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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

2926

B.P. No.

Press

Original

Mis.

Dated

13 10

195

1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th October 1875.*

No. 205. Read the following letter from Captain L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 27th September 1875, No. 94 W.:—

With reference to G. O., No. 2,219, dated 31st July 1875, I have the honor to inform you that the Committee appointed under G. O., No. 1,769, of the 24th June 1875, will assemble at Madras on the 4th proximo.

2. After the Committee have come to a decision on the modifications necessary in order to adapt to this Presidency those portions of the Government of India Public Works Code that deal with the accounts of the Executive Officers, it will be advisable for me to consult with other departments as to the general suitability of those portions of the Public Works Code which relate to the exchange accounts between the Public Works and other departments.

3. I have already discussed this question with the Board of Revenue, and I herewith enclose, for the information of Government, a copy of the correspondence that has taken place. Should Government approve, I should be much obliged by an Officer of the Civil Accounts and Military Control Department being deputed to meet me at any time after the 20th October for the purpose of settling the whole system of exchange accounts between the departments concerned.

4. Even had no change of system been contemplated, the advisability of some such discussion would probably have been suggested by certain papers lately submitted to Government. As regards exchange accounts with the Military Department, I may mention the two cases regarding the adjustment of the cost of the working pay of Sappers employed on Public Works, and the late case of embezzlement of the rent of Military buildings at Bangalore; and as regards the Civil Accounts, the papers recorded with G. O., No. 191, dated 26th August 1871, as well as a list of differences in the books of the Civil and Public Works Departments which have been outstanding for years.

No. 206.

ORDER THEREON, 13th October 1875, No. 2,926.

ACCOUNT, No. 9.

THE Controller will make any proposals regarding exchange accounts which may be necessary after he has prepared, under the instructions contained in G. O., No. 2,827, dated 30th September 1875, that part of a revised Code relating to accounts.

2. The Committee alluded to in his letter was dissolved by the order quoted.
(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 17th September 1875.

Read the following letter from Captain L. CONWAY-GORDON, Controller of Public Works Accounts, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Fort Saint George, 7th September 1875, No. 25-B:—

I REGRET the long delay that has occurred in replying to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 1,134, dated 3rd May 1875. The matter has, however, not been overlooked, and the delay has been inevitable owing to the late decision of Government to introduce into the Madras Presidency the system of accounts prescribed by the Public Works Code of the Government of India slightly modified to suit local requirements.

2. A Committee of Public Works Officers has lately been appointed to consider the form these modifications should take, and it appeared to me unnecessary, until the system of accounts to be kept in the executive offices was decided upon, to trouble the Board with proposals which, even if approved of, would be liable to be altered almost as soon as introduced.

3. I anticipate by the 15th October to have matters sufficiently advanced to take up the whole subject of the Local Fund Public Works accounts, and I should be glad if about that date the Board could be kind enough to depute an officer to join our Committee and personally settle the whole question.

4. Besides this particular subject of the accounts to be rendered by the Public Works Department Executive and Control offices to the Presidents of Local Fund Boards, there appear other subjects which would be better by being ventilated. For instance the exchange accounts between the Public Works Department and the Forest Department; the communication to the Accountant-General, Madras, and the Controller of Public Works Accounts of the sanctions given by the Board; the proper classification of Local Fund receipts and expenditure; and, finally, the modifications required in the Local Fund budgets in order that the Provincial grants in aid may be shown under Service heads and so accounted for in the Public Works Department Provincial Appropriation accounts as required by the orders of the Government of India.

THE Board's Acting Secretary will join the proposed Committee.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

FROM

THE CONTROLLER,
PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNTS.

TO

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, 27 September 1875.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No. 2219 dated July 31st 1875, I have the honor to inform you that the Committee appointed under G.O. No. 1769 of the 21st June 1875, will assemble at Madras on the 4th proximo.

After the Committee have come to a decision on the modifications necessary in order to adapt to this Presidency those portions of the Government of India Public Works Code that deal with the accounts of the Executive Officers, it will be advisable for me to consult with other Departments as to the general suitability of those portions of the Public Works Code which relate to the exchange

1875.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

17.12.20/7

PROCEEDINGS, 17th SEPTEMBER 1875, No. 2, 605.

Encl.

Received

SEPTEMBER.

No. 2, 605.

Accounts, System of—prescribed by Public Works Code of Government of India.—Controller of Public Works Accounts informed that Revenue Board's Acting Secretary will join the Committee appointed to consider how certain modifications are to be carried out in—to suit local requirements.

accounts between the Public Works
and other Departments.

3. I have already discussed
this question with the Board of
Revenue, and I herewith enclose for
the information of Government a copy
of the correspondence that has taken
place. Should Government approve,
I should be much obliged by an
officer of the Civil Accounts and
Military Control Department being
deputed to meet me at any time
after the 20th October for the purpose
of settling the whole system of
exchange accounts between the Depart-
ments concerned.

4. Even had no change of
system been contemplated, the admi-
nistrability of some such discussion would
probably have been suggested by
certain papers lately submitted to
Government. As regards exchange
accounts with the Military Department,

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10/10/1891

I may mention the two cases regarding
the adjustment of the cost of the
working party of Sappers employed on
Public Works, and the late case of
employment of the rent of Military
Buildings at Bangalore. And, as
regards the Civil accounts, the papers
recorded with G.O. No. 191, dated 28th
August 1891, as well as a list of
differences in the books of the Civil
and Public Works Departments
which have been outstanding for
years.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

Lowrey-Jordon

Controller of P.W. Accounts.

6/10/91

Xd. A.

31 July / 75 No 839-860
 26 June / 75 494-496
 20 April / 75 49-52
 5 Sept / 74 109-110
 11 June / 73 142
 31 Oct / 74 698-702

P. W. 1895-96

From
The Controller

to Mr. Secy

The Secretary
Public Works Department

Recd 27 Sept
 Recd 28 Sept

No 94 Tr.

defines the date
 which the Comm
 will assemble
 remarks on
 portions of the
 Code of the
 of India as
 accounts of each
 Officer to be a

G.O. No 2926. 1.

No 205

Cri - 2-10-75
 29-9-75

No 2926 Public Works Dept.
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Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 13th Oct. 1895
 Read the following

From
 The Contr. of Public
 Works Accounts } (G.O. No 94 W/24th Sept 75)

M/10

1/1

The Controller
 will make any proposals
 regarding exchange of
 Accounts which may
 be necessary after he
 has prepared, under
 the instructions contain-
 ed in G.O. No 2827 dated
 30th September 1895, that
 part of a revised Code
 relating to Accounts.
 The

[Handwritten signature]

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Entered per Cells 5
Dropt. 23-10-75

6223
Govt. of 1875 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Controller P.W. Sect.

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Local

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Encl

G. O. 13 Oct. 1875 No. 2926

No. 205-206

Exchange Accounts.—The Controller
to make any proposals regarding
which may be necessary
after he has prepared, under
the instructions contained
in G.O. No. 2527 of 30/9/75,
that part of a revised code
relating to Accounts.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th October 1875.

No. 207. Read the following letter from Captain G. T. SKIPWITH, R.E., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Telegraph,) to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 1st October 1875, No. 372 T.:—

In continuation of this office No. 347 T, of the 3rd ultimo, regarding the complaint made by the Editor of the *Madras Mail*, and his suggestion for a revision of the existing rules for "Press Telegrams," I am directed to make the following remarks, and to request that the same may be communicated to the Editor of the *Madras Mail*.

2. The existing rates for "Press Messages" are much below the usual rates, being one-fourth those charged upon ordinary messages, viz., twenty-four instead of six words can be sent for 1 Rupee; moreover, the extra charge for night, Sundays, and holidays is not levied upon such messages, so that the reduction is really more than 75 per cent.

3. In return for this large concession, and to prevent an abuse of the privilege, the rules require that the Newspapers for which messages are to be received at the reduced rates shall be registered, and that "Press Messages" shall be published in their entirety, or that the difference in cost between "ordinary" and "Press" rates shall be paid by the Newspaper to which the message is addressed. Moreover, the rules require that a declaration to this effect shall be taken from the proprietor or Editor of each Newspaper before he can be admitted to the privileges conferred by the Press Rules.

4. By refusing to pay the difference between the "ordinary" and "Press" rates, on the telegram in question, the Editor of the *Madras Mail* has failed to fulfil his part of the contract, a contract which however he may have felt it objectionable, he entered into voluntarily, and he should, therefore, have first acted up to his agreement and then applied for a refund, if he considered himself aggrieved in any way.

5. It is also to be remarked that the Editor had, under the rules, a right to receive messages at Press rates from any correspondent, whether regular or casual, and he would have had just cause of complaint if in this instance the Barrackpore Signaller had refused to take the message in question as a "Press" message.

6. The Director-General of Telegraphs is vested with the power of refusing this concession on sufficient grounds, or of withdrawing it when granted, if he considers that the conditions have been in any way infringed, and it appears to the Governor-General in Council that the Director-General of Telegraphs would have been fully justified if he had withdrawn the privilege in this instance.

7. I am also to observe that the complaint under reference really arises out of an important concession made to the Press when the rules were revised last year. Formerly a Press message could only be sent by a registered correspondent, but this restriction sometimes prevented the despatch of news which would otherwise have been sent. To remedy this defect the revised rules provided that only the Newspaper should be registered, so that casual correspondents might be enabled to send messages at "Press" rates. This necessarily throws a certain amount of money responsibility upon the Newspapers concerned, who must severally be held responsible for the acts of their correspondents.