Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 1787 W

DATED 2 July 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Racine: Pros: Revenue Dept. transmitting with remarks Board's Pros: submitting the fortnightly - narrative of the Accountant Dept. for period ending 30 April 97 Copy 65 E. III Circle.

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-06.]

Indexed.

BACK PAPERS.

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Public Works (1897) Department

Current No. 5983

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

No. 1367 W dt 22-5-97.
1162 W dt 5-5-97.

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G.O., No. 432, 4th June 1897.

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Verified

JUNE.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Anantapur district for the period ending 30th April 1897.

O.C.S 228
R 28/6

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th May 1897, No. 367 :—

Read—the following fortnightly narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 30th April 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—The rainfall registered during the fortnight was 0·31, the average being 0·57. The showers were light and local. In Madakasíra, there was nearly one inch of rain on the 18th instant, and in Kalyandrug on 21st, there was a thunderstorm in which 0·58 of rain fell. There was hail, too, which did some damage to the standing paddy. In the Amarapuram range of Madakasíra taluk, some drinking water wells have dried up and water is obtained from irrigation wells outside the village. The supply of drinking water is generally sufficient, but in Dharmavaram it is running short, and also in the Panchamas' wells in the Northern and Central taluks. In addition to the Taluk Board grants, a sum of Rs. 3,000 sanctioned by Government from the Provincial funds has been distributed amongst the several taluks, and wells are being deepened and the water-supply otherwise improved in the affected parts. The irrigation tanks have quite dried up, and in the river channels, nalas and wells, the water is hardly sufficient for the standing crops.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Agricultural operations are practically at a standstill. There are no standing crops on dry lands. *Under wells and nalas.*—The harvesting of paddy and ragi is over in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks, the outturn being from fair to average. The standing crops in the southern taluks, viz , paddy, sugarcane, ragi, korra and barigalu are fair to good. Paddy and cholam are being harvested in the Anantapur division, the outturn ranging from 8 to 12 annas.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is *nil ;* fodder is available to a limited extent and is procurable with great difficulty and at a very heavy cost, in spite of the partial replenishment of stocks by the late harvests of ragi, cholam, and paddy crops. Prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used as fodder in parts of the Gooty taluk. The supply of hill grass secured in parts of Anantapur from the Tarimala and Kothakota forest reserves is nearly exhausted. The condition of non-working cattle is miserable, only the draught cattle are being tended, and in many parts even these are fast deteriorating. Some of them have been driven to the Mysore Province. There is some cattle disease in Dharmavaram, Madakasíra, and Anantapur taluks : attacks 397 and deaths 194. Grazing at reduced rates of two annas, one anna and half anna for buffalo, cow or sheep has been permitted in all the taluks of the district until 30th June next. I am taking steps to throw open some of the reserves in the district for free grazing.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The harvesting operations are almost over everywhere and the ryots are anxiously looking forward to the Mungari rains. Loans works in all the taluks and the work in "Drupair" gardens in Madakasíra afford some employment to the labouring classes in the rural tracts. Distress is deepening rapidly. The plight of the cattle is pitiable and I have written to Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot on the subject of pressed fodder to be sent here from Burma or South India.

Food Supplies and the State of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee, for the period ending 31st of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam. Yellow.		Cholam. White.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Tadpatri	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	12·36	12·36	11·33	11·33	The prices are almost stationary.
Yadiki	8·64	8·10	14·55	14·55	12·36	12·36	12·36	..	
Gooty	8·64	8·64	15·52	16·20	12·64	12·36	11·98	11·84	
Uravakonda	8·92	9·45	16·80	17·85	..	..	11·55	12·60	
Anantapur	8·64	8·64	16·49	16·49	14·49	..	14·42	14·42	
Kalyandrug	10·80	10·80	17·46	17·46	16·48	16·48	13·39	13·39	
Dharmavaram	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	15·45	15·45	14·42	14·42	
Penukonda	9·72	9·72	18·43	19·40	..	..	15·45	16·48	
Hindupur	10·75	10·75	23·65	23·65	..	..	17·20	17·20	
Madakasíra	10·80	10·80	21·34	21·34	..	..	..	..	
Average ..	9·42	9·41	17·53	17·79	13·96	13·80	13·56	13·96	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active in Tadpatri and Hindupur and dull elsewhere. In the former rice was imported from Guntúr, Salem, Coimbatore and cholam from Nellore and Venkatagiri, &c. Ragi is imported from Mysore into Tadpatri taluk. In Hindupur, trade was more active in the latter part of the fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally fair in the two northern taluks and good in others. No improvement is reported in the condition of the Yadiki workers. The Deputy Collector reports, besides, a visible deterioration in the condition of some of the workers on the Putlur work where young men from Kadavakal who came to the work in good condition have since fallen off. This is of course due to the "C" wage.

In villages.—Generally fair. In the Gooty taluk, about 2,500 coolies are employed on the works carried out by the aid of State loans and 4,000 coolies in the other taluks. The Head Assistant Collector reports that the Panchama classes in parts of Dharmavaram are stinting themselves in their meals. Proposals to start village relief in this and the northern taluks are under consideration, but execution is hampered by want of hands.

Sickness and mortality.—No deaths from starvation have been reported. Cholera has subsided. Small-pox prevails in Dharmavaram and Madakasíra. There were 130 attacks and six deaths (Dharmavaram).

Remarks.—The scheme for the relief of weavers was introduced in the Tadpatri taluk on the 8th instant. Up to date only 136 men have been relieved. Some of the weavers in Cusba Tadpatri are prevented from availing themselves of State relief by their sowcar creditors. A scheme for the Gooty taluk has also been submitted to the Board for sanction.

The postponement of kists is helping the coolies as well as the ryots by obviating the stoppage of field work. From the statement of admissions into jails circulated with B. P., dated 23rd April 1897, Mis., No. 2918, I notice that the percentages in this district were highest in November last and lowest in February. This fall is, I think, due to the opening of relief-works in the affected parts.

Measures of Relief.

On Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers:—

	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri—		
1. Putlur	843	1,099
2. Gudur	2,015	2,664
3. Yadiki	1,000	1,383
4. Kondapuram	1,648	2,373
Total ...	5,506	7,519
Gooty—		
1. Paltur	1,023	1,245
2. Guntakal	595	776
3. Karadikonda	701	1,108
Total ...	2,319	3,129
Anantapur—		
1. Korrapaud	533	760
2. Nadimidoddi	...	341
Total ...	533	1,101
Dharmavaram—		
1. Nayampalu road	937	2,073
2. Potlamari	...	186
Total ...	937	2,259
Grand Total ...	9,295	14,008

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise:—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens.			
	Dependants.		Others.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri .. .. { 1. Putlur	54	49	6	3
2. Gudur	66	85	3	7
3. Yadiki	100	104	10	12
4. Tadpatri	4	14	46	88
5. Kondapuram	14	59	2	4
6. Sajjaladinna	..	17	..	38
Total ..	238	328	67	152
Gooty .. .. .. { 1. Paltur	97	111	11	9
2. Guntakal	29	34	3	4
3. Karadikonda	18	25	1	..
4. Gooty	..	..	84	86
Total ..	144	170	99	99
Anantapur .. .. { 1. Korrapad	19	17	3	5
2. Nadimidoddi	..	39	..	6
Total ..	19	56	3	11
Dharmavaram .. .. { 1. Cusba	91	133	52	80
2. Potlamari	..	21	..	11
3. Pyadindi	..	27	..	2
Total ..	91	181	52	93
Penukonda .. .. Bukkapatnam	..	..	54	56
Grand Total ..	492	735	275	411

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Tadpatri	1	9	83	136	91	91

Private charity.—The local branches of the Indian Charitable Relief Committee have been trying their best to collect subscriptions. About Rs. 1,000 has been promised in Tadpatri. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has distributed 46 cloths contributed by Rajah Sir Savalai Ramasamy Mudaliar among the most needy in Dharmavaram kitchen. Mr. O. S. Kristamma, District Munsif, Gooty, and Mr. P. Kesava Pillai, Pleader, gave treats on two different occasions to the inmates of the Gooty kitchen, and certain charitable gentlemen of Tadpatri have been daily spending one rupee towards supplying "chutney" and "onions" to the inmates of the Tadpatri kitchen

General Remarks.

The outlook grows gloomier. There is no silver lining yet on our cloud. The close of the harvest work has sent up the numbers on relief from 9,295 to 14,008, not counting the numbers on the newly-opened works at Virapuram and Rayalcheru where there are some 600 more on relief. I anticipate a much large increase in the coming fortnight, as this is, even in normal years, the slack season, when men find no work.

The new works opened in this fortnight are—

(1) In Anantapur, collection of material on Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Peravali.
(2) In Tadpatri, Cuddapah-Bellary road near Virapuram.
(3) In Dharmavaram, Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Potlamari.
(4) The work of repairs of the Rayalcheru supply-channel was also started by the Head Assistant Collector on the 27th instant.

The numbers on the Virapuram road are being swelled by an inrush of Cuddapah work people. I trust that the Collector of that district will reciprocate, and open a work within his borders which will help our south-eastern Tadpatrites.

Of the four southern taluks comprising the Head Assistant Collector's division, Dharmavaram continues to give cause for anxiety. I have arranged with Mr. Mac-Michael that he is to withdraw two Revenue Inspectors, one each from Hindupúr and Madakasíra at once, and put them in charge of works at Yallacuntla and near Demajipalli. Their deputation will delay jamabandi, but that cannot be helped. "Needs must when the Famine drives". When the Kanumukkala and Perur works are opened, I think no more will be needed in this taluk, for the present at least. The Head Assistant Collector's detailed report on the Budali firka is awaited. In this, and also in the Bukkapatnam firka of Penukonda taluk, relief measures will be necessary shortly. The lower classes in the latter firka were found by the Head Assistant Collector to be stinting themselves, but his house-to-house inspection showed that they had always some food in their houses.

If I could only get the staff, I would have twelve more works opened at once in Anantapur, Gooty and Tadpatri. I have put all the Local Fund overseers on works, and several Revenue Inspectors are also in charge. I cannot take any more of these latter from their firkas for fear of interrupting the loans work. I have applied to the Salt Commissioner for the loan of some Salt and Abkári officers, and he has kindly instructed the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, to help me if he can. The results of my messages on the whole have not been very encouraging. The Collectors of Kistna and North Arcot have kindly come to my aid, and have sent me men whom I can utilize as temporary overseers and as paymasters and perhaps as Circle Inspectors.

I have, in exercise of the discretion vested in me in B.P., dated 11th December 1896, No. 419, increased the recess hours of the relief workers from two to three hours and made arrangements for them to begin work earlier. The heat of the sun is, in the middle of the day, terrible, and I hold it most unadvisable to exact work then. I am aware that the Deccan labourer is inured to the sun, but the work he does is not sedentary. Work entailing motion is much more tolerable, in this heat, than the sedentary and monotonous occupation of stone-breaking.

Village Relief.—I could begin this, too, if I had the men. The registers are far enough advanced for me to start the work if I had only had some Inspectors. Meanwhile, I request permission to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk.

Medical Inspection of relief workers is practically *nil*—a hurried visit from an over-worked Municipal Hospital Assistant takes its place. I have wired to the Surgeon-General on the subject; but he has regretted his inability to oblige. I have also wired to Government to ask that two of the four Hospital Assistants on plague duty may be allowed me for famine duty, on condition of my returning them at once in case any plague cases are detected. At present the inspection is carried out by Surgeon-Captain Macrae, an Assistant Surgeon, and two Hospital Assistants. The other two Assistants follow, taking addresses and punching tickets. It surely does not need a medical training to enable a man to do this latter work efficiently, and I would respectfully urge the Board will support me in this matter.

As directed in B.P., dated 16th March 1897, No. 215, an attempt has been made in Tadpatri taluk to induce traders to set up bazaars near the relief works, but without success. The results of attempts elsewhere have not been reported. I will enquire about this.

I am glad to say that one of my Famine Deputy Collectors has been relieved of all other work, the Special Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Acharyalu Pantulu Garu having arrived.

The Gooty Famine Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. K. Narayana Iyer has proposed that the Special Loans Act be extended so as to embrace weavers. Most of these, he says, can give good security either real or personal, and he is of opinion that it would save time, trouble, worry, and, in the result, money, if we made advances in money to them instead of in material. The present system is undoubtedly vexatious, cumbersome and expensive to a degree. I will go into the matter fully on my visit to Tadpatri.

I only took charge on the 20th afternoon and partly owing to that, and partly to having twisted my ankle, I was not able to do more inspection than I have shown above. I have arranged for a thorough inspection of Tadpatri and Gooty immediately and will then do Anantapur. My inspection of the works showed me that the workers, most of whom (except at Dharmavaram) were women and children, were in fair condition. They had no complaints to make on the whole. Some complained of the weight of the hammers and the length of the haft. The former I could not reduce, but I gave orders that a carpenter should be brought on to the works and the handles shortened. Mr. Romilly informs me that after they have been on the work some time, the workers—men and women—prefer the heavier hammers. This has also been my experience, those who complained being new arrivals. For these a supply of lighter hammers is indicated. The food prepared in the kitchens was clean and sweet, and the children took to it kindly—their appetites being evidently as wide as their broad-grinning mouths. At Gooty there were a couple of blind men who would not go to the kitchen. They preferred to be given a task—presumably for the sake of the society, for I looked at their hands and saw no wounds or abrasions on them, such as I should expect to find on the hands of a blind and non-professional stone-breaker. The water-supply seemed to be sufficient, but there were complaints about the delay in paying the carriers at Kondapuram and Gudúr.

In conclusion, I beg to draw attention again to the haphazard fashion in which we are proceeding in the matter of enlistments of overseers, &c., and of the appointment of Medical officers. If we find so much difficulty now when the numbers on

relief are comparatively small, what will be our state if the rains fail in June? Forewarned is forearmed. I would suggest that some system of registration should at once be inaugurated, so that we may know where to apply for aid and what hope there is of getting it. At present we are too often as one crying in the wilderness.

P.S.—Since the above was written, I learn from Dr. Hakim that the Surgeon-General has detailed two Hospital Assistants to this district for famine duty.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	20	3,400	13	1,450	50	18,200	13	1,380	10	1,105	74	16,900	33	4,780	23	2,555	124	35,100	1	12
Gooty	31	6,465	20	2,435	177	44,980	408	53,281	359	44,133	722	1,41,440	439	59,746	379	46,568	899	1,86,420	..	20
Anantapur	287	27,052	289	26,812	450	52,160	7	905	7	805	32	4,435	294	27,957	296	27,617	482	56,595	4	190
Kalyandrug	167	22,735	146	11,152	111	21,265	18	2,320	17	1,570	42	6,900	185	25,055	163	12,722	153	28,165	4	146
Dharmavaram	160	18,455	144	10,960	91	13,480	2	400	2	400	7	730	162	18,855	146	11,360	98	14,201	11	142
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																			
Hindupur	171	28,625	146	17,397	99	23,930	3	1,150	3	1,075	1	500	174	29,775	149	18,472	100	24,430	4	152
Madakasira	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	1	22
Total ..	876	1,14,167	779	73,791	1,012	1,80,770	451	59,436	398	49,088	878	1,70,905	1,327	1,73,603	1,177	1,22,879	1,890	3,51,675	25	684

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	97	6,894	88	6,299	131	8,838	..	..	..	..	2	260	97	6,894	88	6,299	133	9,098
Gooty	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kalyandrug	..	..	..	..	1	20	..	..	..	..	8	620	..	..	..	..	9	640
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																	
Hindupur	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	750	11	750	22	2,120	11	750	11	750	22	2,120
Madakasira	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	500	..	..	10	1,625	3	500	..	..	10	1,625
Total ..	116	8,134	106	7,479	357	21,348	53	3,770	44	2,720	112	8,671	169	11,904	150	10,199	469	30,019

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Head Assistant Collector.

Tadpatri taluk ... Dharmavaram.
Gotlur.
Nagalur.
Pothamari.
Velpamadugu.
Peyadindi.
Mallakalwa.
Tumparti.
Pothularajupalli.
Nirunnalkunta.
Chippaleherukothakota.
Kummakala.
Penukonda.
Rampuram.
Locherla.
Kolhacheru.
Bukkapatnam.
Putaparti.
Vengalammacheru.
Mylasamudram.
Kanisettipalli.

Deputy Collector, Gooty.

Gooty taluk ... Gooty.
Karadikonda.
Uhicherla.
Guntakal.
Thimmanacherla.
Midatur.
Gooty-Anantapur.
Tadpatri.
Nandalapaud.
Sengalagoodur.
Thukkalapalli.
Puthur.
Kummanamala.
Kondapuram.
Surepalli.
Kadavakal.
Arakatuvemala.
Muchukota.
Hussainpuram.
Veerapuram.
Vangamur.
Beppepalli.
Rayavenkatapuram.
Cherlopalli.
Medipalli.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector.

Kadair taluk ... Kadair.
Kadatharkanta.
Cholasamudram.
Hanumapuram.
Budijumma.
Kaggaparti.
Belaguppa.
Ersagudi.
Sirpy.
Gungavaram.
Golla.
Seebhavi.
Kalvapalli.
Kurugunta.
Korrapand.
Bandamidapalli.
Sivapuram.
Peravali.
Chekruyapetta.

	Collector.
Gooty taluk	Gooty. Karadikonda. Guntakal. Dharmavaram. Alamur (Anantapur taluk).

Resolution—dated 14th May 1897, No. 367.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The rainfall for the fortnight was below the average. The showers were light and local, and have not improved prospects. Standing crops in Kalyandrug were damaged by hail. The supply of drinking water is said to be generally sufficient, and where it is running short, the sources of supply are being improved. Tanks are dry and in channels, nalas and wells, the supply is decreasing. Except under the latter sources of irrigation, there are no crops. Crops harvested have yielded a fair to average outturn. Those standing in the southern taluks are reported to be in fair to good condition.

3. Pasture is *nil*, and fodder is procurable with great difficulty and at a high price. The supply of hill grass is failing, and prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used in parts. Grazing in reserved forests has been permitted at reduced rates in all taluks up to June 30th, and steps are being taken to throw open reserves for free grazing. The condition of cattle is pitiable, and none but the best are properly tended. The question of opening cattle camps is now under the consideration of the Board. The result of the Collector's reference to the Hon'ble Mr. G. Arbuthnot should be reported.

4. Prices are practically stationary, though they are decidedly easier in Uravakonda. Grain is being imported from the east and south. Trade, however, seems, to be decidedly wanting in enterprise. Tadpatri and Hindupur are railway stations, and yet the price of white cholam is 11·33 at the former and 16·48 at the latter. Yadiki is not far from a railway station, and yet ragi sells at 14·55 measures there and at 23·65 at Hindupur. The Collector reports that he has been unable to open bazaars at Tadpatri, and it looks as if a grain ring had been formed there. The position of prices is shown in the subjoined statement :—

	Measures per rupee.	
	Rice.	Cholam.
Standard rate	13·2	30·0
Warning rate	10·6	22·5
Scarcity rate	7·9	15·0
Current rate	9·4	13·9
April 1892	8·7	15·2
April 1877	7·7	9·0

5. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair, though no improvement is discernible at Yadiki, and coolies on the "C" wage at Kadavakal have lost flesh. These persons should be carefully watched not only by the Collector, but by a competent medical officer, and the results of the payment of the "B" wage, as ordered in G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, noted.

6. The numbers on works increased during the fortnight from 9,295 to 14,008, or by 51 per cent., and the numbers on gratuitous relief increased proportionately, though the latter are still less than half what they should be. Four additional works have been opened during the fortnight, and more would have been opened, but for the want of subordinates. The Collector's action in taking Revenue Inspectors from their ordinary duties to superintend works is approved as the best arrangement to be made under the circumstances, but it is to be feared that these untrained officers will require a deal of supervision.

7. The administration of village relief is similarly delayed by want of hands, though the Collector has received help from North Arcot and Kistna, and hopes to get men from the Salt and Abkári Department. The Collector's request to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk is sanctioned.

8. The Medical Department has, in answer to the request of the Collector, detailed two special Hospital Assistants to the district, but the Board considers that even this provision is insufficient for a proper medical supervision of the workers, and requests Government to consider whether, under the circumstances stated by the Collector, two of the Plague Hospital Assistants might not be deputed for famine duty in areas close to Guntakal, until any case of plague is detected there. At the same time the Board must observe that the need in Anantapur is not so pressing as elsewhere, Ganjám for instance.

9. The attention of Government is being drawn by the Board in another Proceedings to the serious extent to which the administration of relief is hampered by the want of adequate subordinate establishments.

10. The Collector suggests the abolition of the present system of relieving weavers, and the extension of the Special Loans Act to cover their case. The Board fears that any enquiries made by the Collector on the subject will prove but waste of time, for it will be impossible for the Act to be revised before June, by which time it is hoped that an improvement in the season will have set in. It is possible, also, that the opinion of the experienced Deputy Collector in charge of the two northern taluks as to the capability of the weavers to give adequate security, is unduly sanguine.

11. No progress has been made in the disposal of applications for loans in Penukonda taluk during the last month. The Collector makes no remark. The matter should receive his attention, and the cause of the neglect should be explained. The progress of loans disbursed is as follows :—

Week ending	Amount disbursed since commencement of distress.
	Rs.
1st May 1897	1,08,144
8th „ „	1,09,072
15th „ „	1,55,498

12. The attention of the Collector of Cuddapah will be drawn to Mr. Shipley's remark as to need for employment on the south-east frontier of Tadpatri.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Anantapur.
„ „ of Cuddapah.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ „ Collectors of other affected districts.

Order—No. 432, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government has already deputed two of the plague Hospital Assistants for famine duty.

3. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 3, it is observed that the Board has since expressed grave doubts as to the ultimate success of the scheme for establishing cattle camps. The Government agrees in this view and resolves to direct that

the action of the Famine Commissioner should be confined to providing official supervision in connection with the sales of fodder which the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has undertaken to import and to lay down at selected stations in the affected Deccan districts for Rs. 12-8-0 a ton.

(True Extract.)

A. D. Knapp.

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Ex-l A. F. Eccleston

100 Copies.

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. }
} 1897.
Regd. }

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 432, 4th June 1897.

No 1787/82-7-97
Communicated to the
S. E. III circle.

JUNE.

file C-4313
DW.

To
The S.E. III Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Anantapur district for the period ending 30th April 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th May 1897, No. 367 :—

Read—the following fortnightly narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 30th April 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—The rainfall registered during the fortnight was 0·31, the average being 0·57. The showers were light and local. In Madakasíra, there was nearly one inch of rain on the 18th instant, and in Kalyandrug on 21st, there was a thunderstorm in which 0·58 of rain fell. There was hail, too, which did some damage to the standing paddy. In the Amarapuram range of Madakasíra taluk, some drinking water wells have dried up and water is obtained from irrigation wells outside the village. The supply of drinking water is generally sufficient, but in Dharmavaram it is running short, and also in the Panchamas' wells in the Northern and Central taluks. In addition to the Taluk Board grants, a sum of Rs. 3,000 sanctioned by Government from the Provincial funds has been distributed amongst the several taluks, and wells are being deepened and the water-supply otherwise improved in the affected parts. The irrigation tanks have quite dried up, and in the river channels, nalas and wells, the water is hardly sufficient for the standing crops.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Agricultural operations are practically at a standstill. There are no standing crops on dry lands. *Under wells and nalas.*—The harvesting of paddy and ragi is over in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks, the outturn being from fair to average. The standing crops in the southern taluks, viz , paddy, sugarcane, ragi, korra and barigalu are fair to good. Paddy and cholam are being harvested in the Anantapur division, the outturn ranging from 8 to 12 annas.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is *nil ;* fodder is available to a limited extent and is procurable with great difficulty and at a very heavy cost, in spite of the partial replenishment of stocks by the late harvests of ragi, cholam, and paddy crops. Prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used as fodder in parts of the Gooty taluk. The supply of hill grass secured in parts of Anantapur from the Tarimala and Kothakota forest reserves is nearly exhausted. The condition of non-working cattle is miserable, only the draught cattle are being tended, and in many parts even these are fast deteriorating. Some of them have been driven to the Mysore Province. There is some cattle disease in Dharmavaram, Madakasíra, and Anantapur taluks : attacks 397 and deaths 194. Grazing at reduced rates of two annas, one anna and half anna for buffalo, cow or sheep has been permitted in all the taluks of the district until 30th June next. I am taking steps to throw open some of the reserves in the district for free grazing.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The harvesting operations are almost over everywhere and the ryots are anxiously looking forward to the Mungari rains. Loans works in all the taluks and the work in "Drupair" gardens in Madakasíra afford

some employment to the labouring classes in the rural tracts. Distress is deepening rapidly. The plight of the cattle is pitiable and I have written to Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot on the subject of pressed fodder to be sent here from Burma or South India.

Food Supplies and the state of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee, for the period ending 31st of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam. Yellow.		Cholam. White.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Tadpatri	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	12·36	12·36	11·33	11·33	The prices are almost stationary.
Yadiki	8·64	8·10	14·55	14·55	12·36	12·36	12·36	..	
Gooty	8·64	8·64	15·52	16·20	12·64	12·36	11·98	11·84	
Uravakonda	8·92	9·45	16·80	17·85	..	..	11·55	12·60	
Anantapur	8·64	8·64	16·49	16·49	14·49	..	14·42	14·42	
Kalyandrug	10·80	10·80	17·46	17·46	16·48	16·48	13·39	13·39	
Dharmavaram	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	15·45	15·45	14·42	14·42	
Penukonda	9·72	9·72	18·43	19·40	..	..	15·45	16·48	
Hindupur	10·75	10·75	23·65	23·65	..	..	17·20	17·20	
Madakasíra	10·80	10·80	21·34	21·34	..	..	..	..	
Average ..	9·42	9·41	17·53	17·79	13·96	13·80	13·56	13·96	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active in Tadpatri and Hindupur and dull elsewhere. In the former rice was imported from Guntúr, Salem, Coimbatore and cholam from Nellore and Venkatagiri, &c. Ragi is imported from Mysore into Tadpatri taluk. In Hindupur, trade was more active in the latter part of the fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally fair in the two northern taluks and good in others. No improvement is reported in the condition of the Yadiki workers. The Deputy Collector reports, besides, a visible deterioration in the condition of some of the workers on the Putlur work where young men from Kadavakal who came to the work in good condition have since fallen off. This is of course due to the "C" wage.

In villages.—Generally fair. In the Gooty taluk, about 2,500 coolies are employed on the works carried out by the aid of State loans and 4,000 coolies in the other taluks. The Head Assistant Collector reports that the Panchama classes in parts of Dharmavaram are stinting themselves in their meals. Proposals to start village relief in this and the northern taluks are under consideration, but execution is hampered by want of hands.

Sickness and mortality.—No deaths from starvation have been reported. Cholera has subsided. Small-pox prevails in Dharmavaram and Madakasíra. There were 130 attacks and six deaths (Dharmavaram).

Remarks.—The scheme for the relief of weavers was introduced in the Tadpatri taluk on the 8th instant. Up to date only 136 men have been relieved. Some of the weavers in Cusba Tadpatri are prevented from availing themselves of State relief by their sowcar creditors. A scheme for the Gooty taluk has also been submitted to the Board for sanction.

The postponement of kists is helping the coolies as well as the ryots by obviating the stoppage of field work. From the statement of admissions into jails circulated with B. P., dated 23rd April 1897, Mis., No. 2918, I notice that the percentages in this district were highest in November last and lowest in February. This fall is, I think, due to the opening of relief-works in the affected parts.

Measures of Relief.

On Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers:—

	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri—		
1. Putlur		
2. Gudur	843	1,099
3. Yadiki	2,015	2,664
4. Kondapuram	1,000	1,383
	1,648	2,373
Total	5,506	7,519
Gooty—		
1. Paltur	1,023	1,245
2. Guntakal	595	776
3. Karadikonda	701	1,108
Total	2,319	3,129
Anantapur—		
1. Korrapaud	533	760
2. Nadimidoddi	...	341
Total	533	1,101
Dharmavaram—		
1. Nayampalu road	937	2,073
2. Potlamari	...	186
Total	937	2,259
Grand Total	9,295	14,008

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise:—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens.			
	Dependants.		Others.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri—				
1. Putlur	54	49	6	3
2. Gudur	66	85	3	7
3. Yadiki	100	104	10	12
4. Tadpatri	4	14	46	88
5. Kondapuram	14	59	2	4
6. Sajjaladinna	..	17	..	38
Total	238	328	67	152
Gooty—				
1. Paltur	97	111	11	9
2. Guntakal	29	34	3	4
3. Karadikonda	18	25	1	..
4. Gooty	..	..	84	86
Total	144	170	99	99
Anantapur—				
1. Korrapad	19	17	3	5
2. Nadimidoddi	..	39	..	6
Total	19	56	3	11
Dharmavaram—				
1. Cusba	91	133	52	80
2. Potlamari	..	21	..	11
3. Pyadindi	..	27	..	2
Total	91	181	52	93
Penukonda—Bukkapatnam	..	..	54	56
Grand Total	492	735	275	411

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Tadpatri	1	9	83	136	91	91

Private charity.—The local branches of the Indian Charitable Relief Committee have been trying their best to collect subscriptions. About Rs. 1,000 has been promised in Tadpatri. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has distributed 46 cloths contributed by Rajah Sir Savalai Ramasamy Mudaliar among the most needy in Dharmavaram kitchen. Mr. O. S. Kristamma, District Munsif, Gooty, and Mr. P. Kesava Pillai, Pleader, gave treats on two different occasions to the inmates of the Gooty kitchen, and certain charitable gentlemen of Tadpatri have been daily spending one rupee towards supplying "chutney" and "onions" to the inmates of the Tadpatri kitchen

General Remarks.

The outlook grows gloomier. There is no silver lining yet on our cloud. The close of the harvest work has sent up the numbers on relief from 9,295 to 14,008, not counting the numbers on the newly-opened works at Virapuram and Rayalcheru where there are some 600 more on relief. I anticipate a much large increase in the coming fortnight, as this is, even in normal years, the slack season, when men find no work.

The new works opened in this fortnight are—

(1) In Anantapur, collection of material on Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Peravali.
(2) In Tadpatri, Cuddapah-Bellary road near Virapuram.
(3) In Dharmavaram, Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Potlamari.
(4) The work of repairs of the Rayalcheru supply-channel was also started by the Head Assistant Collector on the 27th instant.

The numbers on the Virapuram road are being swelled by an inrush of Cuddapah work people. I trust that the Collector of that district will reciprocate, and open a work within his borders which will help our south-eastern Tadpatrites.

Of the four southern taluks comprising the Head Assistant Collector's division, Dharmavaram continues to give cause for anxiety. I have arranged with Mr. Mac-Michael that he is to withdraw two Revenue Inspectors, one each from Hindupúr and Madakasíra at once, and put them in charge of works at Yallacuntla and near Demajipalli. Their deputation will delay jamabandi, but that cannot be helped. "Needs must when the Famine drives". When the Kanumukkala and Perur works are opened, I think no more will be needed in this taluk, for the present at least. The Head Assistant Collector's detailed report on the Budali firka is awaited. In this, and also in the Bukkapatnam firka of Penukonda taluk, relief measures will be necessary shortly. The lower classes in the latter firka were found by the Head Assistant Collector to be stinting themselves, but his house-to-house inspection showed that they had always some food in their houses.

If I could only get the staff, I would have twelve more works opened at once in Anantapur, Gooty and Tadpatri. I have put all the Local Fund overseers on works, and several Revenue Inspectors are also in charge. I cannot take any more of these latter from their firkas for fear of interrupting the loans work. I have applied to the Salt Commissioner for the loan of some Salt and Abkári officers, and he has kindly instructed the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, to help me if he can. The results of my messages on the whole have not been very encouraging. The Collectors of Kistna and North Arcot have kindly come to my aid, and have sent me men whom I can utilize as temporary overseers and as paymasters and perhaps as Circle Inspectors.

I have, in exercise of the discretion vested in me in B.P., dated 11th December 1896, No. 419, increased the recess hours of the relief workers from two to three hours and made arrangements for them to begin work earlier. The heat of the sun is, in the middle of the day, terrible, and I hold it most unadvisable to exact work then. I am aware that the Deccan labourer is inured to the sun, but the work he does is not sedentary. Work entailing motion is much more tolerable, in this heat, than the sedentary and monotonous occupation of stone-breaking.

Village Relief.—I could begin this, too, if I had the men. The registers are far enough advanced for me to start the work if I had only had some Inspectors. Meanwhile, I request permission to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk.

Medical Inspection of relief workers is practically *nil*—a hurried visit from an over-worked Municipal Hospital Assistant takes its place. I have wired to the Surgeon-General on the subject; but he has regretted his inability to oblige. I have also wired to Government to ask that two of the four Hospital Assistants on plague duty may be allowed me for famine duty, on condition of my returning them at once in case any plague cases are detected. At present the inspection is carried out by Surgeon-Captain Macrae, an Assistant Surgeon, and two Hospital Assistants. The other two Assistants follow, taking addresses and punching tickets. It surely does not need a medical training to enable a man to do this latter work efficiently, and I would respectfully urge the Board will support me in this matter.

As directed in B.P., dated 16th March 1897, No. 215, an attempt has been made in Tadpatri taluk to induce traders to set up bazaars near the relief works, but without success. The results of attempts elsewhere have not been reported. I will enquire about this.

I am glad to say that one of my Famine Deputy Collectors has been relieved of all other work, the Special Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Acharyalu Pantulu Garu having arrived.

The Gooty Famine Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. K. Narayana Iyer has proposed that the Special Loans Act be extended so as to embrace weavers. Most of these, he says, can give good security either real or personal, and he is of opinion that it would save time, trouble, worry, and, in the result, money, if we made advances in money to them instead of in material. The present system is undoubtedly vexatious, cumbersome and expensive to a degree. I will go into the matter fully on my visit to Tadpatri.

I only took charge on the 20th afternoon and partly owing to that, and partly to having twisted my ankle, I was not able to do more inspection than I have shown above. I have arranged for a thorough inspection of Tadpatri and Gooty immediately and will then do Anantapur. My inspection of the works showed me that the workers, most of whom (except at Dharmavaram) were women and children, were in fair condition. They had no complaints to make on the whole. Some complained of the weight of the hammers and the length of the haft. The former I could not reduce, but I gave orders that a carpenter should be brought on to the works and the handles shortened. Mr. Romilly informs me that after they have been on the work some time, the workers—men and women—prefer the heavier hammers. This has also been my experience, those who complained being new arrivals. For these a supply of lighter hammers is indicated. The food prepared in the kitchens was clean and sweet, and the children took to it kindly—their appetites being evidently as wide as their broad-grinning mouths. At Gooty there were a couple of blind men who would not go to the kitchen. They preferred to be given a task—presumably for the sake of the society, for I looked at their hands and saw no wounds or abrasions on them, such as I should expect to find on the hands of a blind and non-professional stone-breaker. The water-supply seemed to be sufficient, but there were complaints about the delay in paying the carriers at Kondapuram and Gudúr.

In conclusion, I beg to draw attention again to the haphazard fashion in which we are proceeding in the matter of enlistments of overseers, &c., and of the appointment of Medical officers. If we find so much difficulty now when the numbers on

relief are comparatively small, what will be our state if the rains fail in June? Forewarned is forearmed. I would suggest that some system of registration should at once be inaugurated, so that we may know where to apply for aid and what hope there is of getting it. At present we are too often as one crying in the wilderness.

P.S.—Since the above was written, I learn from Dr. Hakim that the Surgeon-General has detailed two Hospital Assistants to this district for famine duty.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	20	3,400	13	1,450	50	18,200	13	1,380	10	1,105	74	16,900	33	4,780	23	2,555	124	35,100	1	12
Gooty	31	6,465	20	2,435	177	44,980	408	53,281	359	44,133	722	1,41,440	439	59,746	379	46,568	899	1,86,420	..	20
Anantapur	287	27,052	289	26,812	450	52,160	7	905	7	805	32	4,435	294	27,957	296	27,617	482	56,595	4	190
Kalyandrug	167	22,735	146	11,152	111	21,265	18	2,320	17	1,570	42	6,900	185	25,055	163	12,722	153	28,165	4	146
Dharmavaram	160	18,455	144	10,960	91	13,480	2	400	2	400	7	730	162	18,855	146	11,360	98	14,201	11	142
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																			
Hindupur	171	28,625	146	17,397	99	23,930	3	1,150	3	1,075	1	500	174	29,775	149	18,472	100	24,430	4	152
Madakasira	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	1	22
Total ..	876	1,14,167	779	73,791	1,012	1,80,770	451	59,436	398	49,088	878	1,70,905	1,327	1,73,603	1,177	1,22,879	1,890	3,51,675	25	684

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Tadpatri	97	6,894	88	6,299	131	8,838	..	..	..	..	2	260	97	6,894	88	6,299	133	9,098
Gooty	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kalyandrug	..	..	..	..	1	20	..	..	..	..	8	620	..	..	..	..	9	640
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																	
Hindupur	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	750	11	750	22	2,120	11	750	11	750	22	2,120
Madakasira	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	500	..	..	10	1,625	3	500	..	..	10	1,625
Total ..	116	8,134	106	7,479	357	21,348	53	3,770	44	2,720	112	8,671	169	11,904	150	10,199	469	30,019

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Head Assistant Collector.

Dharmavaram.
- Gotlur.
- Nagalur.
- Potlamari.
- Velpamaitugu.

Dharmavaram taluk ... Peyadindi.
- Mallakalwa.
- Tumparti.
- Pothularajupalli.
- Nirunnalkunta.
- Chippalcherukothakota.
- Kumnakkala.

Penukonda.
- Rampuram.
- Locherla.
- Kollacheru.

Penukonda taluk ... Bukkapatnam.
- Putaparti.
- Vengalammacheru.
- Mylasamudram.
- Kanisettipalli.

Deputy Collector, Gooty.

Gooty.
- Karadikonda.
- Ubicherla.

Gooty taluk ... Guntakal.
- Thimmanacherla.
- Midatur.
- Gooty-Anantapur.

Tadpatri.
- Nandalapaud.
- Senegalagoodur.
- Thukkalapalli.
- Putlur.
- Kummanamala.
- Kondapuram.
- Surepalli.

Tadpatri taluk ... Kadavakal.
- Arakaluvemala.
- Muchukota.
- Hussainpuram.
- Veerapuram.
- Vangenur.
- Bappepalli.
- Rayavenkatapuram.
- Cherlopalli.
- Medipalli.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector.

Kadair.
- Kadatharkanta.
- Cholasamudram.
- Hanumapuram.
- Budijumma.
- Kaggaparti.
- Belaguppa.
- Erraguda.
- Siryy.

Kadair taluk ... Gungavaram.
- Golla.
- Seebhavi.
- Kalvapalli.
- Kurugunta.
- Korrapad.
- Bandamidapalli.
- Sivapuram.
- Peravali.
- Chekrayapetta.

	Collector.
Gooty taluk	Gooty. Karadikonda. Guntakal. Dharmavaram. Alamur (Anantapur taluk).

Resolution—dated 14th May 1897, No. 367.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The rainfall for the fortnight was below the average. The showers were light and local, and have not improved prospects. Standing crops in Kalyandrug were damaged by hail. The supply of drinking water is said to be generally sufficient, and where it is running short, the sources of supply are being improved. Tanks are dry and in channels, nalas and wells, the supply is decreasing. Except under the latter sources of irrigation, there are no crops. Crops harvested have yielded a fair to average outturn. Those standing in the southern taluks are reported to be in fair to good condition.

3. Pasture is *nil*, and fodder is procurable with great difficulty and at a high price. The supply of hill grass is failing, and prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used in parts. Grazing in reserved forests has been permitted at reduced rates in all taluks up to June 30th, and steps are being taken to throw open reserves for free grazing. The condition of cattle is pitiable, and none but the best are properly tended. The question of opening cattle camps is now under the consideration of the Board. The result of the Collector's reference to the Hon'ble Mr. G. Arbuthnot should be reported.

4. Prices are practically stationary, though they are decidedly easier in Uravakonda. Grain is being imported from the east and south. Trade, however, seems, to be decidedly wanting in enterprise. Tadpatri and Hindupur are railway stations, and yet the price of white cholam is 11·33 at the former and 16·48 at the latter. Yadiki is not far from a railway station, and yet ragi sells at 14·55 measures there and at 23·65 at Hindupur. The Collector reports that he has been unable to open bazaars at Tadpatri, and it looks as if a grain ring had been formed there. The position of prices is shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Measures per rupee.	
	Rice.	Cholam.
Standard rate	13·2	30 0
Warning rate	10·6	22·5
Scarcity rate	7·9	15·0
Current rate	9·4	13·9
April 1892	8·7	15·2
April 1877	7·7	9·0

5. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair, though no improvement is discernible at Yadiki, and coolies on the "C" wage at Kadavakal have lost flesh. These persons should be carefully watched not only by the Collector, but by a competent medical officer, and the results of the payment of the "B" wage, as ordered in G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, noted.

6. The numbers on works increased during the fortnight from 9,295 to 14,008, or by 51 per cent., and the numbers on gratuitous relief increased proportionately, though the latter are still less than half what they should be. Four additional works have been opened during the fortnight, and more would have been opened, but for the want of subordinates. The Collector's action in taking Revenue Inspectors from their ordinary duties to superintend works is approved as the best arrangement to be made under the circumstances, but it is to be feared that these untrained officers will require a deal of supervision.

7. The administration of village relief is similarly delayed by want of hands, though the Collector has received help from North Arcot and Kistna, and hopes to get men from the Salt and Abkári Department. The Collector's request to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk is sanctioned.

8. The Medical Department has, in answer to the request of the Collector, detailed two special Hospital Assistants to the district, but the Board considers that even this provision is insufficient for a proper medical supervision of the workers, and requests Government to consider whether, under the circumstances stated by the Collector, two of the Plague Hospital Assistants might not be deputed for famine duty in areas close to Guntakal, until any case of plague is detected there. At the same time the Board must observe that the need in Anantapur is not so pressing as elsewhere, Ganjám for instance.

9. The attention of Government is being drawn by the Board in another Proceedings to the serious extent to which the administration of relief is hampered by the want of adequate subordinate establishments.

10. The Collector suggests the abolition of the present system of relieving weavers, and the extension of the Special Loans Act to cover their case. The Board fears that any enquiries made by the Collector on the subject will prove but waste of time, for it will be impossible for the Act to be revised before June, by which time it is hoped that an improvement in the season will have set in. It is possible, also, that the opinion of the experienced Deputy Collector in charge of the two northern taluks as to the capability of the weavers to give adequate security, is unduly sanguine.

11. No progress has been made in the disposal of applications for loans in Penukonda taluk during the last month. The Collector makes no remark. The matter should receive his attention, and the cause of the neglect should be explained. The progress of loans disbursed is as follows:—

Week ending	Amount disbursed since commencement of distress.
	Rs.
1st May 1897	1,08,144
8th „ „	1,09,072
15th „ „	1,55,498

12. The attention of the Collector of Cuddapah will be drawn to Mr. Shipley's remark as to need for employment on the south-east frontier of Tadpatri.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Anantapur.
„ „ of Cuddapah.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ „ Collectors of other affected districts.

Order—No. 432, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government has already deputed two of the plague Hospital Assistants for famine duty.

3. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 3, it is observed that the Board has since expressed grave doubts as to the ultimate success of the scheme for establishing cattle camps. The Government agrees in this view and resolves to direct that

	Collector.
Gooty taluk	Gooty. Karadikonda. Guntakal. Dharmavaram. Alamur (Anantapur taluk).

Resolution—dated 14th May 1897, No. 367.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The rainfall for the fortnight was below the average. The showers were light and local, and have not improved prospects. Standing crops in Kalyandrug were damaged by hail. The supply of drinking water is said to be generally sufficient, and where it is running short, the sources of supply are being improved. Tanks are dry and in channels, nalas and wells, the supply is decreasing. Except under the latter sources of irrigation, there are no crops. Crops harvested have yielded a fair to average outturn. Those standing in the southern taluks are reported to be in fair to good condition.

3. Pasture is *nil*, and fodder is procurable with great difficulty and at a high price. The supply of hill grass is failing, and prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used in parts. Grazing in reserved forests has been permitted at reduced rates in all taluks up to June 30th, and steps are being taken to throw open reserves for free grazing. The condition of cattle is pitiable, and none but the best are properly tended. The question of opening cattle camps is now under the consideration of the Board. The result of the Collector's reference to the Hon'ble Mr. G. Arbuthnot should be reported.

4. Prices are practically stationary, though they are decidedly easier in Uravakonda. Grain is being imported from the east and south. Trade, however, seems, to be decidedly wanting in enterprise. Tadpatri and Hindupur are railway stations, and yet the price of white cholam is 11·33 at the former and 16·48 at the latter. Yadiki is not far from a railway station, and yet ragi sells at 14·55 measures there and at 23·65 at Hindupur. The Collector reports that he has been unable to open bazaars at Tadpatri, and it looks as if a grain ring had been formed there. The position of prices is shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Measures per rupee.	
	Rice.	Cholam.
Standard rate	13·2	30 0
Warning rate	10·6	22·5
Scarcity rate	7·9	15·0
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(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Anantapur.
„ „ of Cuddapah.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ „ Collectors of other affected districts.

ORDER—No. 432, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government has already deputed two of the plague Hospital Assistants for famine duty.

3. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 3, it is observed that the Board has since expressed grave doubts as to the ultimate success of the scheme for establishing cattle camps. The Government agrees in this view and resolves to direct that

the action of the Famine Commissioner should be confined to providing official supervision in connection with the sales of fodder which the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has undertaken to import and to lay down at selected stations in the affected Deccan districts for Rs. 12-8-0 a ton.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. A. N. Peclerton

100 Copies.

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*
Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 432, 4th June 1897.

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Communicated to the
S. E. III Circle.

JUNE.

H/J C.H.B.B
AW.

To
The S.E. III Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Anantapur district for the period ending 30th April 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th May 1897, No. 367 :—

Read—the following fortnightly narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 30th April 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—The rainfall registered during the fortnight was 0·31, the average being 0·57. The showers were light and local. In Madakasíra, there was nearly one inch of rain on the 18th instant, and in Kalyandrug on 21st, there was a thunderstorm in which 0·58 of rain fell. There was hail, too, which did some damage to the standing paddy. In the Amarapuram range of Madakasíra taluk, some drinking water wells have dried up and water is obtained from irrigation wells outside the village. The supply of drinking water is generally sufficient, but in Dharmavaram it is running short, and also in the Panchamas' wells in the Northern and Central taluks. In addition to the Taluk Board grants, a sum of Rs. 3,000 sanctioned by Government from the Provincial funds has been distributed amongst the several taluks, and wells are being deepened and the water-supply otherwise improved in the affected parts. The irrigation tanks have quite dried up, and in the river channels, nalas and wells, the water is hardly sufficient for the standing crops.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Agricultural operations are practically at a standstill. There are no standing crops on dry lands. *Under wells and nalas.*—The harvesting of paddy and ragi is over in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks, the outturn being from fair to average. The standing crops in the southern taluks, viz , paddy, sugarcane, ragi, korra and barigalu are fair to good. Paddy and cholam are being harvested in the Anantapur division, the outturn ranging from 8 to 12 annas.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is *nil ;* fodder is available to a limited extent and is procurable with great difficulty and at a very heavy cost, in spite of the partial replenishment of stocks by the late harvests of ragi, cholam, and paddy crops. Prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used as fodder in parts of the Gooty taluk. The supply of hill grass secured in parts of Anantapur from the Tarimala and Kothakota forest reserves is nearly exhausted. The condition of non-working cattle is miserable, only the draught cattle are being tended, and in many parts even these are first deteriorating. Some of them have been driven to the Mysore Province. There is some cattle disease in Dharmavaram, Madakasíra, and Anantapur taluks : attacks 397 and deaths 194. Grazing at reduced rates of two annas, one anna and half anna for buffalo, cow or sheep has been permitted in all the taluks of the district until 30th June next. I am taking steps to throw open some of the reserves in the district for free grazing.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The harvesting operations are almost over everywhere and the ryots are anxiously looking forward to the Mungari rains. Loans works in all the taluks and the work in "Drupair" gardens in Madakasíra afford

some employment to the labouring classes in the rural tracts. Distress is deepening rapidly. The plight of the cattle is pitiable and I have written to Mr. G. G. Arbuth- not on the subject of pressed fodder to be sent here from Burma or South India.

Food Supplies and the state of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee, for the period ending 31st of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.				Remarks.
					Yellow.		White.		
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Tadpatri	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	12·36	12·36	11·33	11·33	The prices are almost stationary.
Yadiki	8·64	8·10	14·55	14·55	12·36	12·36	12·36	..	
Gooty	8·64	8·64	15·52	16·20	12·64	12·36	11·98	11·84	
Uravakonda	8·92	9·45	16·80	17·85	..	..	11·55	12·60	
Anantapur	8·64	8·64	16·49	16·49	14·49	..	14·42	14·42	
Kalyandrug	10·80	10·80	17·46	17·46	16·48	16·48	13·39	13·39	
Dharmavaram	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	15·45	15·45	14·42	14·42	
Penukonda	9·72	9·72	18·43	19·40	..	..	15·45	16·48	
Hindupur	10·75	10·75	23·65	23·65	..	..	17·20	17·20	
Madakasíra	10·80	10·80	21·34	21·34	..	..	..	..	
Average ..	9·42	9·41	17·53	17·79	13·96	13·80	13·56	13·96	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active in Tadpatri and Hindupur and dull elsewhere. In the former rice was imported from Guntúr, Salem, Coimbatore and cholam from Nellore and Venkatagiri, &c. Ragi is imported from Mysore into Tadpatri taluk. In Hindupur, trade was more active in the latter part of the fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally fair in the two northern taluks and good in others. No improvement is reported in the condition of the Yadiki workers. The Deputy Collector reports, besides, a visible deterioration in the condition of some of the workers on the Putlur work where young men from Kadavakal who came to the work in good condition have since fallen off. This is of course due to the "C" wage.

In villages.—Generally fair. In the Gooty taluk, about 2,500 coolies are employed on the works carried out by the aid of State loans and 4,000 coolies in the other taluks. The Head Assistant Collector reports that the Panchama classes in parts of Dharmavaram are stinting themselves in their meals. Proposals to start village relief in this and the northern taluks are under consideration, but execution is hampered by want of hands.

Sickness and mortality.—No deaths from starvation have been reported. Cholera has subsided. Small-pox prevails in Dharmavaram and Madakasíra. There were 130 attacks and six deaths (Dharmavaram).

Remarks.—The scheme for the relief of weavers was introduced in the Tadpatri taluk on the 8th instant. Up to date only 136 men have been relieved. Some of the weavers in Cusba Tadpatri are prevented from availing themselves of State relief by their sowcar creditors. A scheme for the Gooty taluk has also been submitted to the Board for sanction.

The postponement of kists is helping the coolies as well as the ryots by obviating the stoppage of field work. From the statement of admissions into jails circulated with B. P., dated 23rd April 1897, Mis., No. 2918, I notice that the percentages in this district were highest in November last and lowest in February. This fall is, I think, due to the opening of relief-works in the affected parts.

Measures of Relief.

On Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri—		
1. Putlur	843	1,099
2. Gudur	2,015	2,664
3. Yadiki	1,000	1,383
4. Kondapuram	1,648	2,373
Total ...	5,506	7,519
Gooty—		
1. Paltur	1,023	1,245
2. Guntakal	595	776
3. Karadikonda	701	1,108
Total ...	2,319	3,129
Anantapur—		
1. Korrapaud	533	760
2. Nadimidoddi	...	341
Total ...	533	1,101
Dharmavaram—		
1. Nayampalu road	937	2,073
2. Potlamari	...	186
Total ...	937	2,259
Grand Total ...	9,295	14,008

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise :—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens.			
	Dependants.		Others.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri .. .. { 1. Putlur	54	49	6	3
2. Gudur	66	85	3	7
3. Yadiki	100	104	10	12
4. Tadpatri	4	14	46	88
5. Kondapuram	14	59	2	4
6. Sajjaladinna	..	17	..	38
Total ..	238	328	67	152
Gooty .. .. .. { 1. Paltur	97	111	11	9
2. Guntakal	29	34	3	4
3. Karadikonda	18	25	1	..
4. Gooty	..	..	84	86
Total ..	144	170	99	99
Anantapur .. .. { 1. Korrapad	19	17	3	5
2. Nadimidoddi	..	39	..	6
Total ..	19	56	3	11
Dharmavaram .. .. { 1. Cusba	91	133	52	80
2. Potlamari	..	21	..	11
3. Pyadindi	..	27	..	2
Total ..	91	181	52	93
Penukonda .. .. Bukkapatnam	..	..	54	56
Grand Total ..	492	735	275	411

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Tadpatri	1	9	83	136	91	91

Private charity.—The local branches of the Indian Charitable Relief Committee have been trying their best to collect subscriptions. About Rs. 1,000 has been promised in Tadpatri. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has distributed 46 cloths contributed by Rajah Sir Savalai Ramasamy Mudaliar among the most needy in Dharmavaram kitchen. Mr. O. S. Kristamma, District Munsif, Gooty, and Mr. P. Kesava Pillai, Pleader, gave treats on two different occasions to the inmates of the Gooty kitchen, and certain charitable gentlemen of Tadpatri have been daily spending one rupee towards supplying "chutney" and "onions" to the inmates of the Tadpatri kitchen

General Remarks.

The outlook grows gloomier. There is no silver lining yet on our cloud. The close of the harvest work has sent up the numbers on relief from 9,295 to 14,008, not counting the numbers on the newly-opened works at Virapuram and Rayalcheru where there are some 600 more on relief. I anticipate a much large increase in the coming fortnight, as this is, even in normal years, the slack season, when men find no work.

The new works opened in this fortnight are—

(1) In Anantapur, collection of material on Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Peravali.
(2) In Tadpatri, Cuddapah-Bellary road near Virapuram.
(3) In Dharmavaram, Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Potlamari.
(4) The work of repairs of the Rayalcheru supply-channel was also started by the Head Assistant Collector on the 27th instant.

The numbers on the Virapuram road are being swelled by an inrush of Cuddapah work people. I trust that the Collector of that district will reciprocate, and open a work within his borders which will help our south-eastern Tadpatrites.

Of the four southern taluks comprising the Head Assistant Collector's division, Dharmavaram continues to give cause for anxiety. I have arranged with Mr. MacMichael that he is to withdraw two Revenue Inspectors, one each from Hindupúr and Madakasíra at once, and put them in charge of works at Yallacuntla and near Demajipalli. Their deputation will delay jamabandi, but that cannot be helped. "Needs must when the Famine drives". When the Kanumukkala and Perur works are opened, I think no more will be needed in this taluk, for the present at least. The Head Assistant Collector's detailed report on the Budali firka is awaited. In this, and also in the Bukkapatnam firka of Penukonda taluk, relief measures will be necessary shortly. The lower classes in the latter firka were found by the Head Assistant Collector to be stinting themselves, but his house-to-house inspection showed that they had always some food in their houses.

If I could only get the staff, I would have twelve more works opened at once in Anantapur, Gooty and Tadpatri. I have put all the Local Fund overseers on works, and several Revenue Inspectors are also in charge. I cannot take any more of these latter from their firkas for fear of interrupting the loans work. I have applied to the Salt Commissioner for the loan of some Salt and Abkári officers, and he has kindly instructed the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, to help me if he can. The results of my messages on the whole have not been very encouraging. The Collectors of Kistna and North Arcot have kindly come to my aid, and have sent me men whom I can utilize as temporary overseers and as paymasters and perhaps as Circle Inspectors.

I have, in exercise of the discretion vested in me in B.P., dated 11th December 1896, No. 419, increased the recess hours of the relief workers from two to three hours and made arrangements for them to begin work earlier. The heat of the sun is, in the middle of the day, terrible, and I hold it most unadvisable to exact work then. I am aware that the Deccan labourer is inured to the sun, but the work he does is not sedentary. Work entailing motion is much more tolerable, in this heat, than the sedentary and monotonous occupation of stone-breaking.

Village Relief.—I could begin this, too, if I had the men. The registers are far enough advanced for me to start the work if I had only had some Inspectors. Meanwhile, I request permission to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk.

Medical Inspection of relief workers is practically *nil*—a hurried visit from an over-worked Municipal Hospital Assistant takes its place. I have wired to the Surgeon-General on the subject; but he has regretted his inability to oblige. I have also wired to Government to ask that two of the four Hospital Assistants on plague duty may be allowed me for famine duty, on condition of my returning them at once in case any plague cases are detected. At present the inspection is carried out by Surgeon-Captain Macrae, an Assistant Surgeon, and two Hospital Assistants. The other two Assistants follow, taking addresses and punching tickets. It surely does not need a medical training to enable a man to do this latter work efficiently, and I would respectfully urge the Board will support me in this matter.

As directed in B.P., dated 16th March 1897, No. 215, an attempt has been made in Tadpatri taluk to induce traders to set up bazaars near the relief works, but without success. The results of attempts elsewhere have not been reported. I will enquire about this.

I am glad to say that one of my Famine Deputy Collectors has been relieved of all other work, the Special Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Acharyalu Pantulu Garu having arrived.

The Gooty Famine Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. K. Narayana Iyer has proposed that the Special Loans Act be extended so as to embrace weavers. Most of these, he says, can give good security either real or personal, and he is of opinion that it would save time, trouble, worry, and, in the result, money, if we made advances in money to them instead of in material. The present system is undoubtedly vexatious, cumbersome and expensive to a degree. I will go into the matter fully on my visit to Tadpatri.

I only took charge on the 20th afternoon and partly owing to that, and partly to having twisted my ankle, I was not able to do more inspection than I have shown above. I have arranged for a thorough inspection of Tadpatri and Gooty immediately and will then do Anantapur. My inspection of the works showed me that the workers, most of whom (except at Dharmavaram) were women and children, were in fair condition. They had no complaints to make on the whole. Some complained of the weight of the hammers and the length of the haft. The former I could not reduce, but I gave orders that a carpenter should be brought on to the works and the handles shortened. Mr. Romilly informs me that after they have been on the work some time, the workers—men and women—prefer the heavier hammers. This has also been my experience, those who complained being new arrivals. For these a supply of lighter hammers is indicated. The food prepared in the kitchens was clean and sweet, and the children took to it kindly—their appetites being evidently as wide as their broad-grinning mouths. At Gooty there were a couple of blind men who would not go to the kitchen. They preferred to be given a task—presumably for the sake of the society, for I looked at their hands and saw no wounds or abrasions on them, such as I should expect to find on the hands of a blind and non-professional stone-breaker. The water-supply seemed to be sufficient, but there were complaints about the delay in paying the carriers at Kondapuram and Gudúr.

In conclusion, I beg to draw attention again to the haphazard fashion in which we are proceeding in the matter of enlistments of overseers, &c., and of the appointment of Medical officers. If we find so much difficulty now when the numbers on

relief are comparatively small, what will be our state if the rains fail in June? Forewarned is forearmed. I would suggest that some system of registration should at once be inaugurated, so that we may know where to apply for aid and what hope there is of getting it. At present we are too often as one crying in the wilderness.

P.S.—Since the above was written, I learn from Dr. Hakim that the Surgeon-General has detailed two Hospital Assistants to this district for famine duty.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	20	3,400	13	1,450	50	18,200	13	1,380	10	1,105	74	16,900	33	4,780	23	2,555	124	35,100	1	12
Gooty	31	6,465	20	2,435	177	44,980	408	53,281	359	44,133	722	1,41,440	439	59,746	379	46,568	899	1,86,420	..	20
Anantapur	287	27,052	289	26,812	450	52,160	7	905	7	805	32	4,435	294	27,957	296	27,617	482	56,595	4	190
Kalyandrug	167	22,735	146	11,152	111	21,265	18	2,320	17	1,570	42	6,900	185	25,055	163	12,722	153	28,165	4	146
Dharmavaram	160	18,455	144	10,960	91	13,480	2	400	2	400	7	730	162	18,855	146	11,360	98	14,201	11	142
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																			
Hindupur	171	28,625	146	17,397	99	23,930	3	1,150	3	1,075	1	500	174	29,775	149	18,472	100	24,430	4	152
Madakasira	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	1	22
Total ..	876	1,14,167	779	73,791	1,012	1,80,770	451	59,436	398	49,088	878	1,70,905	1,327	1,73,603	1,177	1,22,879	1,890	3,51,675	25	684

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	97	6,894	88	6,299	131	8,838	..	..	..	..	2	260	97	6,894	88	6,299	133	9,098
Gooty	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kalyandrug	..	..	..	..	1	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	620	..	..	..	..	9	640
Penukonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046
Hindupur	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																	
Madakasira	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	750	11	750	22	2,120	11	750	11	750	22	2,120
	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	500	..	..	10	1,625	3	500	..	..	10	1,625
Total ..	116	8,134	106	7,479	357	21,348	53	3,770	44	2,720	112	8,671	169	11,904	150	10,199	469	30,019

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Head Assistant Collector.

Dharmavaram.
Gotlur.
Negalur.
Yotlamari.
Velpamadugu.

Dharmavaram taluk ... Yevadindi.
Mallakalwa.
Tumparti.
Pothularajupalli.
Nirunnakunta.
Chippalcherukothakota.
Kummakkala.

Penukonda taluk ... Penukonda.
Rampuram.
Locherla.
Kothacheru.
Bukkapatnam.
Putaparti.
Vengalammacheru.
Mylasamudram.
Kanisettipalli.

Deputy Collector, Gooty.

Gooty.
Karadikonda.
Ubicherla.

Gooty taluk ... Guntakal.
Thimmamcherla.
Midatur.
Gooty-Anantapur.

Tadpatri.
Nandalapaud.
Senegalagoodur.
Thukkalapalli.
Putlur.
Kummanamala.
Kondapuram.
Surepalli.

Tadpatri taluk ... Kadavakal.
Arakatuvemala.
Muchukota.
Hussainpuram.
Veerapuram.
Vangaunr.
Bappepalli.
Rayavenkatapuram.
Cherlopalli.
Medipalli.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector.

Kadair.
Kadatharkanta.
Cholasamudram.
Hanumapuram.
Budijumma.
Kaggaparti.
Belaguppa.
Erragudi.
Sirpy.

Kadair taluk ... Gungavaram.
Golla.
Seebhavi.
Kalvapalli.
Kurugunta.
Korrapand.
Bandamidapalli.
Sivapuram.
Peravali.
Chekruyapotta.

Collector.

Gooty taluk	Gooty.	
	Karadikonda.	
	Guntakal.	
	Dharmavaram.	
	Alamur (Anantapur taluk).	

Resolution—dated 14th May 1897, No. 367.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The rainfall for the fortnight was below the average. The showers were light and local, and have not improved prospects. Standing crops in Kalyandrug were damaged by hail. The supply of drinking water is said to be generally sufficient, and where it is running short, the sources of supply are being improved. Tanks are dry and in channels, nalas and wells, the supply is decreasing. Except under the latter sources of irrigation, there are no crops. Crops harvested have yielded a fair to average outturn. Those standing in the southern taluks are reported to be in fair to good condition.

3. Pasture is *nil*, and fodder is procurable with great difficulty and at a high price. The supply of hill grass is failing, and prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used in parts. Grazing in reserved forests has been permitted at reduced rates in all taluks up to June 30th, and steps are being taken to throw open reserves for free grazing. The condition of cattle is pitiable, and none but the best are properly tended. The question of opening cattle camps is now under the consideration of the Board. The result of the Collector's reference to the Hon'ble Mr. G. Arbuthnot should be reported.

4. Prices are practically stationary, though they are decidedly easier in Uravakonda. Grain is being imported from the east and south. Trade, however, seems, to be decidedly wanting in enterprise. Tadpatri and Hindupur are railway stations, and yet the price of white cholam is 11·33 at the former and 16·48 at the latter. Yadiki is not far from a railway station, and yet ragi sells at 14·55 measures there and at 23·65 at Hindupur. The Collector reports that he has been unable to open bazaars at Tadpatri, and it looks as if a grain ring had been formed there. The position of prices is shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Measures per rupee.	
	Rice.	Cholam.
Standard rate	13·2	30 0
Warning rate	10·6	22·5
Scarcity rate	7·9	15·0
Current rate	9·4	13·9
April 1892	8·7	15 2
April 1877	7·7	9·0

5. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair, though no improvement is discernible at Yadiki, and coolies on the "C" wage at Kadavakal have lost flesh. These persons should be carefully watched not only by the Collector, but by a competent medical officer, and the results of the payment of the "B" wage, as ordered in G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, noted.

6. The numbers on works increased during the fortnight from 9,295 to 14,008, or by 51 per cent., and the numbers on gratuitous relief increased proportionately, though the latter are still less than half what they should be. Four additional works have been opened during the fortnight, and more would have been opened, but for the want of subordinates. The Collector's action in taking Revenue Inspectors from their ordinary duties to superintend works is approved as the best arrangement to be made under the circumstances, but it is to be feared that these untrained officers will require a deal of supervision.

7. The administration of village relief is similarly delayed by want of hands, though the Collector has received help from North Arcot and Kistna. and hopes to get men from the Salt and Abkári Department. The Collector's request to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk is sanctioned.

8. The Medical Department has, in answer to the request of the Collector, detailed two special Hospital Assistants to the district, but the Board considers that even this provision is insufficient for a proper medical supervision of the workers, and requests Government to consider whether, under the circumstances stated by the Collector, two of the Plague Hospital Assistants might not be deputed for famine duty in areas close to Guntakal, until any case of plague is detected there. At the same time the Board must observe that the need in Anantapur is not so pressing as elsewhere, Ganjám for instance.

9. The attention of Government is being drawn by the Board in another Proceedings to the serious extent to which the administration of relief is hampered by the want of adequate subordinate establishments.

10. The Collector suggests the abolition of the present system of relieving weavers, and the extension of the Special Loans Act to cover their case. The Board fears that any enquiries made by the Collector on the subject will prove but waste of time, for it will be impossible for the Act to be revised before June, by which time it is hoped that an improvement in the season will have set in. It is possible, also, that the opinion of the experienced Deputy Collector in charge of the two northern taluks as to the capability of the weavers to give adequate security, is unduly sanguine.

11. No progress has been made in the disposal of applications for loans in Penukonda taluk during the last month. The Collector makes no remark. The matter should receive his attention, and the cause of the neglect should be explained. The progress of loans disbursed is as follows:—

Week ending	Amount disbursed since commencement of distress.
	Rs.
1st May 1897	1,08,144
8th „ „	1,09,072
15th „ „	1,55,498

12. The attention of the Collector of Cuddapah will be drawn to Mr. Shipley's remark as to need for employment on the south-east frontier of Tadpatri.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Anantapur.
„ „ of Cuddapah.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ „ Collectors of other affected districts.

ORDER—No. 432, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government has already deputed two of the plague Hospital Assistants for famine duty.

3. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 3, it is observed that the Board has since expressed grave doubts as to the ultimate success of the scheme for establishing cattle camps. The Government agrees in this view and resolves to direct that

the action of the Famine Commissioner should be confined to providing official supervision in connection with the sales of fodder which the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has undertaken to import and to lay down at selected stations in the affected Deccan districts for Rs. 12-8-0 a ton.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Ed. A. F. Eccleston.

100 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. / *Regd.* } 1897. *Enclosures* / *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 432, 4th June 1897.

JUNE.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Anantapur district for the period ending 30th April 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th May 1897, No. 367 :—

Read—the following fortnightly narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 30th April 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—The rainfall registered during the fortnight was 0·31, the average being 0·57. The showers were light and local. In Madakasíra, there was nearly one inch of rain on the 18th instant, and in Kalyandrug on 21st, there was a thunderstorm in which 0·58 of rain fell. There was hail, too, which did some damage to the standing paddy. In the Amarapuram range of Madakasíra taluk, some drinking water wells have dried up and water is obtained from irrigation wells outside the village. The supply of drinking water is generally sufficient, but in Dharmavaram it is running short, and also in the Panchamas' wells in the Northern and Central taluks. In addition to the Taluk Board grants, a sum of Rs. 3,000 sanctioned by Government from the Provincial funds has been distributed amongst the several taluks, and wells are being deepened and the water-supply otherwise improved in the affected parts. The irrigation tanks have quite dried up, and in the river channels, nalas and wells, the water is hardly sufficient for the standing crops.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Agricultural operations are practically at a standstill. There are no standing crops on dry lands. *Under wells and nalas.*—The harvesting of paddy and ragi is over in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks, the outturn being from fair to average. The standing crops in the southern taluks, viz , paddy, sugarcane, ragi, korra and barigalu are fair to good. Paddy and cholam are being harvested in the Anantapur division, the outturn ranging from 8 to 12 annas.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is *nil ;* fodder is ava..ilable to a limited extent and is procurable with great difficulty and at a very heavy cost, in spi..e of the partial replenishment of stocks by the late harvests of ragi, cholam, and p..addy crops. Prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used as fodder in parts of the Go..oty taluk. The supply of hill grass secured in parts of Anantapur from the Tarimal.. and Kothakota forest reserves is nearly exhausted. The condition of non-working cat..tle is miserable, only the draught cattle are being tended, and in many parts even the..se are fast deteriorating. Some of them have been driven to the Mysore Province. Th..ere is some cattle disease in Dharmavaram, Madakasíra, and Anantapur taluks : attac..s 397 and deaths 194. Grazing at reduced rates of two annas, one anna and half anna fo..r buffalo, cow or sheep has been permitted in all the taluks of the district until 30th J..une next. I am taking steps to throw open some of the reserves in the district for f..ree grazing.

General remarks on the p..revious subjects.—The harvesting operations are almost over everywhere and the ryot..s are anxiously looking forward to the Mungari rains. Loans works in all the taluks a..nd the work in "Drupair" gardens in Madakasíra afford

some employment to the labouring classes in the rural tracts. Distress is deepening rapidly. The plight of the cattle is pitiable and I have written to Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot on the subject of pressed fodder to be sent here from Burma or South India.

Food Supplies and the state of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee, for the period ending 31st of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.				Remarks.
					Yellow.		White.		
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Tadpatri	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	12·36	12·36	11·33	11·33	The prices are almost stationary.
Yadiki	8·64	8·10	14·55	14·55	12·36	12·36	12·36	..	
Gooty	8·64	8·64	15·52	16·20	12·64	12·36	11·98	11·84	
Uravakonda	8·92	9·45	16·80	17·85	..	..	11·55	12·60	
Anantapur	8·64	8·64	16·49	16·49	14·49	..	14·42	14·42	
Kalyandrug	10·80	10·80	17·46	17·46	16·48	16·48	13·39	13·39	
Dharmavaram	8·64	8·64	15·52	15·52	15·45	15·45	14·42	14·42	
Penukonda	9·72	9·72	18·43	19·40	..	..	15·45	16·48	
Hindupur	10·75	10·75	23·65	23·65	..	..	17·20	17·20	
Madakasíra	10·80	10·80	21·34	21·34	..	..	..	..	
Average ..	9·42	9·41	17·53	17·79	13·96	13·80	13·56	13·96	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active in Tadpatri and Hindupur and dull elsewhere. In the former rice was imported from Guntúr, Salem, Coimbatore and cholam from Nellore and Venkatagiri, &c. Ragi is imported from Mysore into Tadpatri taluk. In Hindupur, trade was more active in the latter part of the fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally fair in the two northern taluks and good in others. No improvement is reported in the condition of the Yadiki workers. The Deputy Collector reports, besides, a visible deterioration in the condition of some of the workers on the Putlur work where young men from Kadavakal who came to the work in good condition have since fallen off. This is of course due to the "C" wage.

In villages.—Generally fair. In the Gooty taluk, about 2,500 coolies are employed on the works carried out by the aid of State loans and 4,000 coolies in the other taluks. The Head Assistant Collector reports that the Panchama classes in parts of Dharmavaram are stinting themselves in their meals. Proposals to start village relief in this and the northern taluks are under consideration, but execution is hampered by want of hands.

Sickness and mortality.—No deaths from starvation have been reported. Cholera has subsided. Small-pox prevails in Dharmavaram and Madakasíra. There were 130 attacks and six deaths (Dharmavaram).

Remarks.—The scheme for the relief of weavers was introduced in the Tadpatri taluk on the 8th instant. Up to date only 136 men have been relieved. Some of the weavers in Cusba Tadpatri are prevented from availing themselves of State relief by their sowcar creditors. A scheme for the Gooty taluk has also been submitted to the Board for sanction.

The postponement of kists is helping the coolies as well as the ryots by obviating the stoppage of field work. From the statement of admissions into jails circulated with B. P., dated 23rd April 1897, Mis., No. 2918, I notice that the percentages in this district were highest in November last and lowest in February. This fall is, I think, due to the opening of relief-works in the affected parts.

Measures of Relief.

On Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers:—

	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri—		
1. Putlur	843	1,099
2. Gudur	2,015	2,664
3. Yadiki	1,000	1,383
4. Kondapuram	1,648	2,373
Total ...	5,506	7,519
Gooty—		
1. Paltur	1,023	1,245
2. Guntakal	595	776
3. Karadikonda	701	1,108
Total ...	2,319	3,129
Anantapur—		
1. Korrapaud	533	760
2. Nadimidoddi	...	341
Total ...	533	1,101
Dharmavaram—		
1. Nayampalu road	937	2,073
2. Potlamari	...	186
Total ...	937	2,259
Grand Total ...	9,295	14,008

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise:—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens.			
	Dependants.		Others.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri .. .. { 1. Putlur	54	49	6	3
2. Gudur	66	85	3	7
3. Yadiki	100	104	10	12
4. Tadpatri	4	14	46	88
5. Kondapuram	14	59	2	4
6. Sajjaladinna	..	17	..	38
Total ..	238	328	67	152
Gooty .. .. .. { 1. Paltur	97	111	11	9
2. Guntakal	29	34	3	4
3. Karadikonda	18	25	1	..
4. Gooty	..	..	84	86
Total ..	144	170	99	99
Anantapur .. .. { 1. Korrapad	19	17	3	5
2. Nadimidoddi	..	39	..	6
Total ..	19	56	3	11
Dharmavaram .. .. { 1. Cusba	91	133	52	80
2. Potlamari	..	21	..	11
3. Pyadindi	..	27	..	2
Total ..	91	181	52	93
Penukonda .. .. Bukkapatnam	..	..	54	56
Grand Total ..	492	735	275	411

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Tadpatri	1	9	83	136	91	91

Private charity.—The local branches of the Indian Charitable Relief Committee have been trying their best to collect subscriptions. About Rs. 1,000 has been promised in Tadpatri. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has distributed 46 cloths contributed by Rajah Sir Savalai Ramasamy Mudaliar among the most needy in Dharmavaram kitchen. Mr. O. S. Kristamma, District Munsif, Gooty, and Mr. P. Kesava Pillai, Pleader, gave treats on two different occasions to the inmates of the Gooty kitchen, and certain charitable gentlemen of Tadpatri have been daily spending one rupee towards supplying "chutney" and "onions" to the inmates of the Tadpatri kitchen

General Remarks.

The outlook grows gloomier. There is no silver lining yet on our cloud. The close of the harvest work has sent up the numbers on relief from 9,295 to 14,008, not counting the numbers on the newly-opened works at Virapuram and Rayalcheru where there are some 600 more on relief. I anticipate a much large increase in the coming fortnight, as this is, even in normal years, the slack season, when men find no work.

The new works opened in this fortnight are—

(1) In Anantapur, collection of material on Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Peravali.
(2) In Tadpatri, Cuddapah-Bellary road near Virapuram.
(3) In Dharmavaram, Demajipalli-Nayanapalli road near Potlamari.
(4) The work of repairs of the Rayalcheru supply-channel was also started by the Head Assistant Collector on the 27th instant.

The numbers on the Virapuram road are being swelled by an inrush of Cuddapah work people. I trust that the Collector of that district will reciprocate, and open a work within his borders which will help our south-eastern Tadpatrites.

Of the four southern taluks comprising the Head Assistant Collector's division, Dharmavaram continues to give cause for anxiety. I have arranged with Mr. Mac-Michael that he is to withdraw two Revenue Inspectors, one each from Hindupúr and Madakasíra at once, and put them in charge of works at Yallacuntla and near Demajipalli. Their deputation will delay jamabandi, but that cannot be helped. "Needs must when the Famine drives". When the Kanumukkala and Perur works are opened, I think no more will be needed in this taluk, for the present at least. The Head Assistant Collector's detailed report on the Budali firka is awaited. In this, and also in the Bukkapatnam firka of Penukonda taluk, relief measures will be necessary shortly. The lower classes in the latter firka were found by the Head Assistant Collector to be stinting themselves, but his house-to-house inspection showed that they had always some food in their houses.

If I could only get the staff, I would have twelve more works opened at once in Anantapur, Gooty and Tadpatri. I have put all the Local Fund overseers on works, and several Revenue Inspectors are also in charge. I cannot take any more of these latter from their firkas for fear of interrupting the loans work. I have applied to the Salt Commissioner for the loan of some Salt and Abkári officers, and he has kindly instructed the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, to help me if he can. The results of my messages on the whole have not been very encouraging. The Collectors of Kistna and North Arcot have kindly come to my aid, and have sent me men whom I can utilize as temporary overseers and as paymasters and perhaps as Circle Inspectors.

I have, in exercise of the discretion vested in me in B.P., dated 11th December 1896, No. 419, increased the recess hours of the relief workers from two to three hours and made arrangements for them to begin work earlier. The heat of the sun is, in the middle of the day, terrible, and I hold it most unadvisable to exact work then. I am aware that the Deccan labourer is inured to the sun, but the work he does is not sedentary. Work entailing motion is much more tolerable, in this heat, than the sedentary and monotonous occupation of stone-breaking.

Village Relief.—I could begin this, too, if I had the men. The registers are far enough advanced for me to start the work if I had only had some Inspectors. Meanwhile, I request permission to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk.

Medical Inspection of relief workers is practically *nil*—a hurried visit from an over-worked Municipal Hospital Assistant takes its place. I have wired to the Surgeon-General on the subject; but he has regretted his inability to oblige. I have also wired to Government to ask that two of the four Hospital Assistants on plague duty may be allowed me for famine duty, on condition of my returning them at once in case any plague cases are detected. At present the inspection is carried out by Surgeon-Captain Macrae, an Assistant Surgeon, and two Hospital Assistants. The other two Assistants follow, taking addresses and punching tickets. It surely does not need a medical training to enable a man to do this latter work efficiently, and I would respectfully urge the Board will support me in this matter.

As directed in B.P., dated 16th March 1897, No. 215, an attempt has been made in Tadpatri taluk to induce traders to set up bazaars near the relief works, but without success. The results of attempts elsewhere have not been reported. I will enquire about this.

I am glad to say that one of my Famine Deputy Collectors has been relieved of all other work, the Special Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Acharyalu Pantulu Garu having arrived.

The Gooty Famine Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. K. Narayana Iyer has proposed that the Special Loans Act be extended so as to embrace weavers. Most of these, he says, can give good security either real or personal, and he is of opinion that it would save time, trouble, worry, and, in the result, money, if we made advances in money to them instead of in material. The present system is undoubtedly vexatious, cumbersome and expensive to a degree. I will go into the matter fully on my visit to Tadpatri.

I only took charge on the 20th afternoon and partly owing to that, and partly to having twisted my ankle, I was not able to do more inspection than I have shown above. I have arranged for a thorough inspection of Tadpatri and Gooty immediately and will then do Anantapur. My inspection of the works showed me that the workers, most of whom (except at Dharmavaram) were women and children, were in fair condition. They had no complaints to make on the whole. Some complained of the weight of the hammers and the length of the haft. The former I could not reduce, but I gave orders that a carpenter should be brought on to the works and the handles shortened. Mr. Romilly informs me that after they have been on the work some time, the workers—men and women—prefer the heavier hammers. This has also been my experience, those who complained being new arrivals. For these a supply of lighter hammers is indicated. The food prepared in the kitchens was clean and sweet, and the children took to it kindly—their appetites being evidently as wide as their broad-grinning mouths. At Gooty there were a couple of blind men who would not go to the kitchen. They preferred to be given a task—presumably for the sake of the society, for I looked at their hands and saw no wounds or abrasions on them, such as I should expect to find on the hands of a blind and non-professional stone-breaker. The water-supply seemed to be sufficient, but there were complaints about the delay in paying the carriers at Kondapuram and Gudúr.

In conclusion, I beg to draw attention again to the haphazard fashion in which we are proceeding in the matter of enlistments of overseers, &c., and of the appointment of Medical officers. If we find so much difficulty now when the numbers on

relief are comparatively small, what will be our state if the rains fail in June? Forewarned is forearmed. I would suggest that some system of registration should at once be inaugurated, so that we may know where to apply for aid and what hope there is of getting it. At present we are too often as one crying in the wilderness.

P.S.—Since the above was written, I learn from Dr. Hakim that the Surgeon-General has detailed two Hospital Assistants to this district for famine duty.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	20	3,400	13	1,450	50	18,200	13	1,380	10	1,105	74	16,900	33	4,780	23	2,555	124	35,100	1	12
Gooty	31	6,485	20	2,435	177	44,980	408	53,281	359	44,133	722	1,41,440	439	59,746	379	46,568	899	1,86,420	..	20
Anantapur	287	27,052	289	26,812	450	52,160	7	905	7	805	32	4,435	294	27,957	296	27,617	482	56,595	4	190
Kalyandrug	167	22,735	146	11,152	111	21,265	18	2,320	17	1,570	42	6,900	185	25,055	163	12,722	153	28,165	4	146
Dharmavaram	160	18,455	144	10,960	91	13,480	2	400	2	400	7	730	162	18,855	146	11,360	98	14,201	11	142
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																			
Hindupur	171	28,625	146	17,397	99	23,930	3	1,150	3	1,075	1	500	174	29,775	149	18,472	100	24,430	4	152
Madakasira	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	7,435	21	3,585	34	6,755	1	22
Total ..	876	1,14,167	779	73,791	1,012	1,80,770	451	59,436	398	49,088	878	1,70,905	1,327	1,73,603	1,177	1,22,879	1,890	3,51,675	25	684

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Tadpatri	97	6,894	88	6,299	131	8,838	..	..	..	..	2	260	97	6,894	88	6,299	133	9,098
Gooty	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	1,240	18	1,180	225	12,490
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kalyandrug	..	..	..	..	1	20	..	..	..	..	8	620	..	..	..	..	9	640
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046	39	2,520	33	1,970	70	4,046
Penukonda	No progress in this taluk for the two last fortnights.																	
Hindupur	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	750	11	750	22	2,120	11	750	11	750	22	2,120
Madakasira	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	500	..	..	10	1,625	3	500	..	..	10	1,625
Total ..	116	8,134	106	7,479	357	21,348	53	3,770	44	2,720	112	8,671	169	11,904	150	10,199	469	30

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Head Assistant Collector.

Dharmavaram.
Gotlur.
Nagalur.
Potlamari.
Velpamadugu.
Dharmavaram taluk ... Peyadindi.
Mallakalwa.
Tumparti.
Potlularajupalli.
Nirunnalkunta.
Chippaleherukothakota.
Kummakkala.
Penukonda.
Rampuram.
Locherla.
Kothacheru.
Penukonda taluk ... Bukkapatnam.
Putaparti.
Vengalammacheru.
Mylasamudram.
Kanisettipalli.

Deputy Collector, Gooty.

Gooty.
Karadikonda.
Ubicherla.
Gooty taluk ... Guntakal.
Thimmanacherla.
Midatur.
Gooty-Anantapur.
Tadpatri.
Nandalapaud.
Senegalagoodur.
Thukkalapelli.
Putlur.
Kummamamala.
Kondapuram.
Surepalli.
Tadpatri taluk ... Kadavakal.
Arakatavemala.
Muchukota.
Hussainpuram.
Veerapuram.
Vangaour.
Bappepalli.
Rayavenkatapuram.
Cherlopalli.
Medipalli.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector.

Kadair.
Kadatharkunta.
Kadair taluk ... Cholasamudram.
Hanumapuram.
Budjumma.
Kaggaparti.
Belagoppa.
Erraguda.
Sirpy.
Gungavaram.
Golla.
Seebbavi.
Kalvapalli.
Kurugunta.
Korrapand.
Bandamidapalli.
Sivapuram.
Peravali.
Chekrayapetta.

Collector.

Gooty taluk	{	Gooty. Karadikonda. Guntakal. Dharmavaram. Alamur (Anantapur taluk).

Resolution—dated 14th May 1897, No. 367.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The rainfall for the fortnight was below the average. The showers were light and local, and have not improved prospects. Standing crops in Kalyandrug were damaged by hail. The supply of drinking water is said to be generally sufficient, and where it is running short, the sources of supply are being improved. Tanks are dry and in channels, nalas and wells, the supply is decreasing. Except under the latter sources of irrigation, there are no crops. Crops harvested have yielded a fair to average outturn. Those standing in the southern taluks are reported to be in fair to good condition.

3. Pasture is *nil*, and fodder is procurable with great difficulty and at a high price. The supply of hill grass is failing, and prickly-pear and *sonti* roots are being used in parts. Grazing in reserved forests has been permitted at reduced rates in all taluks up to June 30th, and steps are being taken to throw open reserves for free grazing. The condition of cattle is pitiable, and none but the best are properly tended. The question of opening cattle camps is now under the consideration of the Board. The result of the Collector's reference to the Hon'ble Mr. G. Arbuthnot should be reported.

4. Prices are practically stationary, though they are decidedly easier in Uravakonda. Grain is being imported from the east and south. Trade, however, seems, to be decidedly wanting in enterprise. Tadpatri and Hindupur are railway stations, and yet the price of white cholam is 11·33 at the former and 16·48 at the latter. Yadiki is not far from a railway station, and yet ragi sells at 14·55 measures there and at 23·65 at Hindupur. The Collector reports that he has been unable to open bazaars at Tadpatri, and it looks as if a grain ring had been formed there. The position of prices is shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Measures per rupee.	
	Rice.	Cholam.
Standard rate	13·2	30 0
Warning rate	10·6	22·5
Scarcity rate	7·9	15·0
Current rate	9·4	13·9
April 1892	8·7	15·2
April 1877	7·7	9·0

5. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair, though no improvement is discernible at Yadiki, and coolies on the "C" wage at Kadavakal have lost flesh. These persons should be carefully watched not only by the Collector, but by a competent medical officer, and the results of the payment of the "B" wage, as ordered in G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, noted.

6. The numbers on works increased during the fortnight from 9,295 to 14,008, or by 51 per cent., and the numbers on gratuitous relief increased proportionately, though the latter are still less than half what they should be. Four additional works have been opened during the fortnight, and more would have been opened, but for the want of subordinates. The Collector's action in taking Revenue Inspectors from their ordinary duties to superintend works is approved as the best arrangement to be made under the circumstances, but it is to be feared that these untrained officers will require a deal of supervision.

7. The administration of village relief is similarly delayed by want of hands, though the Collector has received help from North Arcot and Kistna, and hopes to get men from the Salt and Abkári Department. The Collector's request to entertain two Inspectors for each taluk is sanctioned.

8. The Medical Department has, in answer to the request of the Collector, detailed two special Hospital Assistants to the district, but the Board considers that even this provision is insufficient for a proper medical supervision of the workers, and requests Government to consider whether, under the circumstances stated by the Collector, two of the Plague Hospital Assistants might not be deputed for famine duty in areas close to Guntakal, until any case of plague is detected there. At the same time the Board must observe that the need in Anantapur is not so pressing as elsewhere, Ganjám for instance.

9. The attention of Government is being drawn by the Board in another Proceedings to the serious extent to which the administration of relief is hampered by the want of adequate subordinate establishments.

10. The Collector suggests the abolition of the present system of relieving weavers, and the extension of the Special Loans Act to cover their case. The Board fears that any enquiries made by the Collector on the subject will prove but waste of time, for it will be impossible for the Act to be revised before June, by which time it is hoped that an improvement in the season will have set in. It is possible, also, that the opinion of the experienced Deputy Collector in charge of the two northern taluks as to the capability of the weavers to give adequate security, is unduly sanguine.

11. No progress has been made in the disposal of applications for loans in Penukonda taluk during the last month. The Collector makes no remark. The matter should receive his attention, and the cause of the neglect should be explained. The progress of loans disbursed is as follows:—

Week ending	Amount disbursed since commencement of distress.
	Rs.
1st May 1897	1,08,144
8th „ „	1,09,072
15th „ „	1,55,498

12. The attention of the Collector of Cuddapah will be drawn to Mr. Shipley's remark as to need for employment on the south-east frontier of Tadpatri.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Anantapur.
„ „ of Cuddapah.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ „ Collectors of other affected districts.

Order—No. 432, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government has already deputed two of the plague Hospital Assistants for famine duty.

3. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 3, it is observed that the Board has since expressed grave doubts as to the ultimate success of the scheme for establishing cattle camps. The Government agrees in this view and resolves to direct that

the action of the Famine Commissioner should be confined to providing official supervision in connection with the sales of fodder which the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has undertaken to import and to lay down at selected stations in the affected Deccan districts for Rs. 12–8–0 a ton.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

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