as regards fire, and should occasionally be visited by Barrack Sergeants during the night to see that they are vigilant.

15. Commanding Officers are required to impress on the men under their command the necessity of adopting every precaution for the prevention of fires, as compensation for loss by them is admissible only when they appear to have broken out through sheer accident, and it is satisfactorily established that they have not occurred from want of proper care and attention on the part of the Regiment, or through any deviation from the Regulations.

No compensation is admissible for Native Soldiers' huts destroyed by fire.

16. Executive Engineers and Commanding Officers of Stations are required to draw the attention of Commanding Officers of Stations to any instance in which the foregoing rules have been neglected.

17. Commanding Officers of Stations are held responsible that due attention is paid to the orders on the subject of precautions against fire, and that no infringement or neglect of them hereafter occurs.

18. Reward of Rs. 50 may be offered in cases where the origin of a fire may appear doubtful.

* To ensure which Bheasties may be entertained when regimental establishments are unequal to the performance of this duty.

Corrected up to date.

19th April 1873.

No. 48.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd July 1873, No. 1,717.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 4.

COMMUNICATED to District Engineers and to the Inspecting Engineer for Buildings, for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To District Engineers.
To the Special Executive Engineer, Wynad.

" Inspecting Engineer for Buildings.

" Military Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

Spare Copies.

A. 3392.

To

Nos. 2879 B-M.

Dated SIMLA, ^{4th June} May, 1873.

Received 11th Decr 1873-

Precautions to be taken against fire.

P. W. D. Process-28-5-73 -22.

Wm. van Buren

1717

Communicated to District Engineer and to the Engineering Engineer for Buildings for information & guidance.

Billings

At Burgin ✓
Ex. Exim. Office ✓
J. Edgar Hoover ✓
Judy Adams

Book 10/7/73

h: 47-48.

Op. 3392

To District Commr.

3rd July 1747.

1748.

Precautions to be taken against
Fire:- Docket from the
Govt of India forwarding
a copy of precautions to
be taken against fire,
Comd. to Officers of the
Dept.