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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 728 (Ry) Press
B.P. No. — Mis.

Dated 21.3. 1876

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 334. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department (Railway), dated Fort William, 6th March 1876, Nos. 665—71 R. :—

Cooling of Railway Carriages during the hot season.

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution, Nos. 497-510 G—R., dated the 6th March 1874.

Read also—

Letter from the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Lucknow, No. 2,726, dated the 18th December 1875, forwarding a Report by the Locomotive Superintendent, Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway, on the trial made with punkahs in the upper class carriages of the line during the hot season of 1875.

OBSERVATIONS.—The importance of devising some means for alleviating the discomfort attendant on Railway travelling during the hot season in certain parts of India has been for a long time felt, and various experiments have from time to time been made on different Railways with this object. The letter from the Consulting Engineer, Lucknow, now read, gives an account of experiments made on the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway, with a punkah invented by Mr. Cooke, Locomotive Superintendent of that Railway.

The views expressed by passengers of the use of Mr. Cooke's punkah are encouraging, but as yet the apparatus has only been applied to first-class carriages. Full details of the cost of working this punkah, compared with the number of passengers carried, have not been furnished, but from statistical information of the average filling of carriage stock on the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway and other lines in India, it is probable that the expense of working would not exceed per unit passenger mile for first-class $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of a Pie, for second-class $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a Pie, and for third-class $\frac{1}{6}$ th of a Pie. Traffic statistics on the Railways in India show a very material decrease in the number of travellers during the hot months, and it is evident that means to avert the discouraging influence of the heat against travelling should be sought not only as a matter of humanity, but also in the interest of the Railways.

RESOLUTION.—The Consulting Engineer, Lucknow, should be directed to request a continuance of the experiment made with Mr. Cooke's punkahs during the coming hot season on the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway, and that their application be extended to the carriages of the lower class, careful accounts of expense incurred being kept in order to determine the cost per unit passenger mile.

The Director of State Railways should be instructed to organize similar trials on State lines, and the attention of all Railway Managers should be directed to the subject.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay for information; also to the Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow, for communication to the several Railway Companies and for reports of the action taken by each; also to the Director of State Railways for information and guidance.

Ordered also that this Resolution be forwarded to the Home Department for publication in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

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

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st March 1876.

No. 335.

ORDER THEREON, 21st March 1876, No. 728.

RAILWAY, No. 30.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for the information of the Agents of the Madras Railways.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 728 of 21st March 1876
Communicated to
the Consulting Engineer
for Railways for
the information
of the Agents
of the Madras
Railways

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*For the Agents
of the Madras
Railways*

9021st March 1876

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY.
— No 1885

To

Nos. 665—71 R.

Dated March 6, 1876.

Received — 14 —

Cooling of Railway carriages during the hot
season.

No. 306, P. W. D. Press—6-3-76—81.

Cons. Eng. for Rys

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PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Comg Engineer
for Railways

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G.O. 21 March 1876, No.

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Cooling of Railway Carriages.

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