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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1603-04

Press

B.P. No.

Mis.

Dated

16-8-

6874

195-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
16th June 1874.*

No. 321. Read the following endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 22nd May 1874, No. 313:—

From R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 21st May 1874, No. 445.

In reply to your letter, No. 278, dated the 24th of March last, I have the honour to inform you that every Station-master in the service of this Company, without exception, possesses a good colloquial knowledge of one or other of the Vernacular languages, and that all officials (such as goods clerks, booking clerks, etc.,) having personal dealings with travellers and traders are required to possess a perfect knowledge of the language of the district in which they serve.

2. As regards the officers of the Traffic Department the first essential is that they should possess a thorough knowledge of railway working, and as we have to obtain from England men possessed of railway experience, we can scarcely look for a knowledge of the Vernaculars as well, though there can be no doubt that such a knowledge, while not absolutely necessary, would be very desirable and extremely useful.

3. In the year 1864, a proposition was sanctioned* by the Government and the Board to the effect that "a reward of Rupees 240 should be granted to

Engineers who, within twelve months after arrival in India, shall pass a colloquial examination in the Vernacular languages," and of "Rupees 260 in addition to those who at any time shall pass a further examination in reading and writing the same."

4. This sanction has been duly made known to Engineers on their arrival at Madras, but up to the present time only four of them have passed the required examination, in each of the cases the language selected having been Hindoostani.

5. I am of opinion that the object contemplated by the Government of India would be best promoted by holding out to all Covenanted Officers in the Agents, Locomotive, and Traffic Departments, some such inducement as is now offered to Engineers. I would recommend that in the case of all the first test should be made more severe than it has hitherto been, and that the second examination be dispensed with; the full reward of Rupees 500 being given to successful candidates on passing the test, and option being given to all Covenanted Officers in the departments mentioned to offer themselves for examination at any time while in the service instead of its being limited to those who have been less than twelve months in the country.

From W. S. BETTS, Esq., Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 30th March 1874, No. 5,456.

Your letter No. 148 of the 24th instant, every member of our station staff and of our train staff is able to communicate freely with natives of the country in their own tongue. In fact, with one exception, all our Station-masters are Natives.

Madras, 27th May 1874.

From

R. B. Clavin Esq.
Agent and Manager. M. R. Co.

To

Lt Col. H. M. Shaw Stewart, C.E.
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 27th dated the 24th of March last, I have the honour to inform you that every Station Master in the service of this Company, without exception, possesses a good colloquial knowledge of one or other of the vernacular languages, and that all officials, (such as Goods Clerks, Booking Clerks &c.) having personal dealings with Travellers and Traders, are required to possess a perfect knowledge of the language of the District in which they serve -

As regards the Officers of the Traffic Department the first essential is that they should possess a thorough knowledge of Railway working, and as we have to obtain from England men possessed of Railway experience, we can scarcely look for a knowledge of the Vernacular as well, though there can be no doubt that such a knowledge, while not absolutely necessary,

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
16th June 1874.

2. During the thirteen years I have had charge of this railway it has not before been intimated to me that the officers or heads of departments should possess a good colloquial knowledge of the languages spoken, and, therefore, nothing has been done to secure its attainment. The whole of the business at head-quarters is conducted in the English language, and none but clerks able to read and write in that language are employed. The time of the heads of departments is so fully occupied that I consider they would be placed at a great disadvantage were they now called upon to study one or two languages. I do not consider it a necessity that such officers should be so called upon, but still if Government wish that rewards be offered to those who are able to pass an examination within a certain time I will, on learning the further views of Government, communicate with the Board of Directors on the subject.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government in reply to their Order, dated the 20th March 1874, No. 774.

2. I agree with the Agent of the Madras Railway Company that it would be desirable to hold out to the Covenanted Officers in the Agents, Locomotive and Traffic Departments, as well as to those in the Engineering Department, an inducement to acquire a colloquial knowledge of the language spoken in the part of the Presidency to which they are attached. For this purpose it seems to me that some such scale of rewards as was laid before* in February 1864 may be considered suitable. The great object is to secure that as many officers as possible shall possess an adequate colloquial knowledge of the language spoken by the people; and with this view I am of opinion that it would be well to retain two tests, or, if there is to be only one test, that it should not go beyond what is required for colloquial purposes.

* Proceedings of Government, 3rd March 1864, No. 136.

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 322.

ORDER THEREON, 16th June 1874, No. 1,603.

RAILWAY, No. 57.

ORDERED that these papers be forwarded to the Government of India with reference to their letter, dated 14th March 1874, No. 479 G.R.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 323.

(DOCKET No. 1,604, dated 16th June 1874.)
Copy of the above forwarded to the Government of India.
(True Extract.)

Ext. E. C. Shunker,
Spare Copies.

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

would be very desirable and extremely useful.

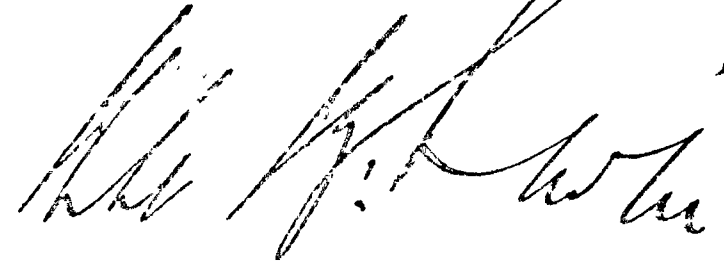
Order of the
Railway Board.

3. In the year 1864 a proposition was sanctioned by the Government and the Board to the effect that "a reward of Rs. 240 should be granted to Engineers who within 12 months after arrival in India shall pass a Colloquial examination in the vernacular languages" and of Rs. 260 in addition to those who at any time shall pass a further examination in reading and writing the same".

4. This sanction has been duly made known to Engineers on their arrival at Madras but up to the present time only four of them have passed the required examination, in each of the cases the language selected having been Hindoostani.

5. I am of opinion that the object contemplated by the Government of India would be best promoted by holding out to all Commissioned Officers in the Agents, Locomotive and Traffic Departments some such inducement as is now offered to Engineers - I would recommend that in the case of all the first test should be made more severe than it has hitherto been and that the second examination be dispensed with the full reward of Rs. 500 being given

40-5
to successful candidates, on passing the
test, and option being given to all
Commissioned Officers in the departments
mentioned to offer themselves for exami-
nation at any time while in the service
instead of its being limited to those who
have been less than 12 months in the
country.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant

Agent and Manager.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager

To

The Consulting Engineer

for Railway

Dated

187

Recd

No.

No. 5456

GREAT SOUTHERN OF INDIA RAILWAY.

AGENT'S OFFICE,

NEGAPATAM, 30 March 1874

From

THE AGENT,

Great Southern of India Railway,

To

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways
Madras

SIR,

Your letter No 148 of the 24th Instant. — Every member of our Station staff and of our Train staff, is able to communicate freely with natives of the country in their own tongue. In fact, with one exception, all our Station masters are natives.

During the thirteen years I have had charge of this Railway it has not before been intimated to me that the Officers or Heads of Departments should possess a good colloquial knowledge of the languages spoken, and therefore nothing has been done to secure its attainment. The whole of the business at Head Quarters is conducted in the English language, and none but clerks able to read and write in that language are employed. The time of the Heads of Departments is so fully occupied that I consider they would be placed at a great disadvantage were they

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager.

To

The Consulting Engineer

125. 27/6/74
21/7/74
22. 32/7/74Dated 21st May 1874
Recd 22.

M. 445.

Referring to the inquiry made by the Government as to whether the Officers and servants of the Company possess a colloquial knowledge of the vernacular.

M. 3069/74.

They now called upon to study one or two
languages. I do not consider it a necessity
that such officers should be so called
upon, but still if Government wish that
rewards be offered to those who are
able to pass an examination within a
certain time I will on learning the further
views of Government communicate with
the Board of Directors on the subject.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant

William Stetson.

Agent

View

The Agent

U. S. R.

To

The Consulting Eng.
for Railways.

dated 30th March

Recd. 1. April

h.c.

1911

No. 5456

Regarding
colloquial languages

D. G. 7/16 June/74

See B 11.321

M. 3069/74
2

Railway Department. Consulting Engineer's office
No. 313

Submitted for the information of Government in reply to their Order dated the 20th March 1874, No 774.

2. I agree with the Agent of the Madras Railway Company that it would be desirable to hold out to the Government Officers in the Agents, Locomotive and Traffic Departments, as well as to those in the Engineering Department, an inducement to acquire a colloquial knowledge of the language

language spoken in the part of the
Presidency to which they are attached.
For this purpose it seems to me
that some such scale of rewards as
was laid before in February 1861,
may be considered suitable. The
great object is to secure that as
many officers as possible shall
possess an adequate colloquial
knowledge of the language spoken
by the people; and with this
view I am of opinion that it
would be well to retain two tests,
or, if there is to be only one test,
that it should not go beyond
what is required for colloquial
purposes.

Pro. of Govt.
3 Dec. 1861
No 136

purposes.

Madras
22 May
1874

Ed
Reit. H.

Lo.

Maintenance
Asst. At
Genl. Engineer for Railways

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort Saint George.

P. M. 1884 Sept 5
J. M. 1884 No. 3069

The Committee Engineer

Per Secretary

The Secretary to House

to the House

and the House

dated 22nd Dec 1884

1884 23rd Dec 1884

Jackman's letter

from the State of the

the 1st of the House

expressing their opinion

upon the subject of the

affairs they advanced

PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVT. OF INDIA

3069

The Engineer

to the Govt of India

1884 23rd Dec 1884

NO. 321/323

Memorandum (Railway)

Ordered that the papers

containing the opinions

of the Agents of the Madras

Government on the subject of the

proposed being referred to the

Office in the Govt of India

to the Govt of India

to the Govt of India

to the Govt of India

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