Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 26925

DATED 28 Sept 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jammu; P.W.D.; Revenue dept. sending Board's P.W.D. submitting the fortnightly narrative of the Bellary D.E. for the period ending 31st July 1897, Contd. 6 E. III Cycle.

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 30/9

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Current No: 9333

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

No. 2583 W dt 18-9-97

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Enclosures

Spare copies 16.

G.O., No. 773, 9th September 1897.

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SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st July 1897.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 582, dated 20th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 31st July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight.	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
Yemmiganúru	3·99	10·07	7·83
Adóni	2·28	5·97	9·97
Alúr	1·64	8·63	6·91
Siruguppa	1·30	8·55	7·00
Kampli	0·94	9·22	5·26
Bellary	0·30	4·09	5·92
Rayadrug	0·23	7·36	5·91
Hospet	0·84	15·60	9·14
Kudligi	0·67	15·54	8·18
Harpanahalli	0·51	9·89	8·39
Hadagalli	0·28	9·26	7·37
Sandúr	0·25	9·24	..

There has been good rain during the fortnight in the first four rain-recording stations. Except in Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight has been more than the average of 25 years, but the long break has caused much anxiety except in parts of Adóni and Alúr. The rains have been well distributed and fairly continuous between Kosgi and Yemmiganúru and along the river in the Adóni taluk, but the Adóni firka has not received as much as is wanted. In Alúr the rain was heavy within a radius of 4 or 5 miles from the head-quarter station and in villages on the Harivanam side. There was moderate rain in Siruguppa, Tekkalakota, Parmadevanahalli, Chaganur, Chellagurki, Virapur, Banapur, Sauvaspur, Handihal and Hirehadagalli in Bellary taluk, and Bhupasamudram, Avaladatla, Kaderampalli and Maeheri in Rayadrug taluk ; elsewhere there was but a slight drizzle. Water-supply for drinking purposes is generally sufficient all over the district. In Adóni taluk the Chinnatambalam tank has received two months' supply, and all the small tanks and kuntas, especially in Kosgi and Yemmiganúru firkas, are full. In Alúr, only the Kuruvalli, Alúr and Timmapuram tanks have received some supply. In Bellary, Rayadrug, Hospet and Harpanahalli taluks, the tanks do not contain sufficient supply for irrigation purposes. Six tanks in Hadagalli and many tanks in Kudligi as well as river-fed channels and tanks contain sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Even the heaviest black-cotton soil in the Yemmiganúru firka is being sown with cotton and korra. Weeding operations are in progress to some extent. The standing crops are up to the average everywhere except in some villages round Adóni, where they had already died off before the rains.

Alúr taluk.—In many villages red-soil lands are being sown. The condition of standing crops has been much improved. Crops under wells are in good condition.

Bellary division.—Ragi and cholam under wells and *Kartikaru* (first-crop) paddy under the Hagari channels are being sown. Black-cotton soils are being prepared for sowing. Early dry crops are reported to be withering in Rayadrug taluk. In the Tekkalakóta firka of Bellary taluk the dry crops look better than elsewhere in the taluk.

Hospet division.—Ploughing and weeding are going on in Kudligi and Harpanahalli. Sowing operations are in progress in Gádiganúru firka of Hospet taluk. Paddy is being sown under the tanks in Hadagalli and Kudligi taluks. Garden crops are in good condition. Cholam is in good condition in Harpanahalli, fair in Hadagalli, but is withering in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk. In parts of Hospet and Hadagalli standing crops are being damaged by insects. Want of more rain has checked the progress of cultivation in some villages of Hiréhadagalli firka of Hadagalli taluk and parts of Hospet and Harpanahalli.

Sandur State.—Weeding is over for the present. Standing dry crops are not so good as they should be and are wilting in some places. Garden crops are fair.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is sparingly available in villages irrigated by river channels. Elsewhere it is springing up and in about a week will give a good deal of sustenance to the cattle. Ploughing cattle are almost entirely stallfed and are in fair condition. The condition of other cattle is poor.

Alúr taluk.—Pasture not yet available. Fodder is very scanty, except with a few well-to-do ryots. Hill grass is procurable to a small extent in the hills of Mugamangundi, Sulukoy, Virupapuram and Neriniki, but it is said to be unwholesome for cattle. The condition of cattle of poor ryots is still bad.

Bellary division.—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. Hill grass, prickly-pear and grass roots are much used as fodder. Hill grass is getting very dear and is selling at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug, and bad in Bellary except in the case of stallfed animals.

Hospet division.—Grass generally has not grown sufficiently to be of much use for pasture. Fodder is insufficient except in villages under river channels. In villages situated within easy reach of the reserves, the condition of cattle is good. Cattle in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk are emaciated. In Hadagalli the condition of cattle is deteriorating and there is some slight cattle disease at Bylahunsi. In Kudligi the condition of cattle is fair.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available in the hills. There is little or no fodder. The condition of cattle is much improved. 9,152 head of cattle and 4,877 sheep and goats belonging to British territory are grazing in the Sandúr hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—During the fortnight under report I have travelled through the greater part of the Rayadrug taluk going from Bellary to Rayadrug *viâ* Somalapur, thence to Kanekal and returning to Bellary *viâ* Meenahalli, Gamdachedu, Pridurakunta, Honnur, Govindavada, Uddihal and Bommanahal. I was surprised to find the standing crops in such good condition after the long drought. I saw no crop that had been lost and only patches here and there which were wilting. But the area sown is small and more rain is urgently wanted.

Mr. Spencer has visited most of the villages of the Antapur valley in Hospet and has thoroughly acquainted himself with the condition of things in that part of the taluk. He states that "about two-thirds of the cultivated lands seem to have been sown, but in parts cholam is fading ; on the west and south the crops are in rather better condition, but considering that this part of the country depends on the South-west monsoon chiefly, and it has had very deficient rainfall compared with the other parts of the division, the prospects must be said to be gloomy." With a view to provide the labourers of this part of the taluk with works within their easy reach, the Antapur-Vaddu staff will be transferred to the Avinamadugu tank work, and the Gádiganúru road work will be moved to the Tornagal-Sandúr road with head-quarters about the point where the Antapur-Vaddu road crosses it. The kitchen attached to the work at Antapur will be transferred to Kodalu, the existing one at Antapur being retained as a central kitchen.

In the Adóni taluk prospects are much brighter and it is a treat to see such an expanse of green and healthy-looking crops. The immediate neighbourhood of Adóni, however, has not shared in the general good fortune, for though there has been very fair rain at Adóni itself, but little seems to have fallen in the villages just to the north

of it. The north of Alúr and Bellary taluks are also fairly satisfactory, but elsewhere more rain is badly needed to save the standing crops and to enable the remaining land to be prepared for sowing. We are at present in a state of suspense, but the prospects are, on the whole, somewhat brighter than they were a fortnight ago.

The condition of the cattle leaves much to be desired. The Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has been obliged to stop the free grants of fodder from the depôts and owing to the temporary cessation of the rains there is not the usual extent of pasture available.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

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

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	
Adóni	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·76	9·79	10·82	12·13	14·07	There has been very light change in prices. Ragi has fallen slightly and other grains are a trifle dearer.
Alúr	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	7·56	8·76	8·24	10·30	9·27	13·10	14·55	
Ráyadrug	8·10	8·10	9·79	9·27	10·82	10·04	11·64	12·13	
Hospet	8·10	7·56	9·27	9·79	10·30	10·30	13·10	13·50	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	12·61	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	11·85	10·82	13·10	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	..	11·64	
Sandúr	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	..	12·61	
Average ..	7·80	7·68	8·86	8·86	10·36	10·10	12·61	12·84	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 108,514 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 42,310 maunds in the previous fortnight. This is by far the largest import we have yet had and is sufficient to give nearly 638,000 persons one pound of grain a day for a fortnight.

Condition of the people.

On works.—Satisfactory. Exceptional cases are met with, but these are usually persons who have been suffering from illness. Many of the people from the Nizam's country were in poor condition. The Famine Commissioner has himself seen many of the works recently.

In villages.—Generally good. In Rayadrug I found a few persons in some of the eastern villages who seemed to be in need of relief and I have accordingly sanctioned the grant of grain-doles in that neighbourhood. The numbers will be very small for the present, but if good rain does not fall there soon we shall have to extend operations.

Sickness and Mortality.

Small-pox still prevails in parts of Harpanahalli and Hadagalli. There have been 112 attacks and 11 deaths from this cause. Guinea worm and sore eyes prevail among the relief workers in Bellary and Hospet, but guinea worm is, I think, now less prevalent than it was. Perhaps, this is due to the improvement in the drinking-water.

There is cholera in 11 villages of Adóni taluk. There have been 180 attacks and 90 deaths. It prevails also in 4 villages of Bellary taluk, the number of attacks and deaths being 44 and 32, respectively. Two cases of cholera were reported from Hospet and one from Alúr, but they appear to have been sporadic. Active measures are being taken to combat the disease. On the Nandavaram road, the disease was introduced by wanderers from the Nizam's dominions, who have been its principal victims. The youthful Hospital Assistant on the spot completely lost his head and reported that most of the coolies on the work were suffering from starvation, that this predisposed them to cholera and most of them were dying of that complaint. The Assistant

Surgeon was at once sent to Nandavaram, and the Hospital Assistant then said that there had been one death from starvation, but even this on enquiry proved to be a death from fever and exposure, though no doubt aggravated by privation. The deceased was a man from the Nizam's dominions, whence there has been a regular invasion. At one time the numbers are believed to have reached 5,000 and most of them were in wretched condition. In my last report I referred to this matter and suggested the desirability of measures of relief being undertaken by the Hyderabad authorities, for a rush of some thousands of half-starved coolies is a severe tax on our resources. Most of them have now gone back again though a few are still under Apothecary Stocking's care in the temporary hospital. From Nandavaram (where I now write) the disease has spread to the town of Yemmiganuru and the medical staff there is now being strengthened.

Two cases of death from starvation were reported from Bannihatti, a shrotriem village in Hospet taluk bordering the Sandur territory. Mr. Spencer held an enquiry and discovered that the cause of death was dropsy in one case (an old man of 80) and fever in the other. He considers that their death was attributed by the villagers to starvation in the hope of getting grants for fodder and the grain doles.

The Sanitary Commissioner reported that 13 per cent. of the inmates of the branch kitchen at Adóni and 5 per cent. of those in the main kitchen were suffering from scurvy. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer has been on the watch for an outbreak of scurvy for some time, but has found none. On the receipt of this report from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, I happened to be in Bellary, and I asked Surgeon-Major Evans to examine the inmates of the Brucepettah kitchen. He did so in my presence and did not find a single case of scurvy. I then went to Adóni where I arrived on the 31st July and at once proceeded to the kitchen, but the Sanitary Commissioner had unfortunately left no record of the scurvy patients, and a fresh examination was, therefore, necessary to discover them in order that they might be given vegetables. This examination was made at the branch kitchen by the apothecary. Out of 131 persons examined, he found only three with any signs of scurvy and the symptoms were so slight that he was not prepared to say that they were actually suffering from that disease. One of the cases was that of a child admitted a month ago when just recovering from an attack of measles, he has had vegetables in addition to the ordinary ration for the past four weeks, so that the scurvy, if it be scurvy, can hardly be due to want of vegetable diet in this instance. Another case was that of a little boy who was much emaciated when admitted, but is now plump and cheerful. Three cases out of 131 gives a proportion of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Remarks.

I investigated a number of cases of persons in poor condition on the Adóni work, and my inquiries confirmed the conclusion already reported to the Board that where such cases are met with the cause is to be found in previous illness and not in want of food. There are, of course, many people of poor physique, especially among the Mussalman weavers, but that is not produced by the present distress.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	47,488	50,499
Alúr	46,925	56,392
Bellary	15,477	22,695
Hospet	10,357	13,228
Kúdligi	1,598	2,080
Hadagalli	5,694	10,376
Total ...	127,539	155,270
Sandur	412	562

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,788	1,685	1,590	1,458	..	..	2,470	3,511
Alúr	2,177	* 2,399	632	294	..	..	5,237	3,812
Bellary	992	1,194	1,156	1,183	..	..	3,926	† 6,339
Kayadrug	..	116	..	..	..	..	..	5
Hospet	725	705	306	286	..	..	1,977	2,606
Kúdligi	62	32	..	19	..	..	105	182
Hadagalli	225	272	25	27	..	..	2,315	1,920
Total ..	5,969	6,403	3,709	3,267	..	..	16,090	18,375
Sandur	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	107

* The increase is due to opening of two central kitchens at Nadangam and Gooliem with a view to reduce the number of dependants on gratuitous relief.

† Explanation called for for the large increase.

Taluks.	Weavers' relief.					
	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	138	180	3,579	4,485	4,886	27,573
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	118	517	657	535	1,090
Rayadrug	..	1	..	523	..	..
Hospet	33	46	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	..	36	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	62	..	..	..	..
Sandur	6	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work. The fodder depôt at Kuditani was abolished, there being practically no demand for fodder there now. The local committees are making grants for the purchase of fodder and seed-grain, and to a small extent for the purchase of cattle also. Clothing is being distributed to those whom enquiry shows to be in need of it. It has been found that it is impossible to go by the appearances of relief workers alone, for many come to the works in rags leaving their better garments at home in the hope that they may be selected as objects of the fund's charity. The Famine Commissioner recommended the gift of a square of flannel to sickly babies, but the District Committee was of opinion that this would be a useless expense.

There is still a good deal of private charity in villages that have not been seriously affected.

General Remarks.

As alreay stated I visited the Rayadrug taluk during the fortnight. At the last census the population of the town of Rayadrug was 10,382, of whom 3,793 depended for their livelihood upon weaving. Government relief was offered to these weavers in January last but they refused to avail themselves of it. On my arrival, however, they came forward in large numbers and asked for relief. The system of working and the scale of remuneration were explained to them and they were told to consider it and return the next day. They did so and said that they had no work and nothing to

live upon and would take relief on the Adóni terms. Operations were accordingly started at once, a kitchen being opened for the non-working dependants. The number enrolled is now 523 and I expect that this will increase somewhat during the current month. I trust that my action in starting this measure of relief will be approved.

2. During the fortnight a number of changes have been made in the details of the administration of relief. The old scale of distance allowances has been restored and the grant of wages for half days and the lenient treatment of late comers have been abolished. The last was fatal to discipline, but the relief worker is very fertile in getting round rules and it has already been found that persons marked absent for late attendance go off to another part of the work, get themselves enrolled as new-comers and receive the minimum wage for that day. This is, of course, possible only on large works. The severe restrictions on fining which were having a bad effect on work and discipline have been withdrawn and the provisions of Section 106 of the Famine Code will now be enforced with firmness, but I have warned Divisional Officers to be on the alert for any signs of falling off in condition and to make prompt enquiry in all cases in which the wage is frequently reduced below the minimum.

3. The effect of the reduction of the kitchen ration and grain dole to the D wage will also be watched. I have been obliged to make some modifications in the D wage, as oil or ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, and it is necessary to specify the exact quantity of condiments. I have accordingly omitted "oil or ghee" and "condiments or vegetables" and substituted for them 1·25 tolas of tamarind and 1·25 tolas of chillies, these being the quantities issued in the past. I have also ordered that the quantity of grain shall be that allowed for males, for it is practically impossible without a great increase of trouble and much extra account work to have separate rations for males and females. The effect, therefore, of the change is to reduce the quantity of grain from 50 to 40 tolas and the quantity of salt from 1·75 to 0·83 tolas. The quantity of grain given in the revised table is, however, husked grain and the equivalent of unhusked grain is approximately 43 tolas. Again 0·83 tola of salt is a very awkward fraction to deal with and as there is some saving by the substitution of the tamarind and chillies for "oil or ghee" and "condiments and vegetables", and as a number of officers whom I have consulted are of opinion that the quantity of salt is insufficient, I have raised it to 1½ tolas. The financial effect of these changes is shown below. The prices quoted are those prevailing in Adóni on the 1st instant :—

	Other items of D ration × 100.		Revised ration × 100.	
	Quantity in tolas.	Value.	Quantity in tolas.	Value.
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Salt	83	0 1 6	150	0 2 9
Oil or ghee (average)	83	0 11 10	..	..
Tamarind (say)	75	0 1 9	125	0 3 0
Chillies (say)	75	0 6 3	125	0 10 5
Total ..	..	1 5 4	..	1 0 2

If oil is used, the cost of 100 D rations is Rs. 1–0–6, so that the revised ration is 0·04 of a pie cheaper. I trust that my action may be approved. I would have sought the previous sanction of the Famine Commissioner and the Government, but it was necessary to take prompt action.

4. None of the Salt Sub-Inspectors deputed from the Bellary Sub-division has as yet arrived and most of those that came from the Southern Division are unable to read or write Telugu though shown in the departmental lists as knowing Telugu.

5. The system of calculating wages on the mean of the prices of yellow cholam and ragi was, after consultation with the Divisional-officer, introduced on the northern and southern sections of the Siruguppa road work in the Bellary taluk. Ragi is now issued for the grain doles in Bellary town, and this practice will be extended to all

the villages in the Bellary taluk except those in the Tekkalakota firka, and to all villages of the Kudligi taluk. The Head Assistant Collector has been requested to report whether ragi might not be adopted for grain-doles in Hospet. Ragi will be substituted for cholum in the Bellary town kitchen. Its effects there will be watched, and if the result is satisfactory, the grain will be introduced in other kitchens also. Great care will be necessary in cleaning the grain.

6. The following statement gives the statistics of offences against property reported in the month of June 1897 as compared with the three previous years :—

Nomenclature of offence.	In June.			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	2	1	4	2
Robbery	2	1	1	1
Highway robbery	..	..	1	1
House-breaking by day	..	1	1	3
Do. by night	8	14	19	13
Cattle-thefts	5	3	2	5
Ordinary thefts above 5 rupees	15	5	11	18
Do. below 5 rupees	5	11	7	6

These figures are more encouraging than those for previous months, for they show but little increase of crime.

7. I referred in my last report to a statement that there was a good deal of drinking by relief-workers. I find that the consumption of arrack in the Alúr taluk during 1896–97 was but little below that of 1895–96, being 2,243 gallons against 2,270 gallons; and in the first quarter of this year the shops at Alúr, Kuruvalli, Halharini, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Aspari, Kammarachedu, Nemakallu and Beladona, all near relief-works, show an increased consumption. This increase is practically confined to Alúr, where very little toddy is drunk. We have no statistics for toddy, but relief-workers are found at all the toddy-shops in the evening, I believe. This place (Nandavaram) is notorious for it, and I found a number of them having their "glass" the evening before last.

8. There have been complaints of delays in payment, and there undoubtedly was some delay owing to a sudden accession of workers, rain, illness of paymasters and confusion in the arrangement of gangs; but I have already reported that the delay of seven days which was said to have occurred in the case of two gangs on the Adóni work was in reality a delay of two days only, and the paymaster informs me that there would have been a delay of only one day but for the action of the relief-workers who refused to accept their wages on the first day because they had been fined. There cannot have been any urgent need of the money in their case.

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

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		
Adóni	12	2,710	10	1,180	55	12,134	156	13,270	155	13,200	309	27,140	168	15,980	165	14,380	364	39,274	..	8
Alúr	41	10,390	41	7,670	37	12,910	1,527	1,63,100	1,468	1,58,248	161	46,290	1,568	1,73,490	1,509	1,65,918	198	59,200	..	41
Bellary	39	5,037	39	5,037	27	9,443	913	88,243	913	88,243	164	52,667	952	93,280	952	93,280	191	62,110	..	39
Ráyadrug	74	15,972	67	9,156	34	9,850	306	40,805	297	39,435	110	14,060	380	56,777	364	48,591	144	23,910	..	67
Hospet	20	4,520	20	2,360	26	5,300	52	3,975	52	3,975	21	2,300	72	8,495	72	6,335	47	7,600	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	51	6,155	27	2,825	60	7,205	52	6,205	28	3,075	..	1
Hadagalli	9	1,000	8	550	21	5,600	74	9,685	70	9,220	109	18,755	83	10,685	78	9,770	130	24,355	..	6
Total ..	198	39,989	186	26,003	238	62,827	3,087	3,26,183	3,006	3,18,476	908	1,64,937	3,285	3,66,172	3,192	3,44,479	1,146	2,27,764	..	173

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.
Adóni	437	15,363	341	11,584	341	34,001	17	485	6	240	132	6,480	454	15,848	347	11,824	473	40,481
Alúr	1,553	54,555	1,198	41,755	608	42,514	23	1,348	18	1,070	88	5,158	1,576	55,903	1,216	42,825	696	47,672
Bellary	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178	..	..	..	..	..	..	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178
Ráyadrug	125	6,350	123	6,200	243	11,859	12	690	12	690	20	1,445	137	7,040	135	6,890	263	13,304
Hospet	101	3,490	101	3,490	98	5,160	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	3,490	101	3,490	98	5,160
Kúdligi	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358	..	..	..	..	..	..	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358
Harpanahalli	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970	..	..	..	..	..	..	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970
Hadagalli	135	4,823	91	4,051	367	13,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	4,823	91	4,051	367	13,750
Total ..	3,935	1,40,311	3,414	1,21,961	2,745	1,63,790	52	2,523	36	2,000	240	13,083	3,987	1,42,834	3,450	1,23,961	2,985	1,76,873

Note.—The amount disbursed in the fortnight is only Rs. 44,796, but it must be remembered that fodder loans are for small amounts and that it is the number of loans rather than the amount of money, which shows the work done.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Bellary kitchen, Hirehal road work, Somalapur, Rayadrug, Kanekal, Mogalam, Garudachedu, Meenahalli, Bidurukunta, Honnuru, Govindavada, Uddihal, Bommanahal and other villages in the Ráyadrug taluk, and the Adóni kitchen.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Naranapur, Adóni-Alur road and kitchen, Yerigeri, Kuppagal road and kitchen, Kowtalam road, Bapuram, Hatehalli, Halvi and surrounding villages, Kosgi, Adóni, Nandavaram.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Siruguppa road, Holagondi-Hebbattam road, the kitchens at Raravi, Nadanganu, Ravihal, Harivanam, Santekudlur, Holagondi, Hebbattam, the villages of Saliganur, Kotekal, Suguru, Agasanuru, Venkatapuram, Nagarehal, Alabanur, Bevinamaradasaguru, Baladur, Edavalli, Ittikihal, Gajjihalli and Alúr.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Parmadevanahalli, Joladarasi, Chellagurki, Virapur, Karekal, Sidiginamola, Kaggal, Lingavinhalli, Kuntanakal, Tolamamidi, Asundi, Godihal, Bisalahalli, Somasamudram (kitchen), Bylore, Sindigeri (kitchen), Sandaspur, Tekkalakota (kitchen and work), Siruguppa and the northern and southern sections of Siruguppa road work.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hirehal, Gundlahalli, Metriki, Gangalapuram, Vitlapuram, Avinamadugu, Antapur (relief-work), Chickkantapuram, Kodalu, Marutla, Lingadahalli, Bannilatti, Nagalapuram, Joga, Taluru, Woddu, Gadiganuru (relief-work) and Buvvanahalli.

I regret the delay in the submission of this report. It is due to the fact that I am in an out-of-the-way corner of the district and the papers had to be sent to me from Bellary.

Read—also the following letter from H. A. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th August 1897, Ref. on G and B No. 1828 :—

In continuation of the remarks in my last fortnightly narrative regarding the ration which I had substituted for the D wage, I have the honour to report that the Sanitary Commissioner informs me that the omission of the allowance of oil is sanitarily undesirable.

2. I omitted the oil because of the difficulty in issuing it to recipients of grain-doles, and because it is not used by the people of this district in conjunction with the kind of meal served in our kitchens, viz., parridge and *chàru*. I beg further to point out that there is no oil or ghee in the ration given in section 122 of the Famine Code.

3. If, however, the Famine Commissioner considers that oil should be given, I beg that the quantity may be some common fraction of a tola, for a bazaar shopkeeper has no idea of the value of 0·83. This also applies to the ration of salt. I further request that I may be given detailed instructions as to the quantity of condiments and vegetables to be issued.

Resolution—No. 582, dated 20th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good in the Adóni and Alúr taluks, and the northern portion of Bellary taluk, though the Adóni firka received but little rain. The fall in the rest of the district was poor. The prospects of part of the Adóni and the northern portions of Alúr and Bellary taluks were fair; but in other parts sowings were much restricted, and standing crops affected by want of sufficient rain. Pasture was available to, but, a limited extent, and fodder was scanty.

3. Prices on the whole rose slightly, but ragi fell a little. Imports were large. The comparative positions of prices are shown by the following figures :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee. Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.
Normal	13·2	...	30·0
Warning	10·6	...	22·5
Scarcity	7·9	...	15·0
Current	7·7	12·8	9·5
July 1892	9·3	17·5	16·3
„ 1877	5·5	6·6	5·8

4. The condition of the people was generally good, though small-pox and cholera prevailed in parts. The numbers on works increased by 22 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 9 per cent. The Collector should keep a list of wanderers from the Nizam's Dominions as directed in G.O., No. 560, dated 13th July 1897. His remarks as to the condition of the 5,000 immigrants from Hyderabad, "most of whom were in wretched condition," are instructive. The condition of the Nizam's coolies is the result of withholding relief, and the same conditions would have been present in British territory but for the relief given.

The attention of Government is invited to the Collector's remarks on the condition of the Rayadrug taluk and the possibility of relief having to be extended to that area. It has already been found necessary to start weavers' relief operations there. The Famine Commissioner is unable to understand Mr. Stuart's remarks as to the severity of the restrictions on fining; G.O., No. 216 of 1897, gave ample power for the punishment of malingerers.

The Collector gives no reason in his fortnightly narrative why oil and ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, but furnishes an explanation in his subsequent letter read at the head of this proceedings; these articles are not provided for in section 122 of the Famine Code. The Collector's revised ration is cheaper than the Code D ration. The omission of oil or ghee and vegetables makes a serious change in the already attenuated ration, and the Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to give his opinion on the subject, communicating a copy of it direct to the Collector.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans :—

Up to end of week ending—

	Amount disbursed. Rs.
July 3rd	4,08,711
„ 10th	4,32,853
„ 17th	4,44,404
„ 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695

It would be well if other districts had been as forward in this matter as Bellary.

The amount disbursed during the fortnight was not large, but, as the Collector says, it is the number of loans, rather than the amount of money, that shows the work done.

6. As to the condition of the Adóni coolies, the Collector holds that their poor physique is due to previous illness, not to the present distress. There is nothing special in the climate of Adóni to lower the physique of its inhabitants. In times of distress people are more liable to illness and less capable of recuperation. There is a general disposition to reverse the positions of *post hoc* and *propter hoc*. So famine diarrhœa is ignored and "bowel complaints" are credited with the results of stinting. It is very mysterious that cases are rarely found in which it is admitted that any one died of privation. Even in the worst cases, the deceased generally has some copper in his pocket so that he is reported to have had the means of purchasing food. No one can cross the Styx without an obolus.

7. The Famine Commissioner has already recorded his own experience as to drinking in distressed tracts. He recently paid a surprise visit to the Paniem toddy-shop in the evening and found it deserted.

8. The Collector's remarks regarding scurvy will be communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner. That officer is an expert in scurvy. Probably, Surgeon-Major Evans is not.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 773, Revenue, dated 9th September 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Bxd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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

G.O., No. 773, 9th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st July 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 582, dated 20th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 31st July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight.	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
Yemmiganúru	3·99	10·07	7·83
Adóni	2·28	5·97	9·97
Alúr	1·64	8·63	6·91
Siruguppa	1·30	8·55	7·00
Kampli	0·94	9·22	5·26
Bellary	0·30	4·09	5·92
Rayadrug	0·23	7·36	5·91
Hospet	0·84	15·60	9·14
Kúdligi	0·67	15·54	8·18
Harpanahalli	0·51	9·89	8·39
Hadagalli	0·28	9·26	7·37
Sandúr	0·25	9·24	..

There has been good rain during the fortnight in the first four rain-recording stations. Except in Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight has been more than the average of 25 years, but the long break has caused much anxiety except in parts of Adóni and Alúr. The rains have been well distributed and fairly continuous between Kosgi and Yemmiganúru and along the river in the Adóni taluk, but the Adóni firka has not received as much as is wanted. In Alúr the rain was heavy within a radius of 4 or 5 miles from the head-quarter station and in villages on the Harivanam side. There was moderate rain in Siruguppa, Tekkalakota, Parmadevanahalli, Chaganur, Chellagurki, Virapur, Banapur, Sauvaspur, Handihal and Hirehadagalli in Bellary taluk, and Bhupasamudram, Avaladatla, Kaderampalli and Macheri in Rayadrug taluk ; elsewhere there was but a slight drizzle. Water-supply for drinking purposes is generally sufficient all over the district. In Adóni taluk the Chinnatambalam tank has received two months' supply, and all the small tanks and kuntas, especially in Kosgi and Yemmiganúru firkas, are full. In Alúr, only the Kuruvalli, Alúr and Timmapuram tanks have received some supply. In Bellary, Rayadrug, Hospet and Harpanahalli taluks, the tanks do not contain sufficient supply for irrigation purposes. Six tanks in Hadagalli and many tanks in Kudligi as well as river-fed channels and tanks contain sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Even the heaviest black-cotton soil in the Yemmiganúru firka is being sown with cotton and korra. Weeding operations are in progress to some extent. The standing crops are up to the average everywhere except in some villages round Adóni, where they had already died off before the rains.

Alúr taluk.—In many villages red-soil lands are being sown. The condition of standing crops has been much improved. Crops under wells are in good condition.

Bellary division.—Ragi and cholam under wells and *Kartikaru* (first-crop) paddy under the Hagari channels are being sown. Black-cotton soils are being prepared for sowing. Early dry crops are reported to be withering in Rayadrug taluk. In the Tekkalakóta firka of Bellary taluk the dry crops look better than elsewhere in the taluk.

Hospet division.—Ploughing and weeding are going on in Kudligi and Harpanahalli. Sowing operations are in progress in Gádiganúru firka of Hospet taluk. Paddy is being sown under the tanks in Hadagalli and Kudligi taluks. Garden crops are in good condition. Cholam is in good condition in Harpanahalli, fair in Hadagalli, but is withering in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk. In parts of Hospet and Hadagalli standing crops are being damaged by insects. Want of more rain has checked the progress of cultivation in some villages of Hiréhadagalli firka of Hadagalli taluk and parts of Hospet and Harpanahalli.

Sandur State.—Weeding is over for the present. Standing dry crops are not so good as they should be and are wilting in some places. Garden crops are fair.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is sparingly available in villages irrigated by river channels. Elsewhere it is springing up and in about a week will give a good deal of sustenance to the cattle. Ploughing cattle are almost entirely stallfed and are in fair condition. The condition of other cattle is poor.

Alúr taluk.—Pasture not yet available. Fodder is very scanty, except with a few well-to-do ryots. Hill grass is procurable to a small extent in the hills of Mugamangundi, Sulukoy, Virupapuram and Neriniki, but it is said to be unwholesome for cattle. The condition of cattle of poor ryots is still bad.

Bellary division.—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. Hill grass, prickly-pear and grass roots are much used as fodder. Hill grass is getting very dear and is selling at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug, and bad in Bellary except in the case of stallfed animals.

Hospet division.—Grass generally has not grown sufficiently to be of much use for pasture. Fodder is insufficient except in villages under river channels. In villages situated within easy reach of the reserves, the condition of cattle is good. Cattle in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk are emaciated. In Hadagalli the condition of cattle is deteriorating and there is some slight cattle disease at Bylahunsi. In Kudligi the condition of cattle is fair.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available in the hills. There is little or no fodder. The condition of cattle is much improved. 9,152 head of cattle and 4,877 sheep and goats belonging to British territory are grazing in the Sandúr hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—During the fortnight under report I have travelled through the greater part of the Rayadrug taluk going from Bellary to Rayadrug *viâ* Somalapur, thence to Kanekal and returning to Bellary *viâ* Meenahalli, Gamdachedu, Pidurakunta, Honnur, Govindavada, Uddihal and Bommanahal. I was surprised to find the standing crops in such good condition after the long drought. I saw no crop that had been lost and only patches here and there which were wilting. But the area sown is small and more rain is urgently wanted.

Mr. Spencer has visited most of the villages of the Antapur valley in Hospet and has thoroughly acquainted himself with the condition of things in that part of the taluk. He states that "about two-thirds of the cultivated lands seem to have been sown, but in parts cholam is fading ; on the west and south the crops are in rather better condition, but considering that this part of the country depends on the South-west monsoon chiefly, and it has had very deficient rainfall compared with the other parts of the division, the prospects must be said to be gloomy." With a view to provide the labourers of this part of the taluk with works within their easy reach, the Antapur-Vaddu staff will be transferred to the Avinamadugu tank work, and the Gádiganúru road work will be moved to the Tornagal-Sandúr road with head-quarters about the point where the Antapur-Vaddu road crosses it. The kitchen attached to the work at Antapur will be transferred to Kodalu, the existing one at Antapur being retained as a central kitchen.

In the Adóni taluk prospects are much brighter and it is a treat to see such an expanse of green and healthy-looking crops. The immediate neighbourhood of Adóni, however, has not shared in the general good fortune, for though there has been very fair rain at Adóni itself, but little seems to have fallen in the villages just to the north

of it. The north of Alúr and Bellary taluks are also fairly satisfactory, but elsewhere more rain is badly needed to save the standing crops and to enable the remaining land to be prepared for sowing. We are at present in a state of suspense, but the prospects are, on the whole, somewhat brighter than they were a fortnight ago.

The condition of the cattle leaves much to be desired. The Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has been obliged to stop the free grants of fodder from the depôts and owing to the temporary cessation of the rains there is not the usual extent of pasture available.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

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

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	
Adóni	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·76	9·79	10·82	12·13	14·07	There has been very light change in prices. Ragi has fallen slightly and other grains are a trifle dearer.
Alúr	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	7·56	8·76	8·24	10·30	9·27	13·10	14·55	
Ráyadrug	8·10	8·10	9·79	9·27	10 82	10·04	11·64	12·13	
Hospet	8·10	7·56	9·27	9·79	10·30	10·30	13·10	13·50	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	12·61	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	11·85	10·82	13·10	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	..	11·64	
Sandúr	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	..	12·61	
Average ..	7·80	7·68	8·86	8·86	10·36	10·10	12·61	12·84	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 108,514 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 42,310 maunds in the previous fortnight. This is by far the largest import we have yet had and is sufficient to give nearly 638,000 persons one pound of grain a day for a fortnight.

Condition of the people.

On works.—Satisfactory. Exceptional cases are met with, but these are usually persons who have been suffering from illness. Many of the people from the Nizam's country were in poor condition. The Famine Commissioner has himself seen many of the works recently.

In villages.—Generally good. In Rayadrug I found a few persons in some of the eastern villages who seemed to be in need of relief and I have accordingly sanctioned the grant of grain-doles in that neighbourhood. The numbers will be very small for the present, but if good rain does not fall there soon we shall have to extend operations.

Sickness and Mortality.

Small-pox still prevails in parts of Harpanahalli and Hadagalli. There have been 112 attacks and 11 deaths from this cause. Guinea worm and sore eyes prevail among the relief workers in Bellary and Hospet, but guinea worm is, I think, now less prevalent than it was. Perhaps, this is due to the improvement in the drinking-water.

There is cholera in 11 villages of Adóni taluk. There have been 180 attacks and 90 deaths. It prevails also in 4 villages of Bellary taluk, the number of attacks and deaths being 44 and 32, respectively. Two cases of cholera were reported from Hospet and one from Alúr, but they appear to have been sporadic. Active measures are being taken to combat the disease. On the Nandavaram road, the disease was introduced by wanderers from the Nizam's dominions, who have been its principal victims. The youthful Hospital Assistant on the spot completely lost his head and reported that most of the coolies on the work were suffering from starvation, that this predisposed them to cholera and most of them were dying of that complaint. The Assistant

Surgeon was at once sent to Nandavaram, and the Hospital Assistant then said that there had been one death from starvation, but even this on enquiry proved to be a death from fever and exposure, though no doubt aggravated by privation. The deceased was a man from the Nizam's dominions, whence there has been a regular invasion. At one time the numbers are believed to have reached 5,000 and most of them were in wretched condition. In my last report I referred to this matter and suggested the desirability of measures of relief being undertaken by the Hyderabad authorities, for a rush of some thousands of half-starved coolies is a severe tax on our resources. Most of them have now gone back again though a few are still under Apothecary Stocking's care in the temporary hospital. From Nandavaram (where I now write) the disease has spread to the town of Yemmiganuru and the medical staff there is now being strengthened.

Two cases of death from starvation were reported from Bannihatti, a shrotriem village in Hospet taluk bordering the Sandur territory. Mr. Spencer held an enquiry and discovered that the cause of death was dropsy in one case (an old man of 80) and fever in the other. He considers that their death was attributed by the villagers to starvation in the hope of getting grants for fodder and the grain doles.

The Sanitary Commissioner reported that 13 per cent. of the inmates of the branch kitchen at Adóni and 5 per cent. of those in the main kitchen were suffering from scurvy. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer has been on the watch for an outbreak of scurvy for some time, but has found none. On the receipt of this report from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, I happened to be in Bellary, and I asked Surgeon-Major Evans to examine the inmates of the Brucepettah kitchen. He did so in my presence and did not find a single case of scurvy. I then went to Adóni where I arrived on the 31st July and at once proceeded to the kitchen, but the Sanitary Commissioner had unfortunately left no record of the scurvy patients, and a fresh examination was, therefore, necessary to discover them in order that they might be given vegetables. This examination was made at the branch kitchen by the apothecary. Out of 131 persons examined, he found only three with any signs of scurvy and the symptoms were so slight that he was not prepared to say that they were actually suffering from that disease. One of the cases was that of a child admitted a month ago when just recovering from an attack of measles, he has had vegetables in addition to the ordinary ration for the past four weeks, so that the scurvy, if it be scurvy, can hardly be due to want of vegetable diet in this instance. Another case was that of a little boy who was much emaciated when admitted, but is now plump and cheerful. Three cases out of 131 gives a proportion of 2½ per cent.

Remarks.

I investigated a number of cases of persons in poor condition on the Adóni work, and my inquiries confirmed the conclusion already reported to the Board that where such cases are met with the cause is to be found in previous illness and not in want of food. There are, of course, many people of poor physique, especially among the Mussalman weavers, but that is not produced by the present distress.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	47,488	50,499
Alúr	46,925	56,392
Bellary	15,477	22,695
Hospet	10,357	13,228
Kúdligi	1,598	2,080
Hadagalli	5,694	10,376
Total ...	127,539	155,270
Sandur	412	562

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,788	1,685	1,590	1,458	..	..	2,470	3,511
Alúr	2,177	* 2,399	632	294	..	..	5,297	3,812
Bellary	992	1,194	1,156	1,183	..	..	3,926	† 6,339
Rayadrug	..	116	..	..	..	..	..	5
Hospet	725	705	306	286	..	..	1,977	2,606
Kúdligi	62	32	..	19	..	..	105	182
Hadagalli	225	272	25	27	..	..	2,315	1,920
Total ..	5,969	6,403	3,709	3,267	..	..	16,090	18,375
Sandur	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	107

* The increase is due to opening of two central kitchens at Nadangam and Gooliem with a view to reduce the number of dependants on gratuitous relief.
† Explanation called for for the large increase.

Taluks.	Weavers' relief.				
	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	138	180	3,579	4,485	4,886	27,573
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	118	517	657	535	1,090
Rayadrug	..	1	..	523	..	..
Hospet	33	46	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	..	36	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	62	..	..	..	..
Sandur	6	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work. The fodder depôt at Kuditani was abolished, there being practically no demand for fodder there now. The local committees are making grants for the purchase of fodder and seed-grain, and to a small extent for the purchase of cattle also. Clothing is being distributed to those whom enquiry shows to be in need of it. It has been found that it is impossible to go by the appearances of relief workers alone, for many come to the works in rags leaving their better garments at home in the hope that they may be selected as objects of the fund's charity. The Famine Commissioner recommended the gift of a square of flannel to sickly babies, but the District Committee was of opinion that this would be a useless expense.

There is still a good deal of private charity in villages that have not been seriously affected.

General Remarks.

As alreay stated I visited the Rayadrug taluk during the fortnight. At the last census the population of the town of Rayadrug was 10,382, of whom 3,793 depended for their livelihood upon weaving. Government relief was offered to these weavers in January last but they refused to avail themselves of it. On my arrival, however, they came forward in large numbers and asked for relief. The system of working and the scale of remuneration were explained to them and they were told to consider it and return the next day. They did so and said that they had no work and nothing to

live upon and would take relief on the Adóni terms. Operations were accordingly started at once, a kitchen being opened for the non-working dependants. The number enrolled is now 523 and I expect that this will increase somewhat during the current month. I trust that my action in starting this measure of relief will be approved.

2. During the fortnight a number of changes have been made in the details of the administration of relief. The old scale of distance allowances has been restored and the grant of wages for half days and the lenient treatment of late comers have been abolished. The last was fatal to discipline, but the relief worker is very fertile in getting round rules and it has already been found that persons marked absent for late attendance go off to another part of the work, get themselves enrolled as new-comers and receive the minimum wage for that day. This is, of course, possible only on large works. The severe restrictions on fining which were having a bad effect on work and discipline have been withdrawn and the provisions of Section 106 of the Famine Code will now be enforced with firmness, but I have warned Divisional Officers to be on the alert for any signs of falling off in condition and to make prompt enquiry in all cases in which the wage is frequently reduced below the minimum.

3. The effect of the reduction of the kitchen ration and grain dole to the D wage will also be watched. I have been obliged to make some modifications in the D wage, as oil or ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, and it is necessary to specify the exact quantity of condiments. I have accordingly omitted "oil or ghee" and "condiments or vegetables" and substituted for them 1·25 tolas of tamarind and 1·25 tolas of chillies, these being the quantities issued in the past. I have also ordered that the quantity of grain shall be that allowed for males, for it is practically impossible without a great increase of trouble and much extra account work to have separate rations for males and females. The effect, therefore, of the change is to reduce the quantity of grain from 50 to 40 tolas and the quantity of salt from 1·75 to 0·83 tolas. The quantity of grain given in the revised table is, however, husked grain and the equivalent of unhusked grain is approximately 43 tolas. Again 0·83 tola of salt is a very awkward fraction to deal with and as there is some saving by the substitution of the tamarind and chillies for "oil or ghee" and "condiments and vegetables", and as a number of officers whom I have consulted are of opinion that the quantity of salt is insufficient, I have raised it to 1½ tolas. The financial effect of these changes is shown below. The prices quoted are those prevailing in Adóni on the 1st instant :—

	Other items of D ration × 100.		Revised ration × 100.	
	Quantity in tolas.	Value.	Quantity in tolas.	Value.
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Salt	83	0 1 6	150	0 2 9
Oil or ghee (average)	83	0 11 10	..	..
Tamarind (say)	75	0 1 9	125	0 3 0
Chillies (say)	75	0 6 3	125	0 10 5
Total ..	..	1 5 4	..	1 0 2

If oil is used, the cost of 100 D rations is Rs. 1–0–6, so that the revised ration is 0·04 of a pie cheaper. I trust that my action may be approved. I would have sought the previous sanction of the Famine Commissioner and the Government, but it was necessary to take prompt action.

4. None of the Salt Sub-Inspectors deputed from the Bellary Sub-division has as yet arrived and most of those that came from the Southern Division are unable to read or write Telugu though shown in the departmental lists as knowing Telugu.

5. The system of calculating wages on the mean of the prices of yellow cholam and ragi was, after consultation with the Divisional-officer, introduced on the northern and southern sections of the Siruguppa road work in the Bellary taluk. Ragi is now issued for the grain doles in Bellary town, and this practice will be extended to all

the villages in the Bellary taluk except those in the Tekkalakota firka, and to all the villages of the Kudligi taluk. The Head Assistant Collector has been requested to report whether ragi might not be adopted for grain-doles in Hospet. Ragi will be substituted for cholum in the Bellary town kitchen. Its effects there will be watched, and if the result is satisfactory, the grain will be introduced in other kitchens also. Great care will be necessary in cleaning the grain.

6. The following statement gives the statistics of offences against property reported in the month of June 1897 as compared with the three previous years :—

Nomenclature of offence.	In June.			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	..	2	4	2
Robbery	2	1	1	1
Highway robbery	..	..	1	1
House-breaking by day ..	..	1	1	3
Do. by night ..	8	14	19	13
Cattle-thefts	5	3	2	5
Ordinary thefts above 5 rupees	15	5	11	18
Do. below 5 rupees ..	5	11	7	6

These figures are more encouraging than those for previous months, for they show but little increase of crime.

7. I referred in my last report to a statement that there was a good deal of drinking by relief-workers. I find that the consumption of arrack in the Alúr taluk during 1896–97 was but little below that of 1895–96, being 2,243 gallons against 2,270 gallons; and in the first quarter of this year the shops at Alúr, Kuruvalli, Halharini, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Aspari, Kammarachedu, Nemakallu and Beladona, all near relief-works, show an increased consumption. This increase is practically confined to Alúr, where very little toddy is drunk. We have no statistics for toddy, but relief-workers are found at all the toddy-shops in the evening, I believe. This place (Nandavaram) is notorious for it, and I found a number of them having their "glass" the evening before last.

8. There have been complaints of delays in payment, and there undoubtedly was some delay owing to a sudden accession of workers, rain, illness of paymasters and confusion in the arrangement of gangs; but I have already reported that the delay of seven days which was said to have occurred in the case of two gangs on the Adóni work was in reality a delay of two days only, and the paymaster informs me that there would have been a delay of only one day but for the action of the relief-workers who refused to accept their wages on the first day because they had been fined. There cannot have been any urgent need of the money in their case.

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

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.		
Adóni	12	2,710	10	1,180	55	12,134	156	13,270	155	13,200	309	27,140	168	15,980	165	14,380	364	39,274	..	8
Alúr	41	10,390	41	7,670	37	12,910	1,527	1,63,100	1,468	1,58,248	161	46,290	1,568	1,78,490	1,509	1,65,918	198	59,200	..	41
Bellary	39	5,037	39	5,037	27	9,443	913	88,243	913	88,243	164	52,667	952	93,280	952	93,280	191	62,110	..	39
Ráyadrug	74	15,972	67	9,156	34	9,850	306	40,805	297	39,435	110	14,060	380	56,777	364	48,591	144	23,910	..	67
Hospet	20	4,520	20	2,360	26	5,300	52	3,975	52	3,975	21	2,300	72	8,495	72	6,335	47	7,600	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	51	6,155	27	2,825	60	7,205	52	6,205	28	3,075	..	1
Hadagalli	9	1,000	8	550	21	5,600	74	9,685	70	9,220	109	18,755	83	10,685	78	9,770	130	24,855	..	6
Total ..	198	39,989	186	26,003	238	62,827	3,087	3,26,183	3,006	3,18,476	908	1,64,937	3,285	3,66,172	3,192	3,44,479	1,146	2,27,764	..	173

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.
Adóni	437	15,363	341	11,584	341	34,001	17	485	6	240	132	6,480	454	15,848	347	11,824	473	40,481
Alúr	1,553	54,555	1,198	41,755	608	42,514	23	1,348	18	1,070	88	5,158	1,576	55,903	1,216	42,825	696	47,672
Bellary	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178	..	..	..	..	..	..	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178
Ráyadrug	125	6,350	123	6,200	243	11,859	12	690	12	690	20	1,445	137	7,040	135	6,890	263	13,304
Hospet	103	3,490	101	3,490	98	5,160	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	3,490	101	3,490	98	5,160
Kúdligi	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358	..	..	..	..	..	..	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358
Harpanahalli	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970	..	..	..	..	..	..	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970
Hadagalli	135	4,823	91	4,051	367	13,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	4,823	91	4,051	367	13,750
Total ..	3,935	1,40,311	3,414	1,21,961	2,745	1,63,790	52	2,523	36	2,000	240	13,083	3,987	1,42,834	3,450	1,23,961	2,985	1,76,873

Note.—The amount disbursed in the fortnight is only Rs. 44,796, but it must be remembered that fodder loans are for small amounts and that it is the number of loans rather than the amount of money, which shows the work done.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Bellary kitchen, Hirehal road work, Somalapur, Rayadrug, Kanekal, Mogalam, Garudachedu, Meenahalli, Bidurukunta, Honnuru, Govindavada, Uddihal, Bommanahal and other villages in the Ráyadrug taluk, and the Adóni kitchen.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Naranapur, Adóni-Alur road and kitchen, Yerigeri, Kuppagal road and kitchen, Kowtalam road, Bapuram, Hatehalli, Halvi and surrounding villages, Kosgi, Adóni, Nandavaram.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Siruguppa road, Holagondi-Hebbattam road, the kitchens at Raravi, Nadanganu, Ravihal, Harivanam, Santekudlur, Holagondi, Hebbattam, the villages of Saliganur, Kotekal, Suguru, Agasanuru, Venkatapuram, Nagarehal, Alabanur, Bevinamaradasaguru, Baladur, Edavalli, Ittikihal, Gajjihalli and Alúr.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Parmadevanahalli, Joladarasi, Chellagurki, Virapur, Karekal, Sidiginamola, Kaggal, Lingavinhalli, Kuntanakal, Tolamamidi, Asundi, Godihal, Bisalahalli, Somasamudram (kitchen), Bylore, Sindigeri (kitchen), Sandaspur, Tekkalakota (kitchen and work), Siruguppa and the northern and southern sections of Siruguppa road work.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hirehal, Gundlahalli, Metriki, Gangalapuram, Vitlapuram, Avinamadugu, Antapur (relief-work), Chickkantapuram, Kodalu, Marutla, Lingadahalli, Bannilatti, Nagalapuram, Joga, Taluru, Woddu, Gadiganuru (relief-work) and Buvvanahalli.

I regret the delay in the submission of this report. It is due to the fact that I am in an out-of-the-way corner of the district and the papers had to be sent to me from Bellary.

Read—also the following letter from H. A. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th August 1897, Ref. on G and B No. 1828 :—

In continuation of the remarks in my last fortnightly narrative regarding the ration which I had substituted for the D wage, I have the honour to report that the Sanitary Commissioner informs me that the omission of the allowance of oil is sanitarily undesirable.

2. I omitted the oil because of the difficulty in issuing it to recipients of grain-doles, and because it is not used by the people of this district in conjunction with the kind of meal served in our kitchens, viz., parridge and *châru*. I beg further to point out that there is no oil or ghee in the ration given in section 122 of the Famine Code.

3. If, however, the Famine Commissioner considers that oil should be given, I beg that the quantity may be some common fraction of a tola, for a bazaar shopkeeper has no idea of the value of 0·83. This also applies to the ration of salt. I further request that I may be given detailed instructions as to the quantity of condiments and vegetables to be issued.

Resolution—No. 582, dated 20th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good in the Adóni and Alúr taluks, and the northern portion of Bellary taluk, though the Adóni firka received but little rain. The fall in the rest of the district was poor. The prospects of part of the Adóni and the northern portions of Alúr and Bellary taluks were fair; but in other parts sowings were much restricted, and standing crops affected by want of sufficient rain. Pasture was available to, but, a limited extent, and fodder was scanty.

3. Prices on the whole rose slightly, but ragi fell a little. Imports were large. The comparative positions of prices are shown by the following figures :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.
Normal	13·2	...	30·0
Warning	10·6	...	22·5
Scarcity	7·9	...	15·0
Current	7·7	12·8	9·5
July 1892	9·3	17·5	16·3
„ 1877	5·5	6·6	5·8

4. The condition of the people was generally good, though small-pox and cholera prevailed in parts. The numbers on works increased by 22 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 9 per cent. The Collector should keep a list of wanderers from the Nizam's Dominions as directed in G.O., No. 560, dated 13th July 1897. His remarks as to the condition of the 5,000 immigrants from Hyderabad, "most of whom were in wretched condition," are instructive. The condition of the Nizam's coolies is the result of withholding relief, and the same conditions would have been present in British territory but for the relief given.

The attention of Government is invited to the Collector's remarks on the condition of the Rayadrug taluk and the possibility of relief having to be extended to that area. It has already been found necessary to start weavers' relief operations there. The Famine Commissioner is unable to understand Mr. Stuart's remarks as to the severity of the restrictions on fining; G.O., No. 216 of 1897, gave ample power for the punishment of malingerers.

The Collector gives no reason in his fortnightly narrative why oil and ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, but furnishes an explanation in his subsequent letter read at the head of this proceedings; these articles are not provided for in section 122 of the Famine Code. The Collector's revised ration is cheaper than the Code D ration. The omission of oil or ghee and vegetables makes a serious change in the already attenuated ration, and the Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to give his opinion on the subject, communicating a copy of it direct to the Collector.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans :—

Up to end of week ending—	Amount disbursed. Rs.
July 3rd	4,08,711
„ 10th	4,32,853
„ 17th	4,44,404
„ 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695

It would be well if other districts had been as forward in this matter as Bellary.

The amount disbursed during the fortnight was not large, but, as the Collector says, it is the number of loans, rather than the amount of money, that shows the work done.

6. As to the condition of the Adóni coolies, the Collector holds that their poor physique is due to previous illness, not to the present distress. There is nothing special in the climate of Adóni to lower the physique of its inhabitants. In times of distress people are more liable to illness and less capable of recuperation. There is a general disposition to reverse the positions of *post hoc* and *propter hoc*. So famine diarrhœa is ignored and "bowel complaints" are credited with the results of stinting. It is very mysterious that cases are rarely found in which it is admitted that any one died of privation. Even in the worst cases, the deceased generally has some copper in his pocket so that he is reported to have had the means of purchasing food. No one can cross the Styx without an obolus.

7. The Famine Commissioner has already recorded his own experience as to drinking in distressed tracts. He recently paid a surprise visit to the Paniem toddy-shop in the evening and found it deserted.

8. The Collector's remarks regarding scurvy will be communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner. That officer is an expert in scurvy. Probably, Surgeon-Major Evans is not.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 773, Revenue, dated 9th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Srd. Shaik Karim.

30 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 773, 9th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st July 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 582, dated 20th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 31st July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight.	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
Yemmiganúru	3·99	10·07	7·83
Adóni	2·28	5·97	9·97
Alúr	1·64	8·63	6·91
Siruguppa	1·30	8·55	7·00
Kampli	0·94	9·22	5·26
Bellary	0 30	4·09	5·92
Rayadrug	0·23	7·36	5·91
Hospet	0·84	15·60	9·14
Kúdligi	0·67	15·54	8·18
Harpanahalli	0·51	9·89	8·39
Hadagalli	0·28	9·26	7·37
Sandúr	0·25	9·24	..

There has been good rain during the fortnight in the first four rain-recording stations. Except in Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight has been more than the average of 25 years, but the long break has caused much anxiety except in parts of Adóni and Alúr. The rains have been well distributed and fairly continuous between Kosgi and Yemmiganúru and along the river in the Adóni taluk, but the Adóni firka has not received as much as is wanted. In Alúr the rain was heavy within a radius of 4 or 5 miles from the head-quarter station and in villages on the Harivanam side. There was moderate rain in Siruguppa, Tekkalakota, Parmadevanahalli, Chaganur, Chellagurki, Virapur, Banapur, Sauvaspur, Handihal and Hirehadagalli in Bellary taluk, and Bhupasamudram, Avaladatla, Kaderampalli and Macheri in Rayadrug taluk ; elsewhere there was but a slight drizzle. Water-supply for drinking purposes is generally sufficient all over the district. In Adóni taluk the Chinnatambalam tank has received two months' supply, and all the small tanks and kuntas, especially in Kosgi and Yemmiganúru firkas, are full. In Alúr, only the Kuruvalli, Alúr and Timmapuram tanks have received some supply. In Bellary, Rayadrug, Hospet and Harpanahalli taluks, the tanks do not contain sufficient supply for irrigation purposes. Six tanks in Hadagalli and many tanks in Kudligi as well as river-fed channels and tanks contain sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Even the heaviest black-cotton soil in the Yemmiganúru firka is being sown with cotton and korra. Weeding operations are in progress to some extent. The standing crops are up to the average everywhere except in some villages round Adóni, where they had already died off before the rains.

Alúr taluk.—In many villages red-soil lands are being sown. The condition of standing crops has been much improved. Crops under wells are in good condition.

Bellary division.—Ragi and cholam under wells and *Kartikaru* (first-crop) paddy under the Hagari channels are being sown. Black-cotton soils are being prepared for sowing. Early dry crops are reported to be withering in Rayadrug taluk. In the Tekkalakóta firka of Bellary taluk the dry crops look better than elsewhere in the taluk.

Hospet division.—Ploughing and weeding are going on in Kudligi and Harpanahalli. Sowing operations are in progress in Gádiganúru firka of Hospet taluk. Paddy is being sown under the tanks in Hadagalli and Kudligi taluks. Garden crops are in good condition. Cholam is in good condition in Harpanahalli, fair in Hadagalli, but is withering in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk. In parts of Hospet and Hadagalli standing crops are being damaged by insects. Want of more rain has checked the progress of cultivation in some villages of Hiréhadagalli firka of Hadagalli taluk and parts of Hospet and Harpanahalli.

Sandur State.—Weeding is over for the present. Standing dry crops are not so good as they should be and are wilting in some places. Garden crops are fair.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is sparingly available in villages irrigated by river channels. Elsewhere it is springing up and in about a week will give a good deal of sustenance to the cattle. Ploughing cattle are almost entirely stallfed and are in fair condition. The condition of other cattle is poor.

Alúr taluk.—Pasture not yet available. Fodder is very scanty, except with a few well-to-do ryots. Hill grass is procurable to a small extent in the hills of Mugamangundi, Sulukoy, Virupapuram and Neriniki, but it is said to be unwholesome for cattle. The condition of cattle of poor ryots is still bad.

Bellary division.—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. Hill grass, prickly-pear and grass roots are much used as fodder. Hill grass is getting very dear and is selling at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug, and bad in Bellary except in the case of stallfed animals.

Hospet division.—Grass generally has not grown sufficiently to be of much use for pasture. Fodder is insufficient except in villages under river channels. In villages situated within easy reach of the reserves, the condition of cattle is good. Cattle in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk are emaciated. In Hadagalli the condition of cattle is deteriorating and there is some slight cattle disease at Bylahunsi. In Kudligi the condition of cattle is fair.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available in the hills. There is little or no fodder. The condition of cattle is much improved. 9,152 head of cattle and 4,877 sheep and goats belonging to British territory are grazing in the Sandúr hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—During the fortnight under report I have travelled through the greater part of the Rayadrug taluk going from Bellary to Rayadrug *viâ* Somalapur, thence to Kanekal and returning to Bellary *viâ* Meenahalli, Gamdachedu, Pridurakunta, Honnur, Govindavada, Uddihal and Bommanahal. I was surprised to find the standing crops in such good condition after the long drought. I saw no crop that had been lost and only patches here and there which were wilting. But the area sown is small and more rain is urgently wanted.

Mr. Spencer has visited most of the villages of the Antapur valley in Hospet and has thoroughly acquainted himself with the condition of things in that part of the taluk. He states that "about two-thirds of the cultivated lands seem to have been sown, but in parts cholam is fading ; on the west and south the crops are in rather better condition, but considering that this part of the country depends on the South-west monsoon chiefly, and it has had very deficient rainfall compared with the other parts of the division, the prospects must be said to be gloomy." With a view to provide the labourers of this part of the taluk with works within their easy reach, the Antapur-Vaddu staff will be transferred to the Avinamadugu tank work, and the Gádiganúru road work will be moved to the Tornagal-Sandúr road with head-quarters about the point where the Antapur-Vaddu road crosses it. The kitchen attached to the work at Antapur will be transferred to Kodalu, the existing one at Antapur being retained as a central kitchen.

In the Adóni taluk prospects are much brighter and it is a treat to see such an expanse of green and healthy-looking crops. The immediate neighbourhood of Adóni, however, has not shared in the general good fortune, for though there has been very fair rain at Adóni itself, but little seems to have fallen in the villages just to the north

of it. The north of Alúr and Bellary taluks are also fairly satisfactory, but elsewhere more rain is badly needed to save the standing crops and to enable the remaining land to be prepared for sowing. We are at present in a state of suspense, but the prospects are, on the whole, somewhat brighter than they were a fortnight ago.

The condition of the cattle leaves much to be desired. The Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has been obliged to stop the free grants of fodder from the depôts and owing to the temporary cessation of the rains there is not the usual extent of pasture available.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

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

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	
Adóni	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·76	9·79	10·82	12·13	14·07	There has been very light change in prices. Ragi has fallen slightly and other grains are a trifle dearer.
Alúr	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	7·56	8·76	8·24	10·30	9·27	13·10	14·55	
Ráyadrug	8·10	8·10	9·79	9·27	10·82	10·04	11·64	12·13	
Hospet	8·10	7·56	9·27	9·79	10·30	10·30	13·10	13·50	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	12·61	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	11·85	10·82	13·10	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	..	11·64	
Sandúr	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	..	12·61	
Average ..	7·80	7·68	8·86	8·86	10·36	10·10	12·61	12·84	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 108,514 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 42,310 maunds in the previous fortnight. This is by far the largest import we have yet had and is sufficient to give nearly 638,000 persons one pound of grain a day for a fortnight.

Condition of the people.

On works.—Satisfactory. Exceptional cases are met with, but these are usually persons who have been suffering from illness. Many of the people from the Nizam's country were in poor condition. The Famine Commissioner has himself seen many of the works recently.

In villages.—Generally good. In Rayadrug I found a few persons in some of the eastern villages who seemed to be in need of relief and I have accordingly sanctioned the grant of grain-doles in that neighbourhood. The numbers will be very small for the present, but if good rain does not fall there soon we shall have to extend operations.

Sickness and Mortality.

Small-pox still prevails in parts of Harpanahalli and Hadagalli. There have been 112 attacks and 11 deaths from this cause. Guinea worm and sore eyes prevail among the relief workers in Bellary and Hospet, but guinea worm is, I think, now less prevalent than it was. Perhaps, this is due to the improvement in the drinking-water.

There is cholera in 11 villages of Adóni taluk. There have been 180 attacks and 90 deaths. It prevails also in 4 villages of Bellary taluk, the number of attacks and deaths being 44 and 32, respectively. Two cases of cholera were reported from Hospet and one from Alúr, but they appear to have been sporadic. Active measures are being taken to combat the disease. On the Nandavaram road, the disease was introduced by wanderers from the Nizam's dominions, who have been its principal victims. The youthful Hospital Assistant on the spot completely lost his head and reported that most of the coolies on the work were suffering from starvation, that this predisposed them to cholera and most of them were dying of that complaint. The Assistant

Surgeon was at once sent to Nandavaram, and the Hospital Assistant then said that there had been one death from starvation, but even this on enquiry proved to be a death from fever and exposure, though no doubt aggravated by privation. The deceased was a man from the Nizam's dominions, whence there has been a regular invasion. At one time the numbers are believed to have reached 5,000 and most of them were in wretched condition. In my last report I referred to this matter and suggested the desirability of measures of relief being undertaken by the Hyderabad authorities, for a rush of some thousands of half-starved coolies is a severe tax on our resources. Most of them have now gone back again though a few are still under Apothecary Stocking's care in the temporary hospital. From Nandavaram (where I now write) the disease has spread to the town of Yemmiganuru and the medical staff there is now being strengthened.

Two cases of death from starvation were reported from Bannihatti, a shrotriem village in Hospet taluk bordering the Sandur territory. Mr. Spencer held an enquiry and discovered that the cause of death was dropsy in one case (an old man of 80) and fever in the other. He considers that their death was attributed by the villagers to starvation in the hope of getting grants for fodder and the grain doles.

The Sanitary Commissioner reported that 13 per cent. of the inmates of the branch kitchen at Adóni and 5 per cent. of those in the main kitchen were suffering from scurvy. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer has been on the watch for an outbreak of scurvy for some time, but has found none. On the receipt of this report from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, I happened to be in Bellary, and I asked Surgeon-Major Evans to examine the inmates of the Brucepettah kitchen. He did so in my presence and did not find a single case of scurvy. I then went to Adóni where I arrived on the 31st July and at once proceeded to the kitchen, but the Sanitary Commissioner had unfortunately left no record of the scurvy patients, and a fresh examination was, therefore, necessary to discover them in order that they might be given vegetables. This examination was made at the branch kitchen by the apothecary. Out of 131 persons examined, he found only three with any signs of scurvy and the symptoms were so slight that he was not prepared to say that they were actually suffering from that disease. One of the cases was that of a child admitted a month ago when just recovering from an attack of measles, he has had vegetables in addition to the ordinary ration for the past four weeks, so that the scurvy, if it be scurvy, can hardly be due to want of vegetable diet in this instance. Another case was that of a little boy who was much emaciated when admitted, but is now plump and cheerful. Three cases out of 131 gives a proportion of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Remarks.

I investigated a number of cases of persons in poor condition on the Adóni work, and my inquiries confirmed the conclusion already reported to the Board that where such cases are met with the cause is to be found in previous illness and not in want of food. There are, of course, many people of poor physique, especially among the Mussalman weavers, but that is not produced by the present distress.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	47,488	50,499
Alúr	46,925	56,392
Bellary	15,477	22,695
Hospet	10,357	13,228
Kúdligi	1,598	2,080
Hadagalli	5,694	10,376
Total ...	127,539	155,270
Sandur	412	562

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,788	1,685	1,590	1,458	..	..	2,470	3,511
Alúr	2,177	*2,399	632	294	..	..	5,297	3,812
Bellary	992	1,194	1,156	1,183	..	..	3,926	†6,339
Rayadrug	..	116	..	..	..	..	..	5
Hospet	725	705	306	286	..	..	1,977	2,606
Kúdligi	62	32	..	19	..	..	105	182
Hadagalli	225	272	25	27	..	..	2,315	1,920
Total ..	5,969	6,403	3,709	3,267	..	..	16,090	18,375
Sandur	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	107

* The increase is due to opening of two central kitchens at Nadangam and Gooliem with a view to reduce the number of dependants on gratuitous relief.
† Explanation called for for the large increase.

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.
Adóni	138	180	3,579	4,485	4,886	27,573
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	118	517	657	535	1,090
Rayadrug	..	1	..	523	..	..
Hospet	33	46	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	..	36	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	62	..	..	..	..
Sandur	6	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work. The fodder depôt at Kuditani was abolished, there being practically no demand for fodder there now. The local committees are making grants for the purchase of fodder and seed-grain, and to a small extent for the purchase of cattle also. Clothing is being distributed to those whom enquiry shows to be in need of it. It has been found that it is impossible to go by the appearances of relief workers alone, for many come to the works in rags leaving their better garments at home in the hope that they may be selected as objects of the fund's charity. The Famine Commissioner recommended the gift of a square of flannel to sickly babies, but the District Committee was of opinion that this would be a useless expense.

There is still a good deal of private charity in villages that have not been seriously affected.

General Remarks.

As alreay stated I visited the Rayadrug taluk during the fortnight. At the last census the population of the town of Rayadrug was 10,382, of whom 3,793 depended for their livelihood upon weaving. Government relief was offered to these weavers in January last but they refused to avail themselves of it. On my arrival, however, they came forward in large numbers and asked for relief. The system of working and the scale of remuneration were explained to them and they were told to consider it and return the next day. They did so and said that they had no work and nothing to

live upon and would take relief on the Adóni terms. Operations were accordingly started at once, a kitchen being opened for the non-working dependants. The number enrolled is now 523 and I expect that this will increase somewhat during the current month. I trust that my action in starting this measure of relief will be approved.

2. During the fortnight a number of changes have been made in the details of the administration of relief. The old scale of distance allowances has been restored and the grant of wages for half days and the lenient treatment of late comers have been abolished. The last was fatal to discipline, but the relief worker is very fertile in getting round rules and it has already been found that persons marked absent for late attendance go off to another part of the work, get themselves enrolled as new-comers and receive the minimum wage for that day. This is, of course, possible only on large works. The severe restrictions on fining which were having a bad effect on work and discipline have been withdrawn and the provisions of Section 106 of the Famine Code will now be enforced with firmness, but I have warned Divisional Officers to be on the alert for any signs of falling off in condition and to make prompt enquiry in all cases in which the wage is frequently reduced below the minimum.

3. The effect of the reduction of the kitchen ration and grain dole to the D wage will also be watched. I have been obliged to make some modifications in the D wage, as oil or ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, and it is necessary to specify the exact quantity of condiments. I have accordingly omitted "oil or ghee" and "condiments or vegetables" and substituted for them 1·25 tolas of tamarind and 1·25 tolas of chillies, these being the quantities issued in the past. I have also ordered that the quantity of grain shall be that allowed for males, for it is practically impossible without a great increase of trouble and much extra account work to have separate rations for males and females. The effect, therefore, of the change is to reduce the quantity of grain from 50 to 40 tolas and the quantity of salt from 1·75 to 0·83 tolas. The quantity of grain given in the revised table is, however, husked grain and the equivalent of unhusked grain is approximately 43 tolas. Again 0·83 tola of salt is a very awkward fraction to deal with and as there is some saving by the substitution of the tamarind and chillies for "oil or ghee" and "condiments and vegetables", and as a number of officers whom I have consulted are of opinion that the quantity of salt is insufficient, I have raised it to 1½ tolas. The financial effect of these changes is shown below. The prices quoted are those prevailing in Adóni on the 1st instant :—

—	Other items of D ration × 100.		Revised ration × 100.	
	Quantity in tolas.	Value.	Quantity in tolas.	Value.
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Salt	83	0 1 6	150	0 2 9
Oil or ghee (average)	83	0 11 10	..	..
Tamarind (say)	75	0 1 9	125	0 3 0
Chillies (say)	75	0 6 3	125	0 10 5
Total ..	..	1 5 4	..	1 0 2

If oil is used, the cost of 100 D rations is Rs. 1–0–6, so that the revised ration is 0·04 of a pie cheaper. I trust that my action may be approved. I would have sought the previous sanction of the Famine Commissioner and the Government, but it was necessary to take prompt action.

4. None of the Salt Sub-Inspectors deputed from the Bellary Sub-division has as yet arrived and most of those that came from the Southern Division are unable to read or write Telugu though shown in the departmental lists as knowing Telugu.

5. The system of calculating wages on the mean of the prices of yellow cholam and ragi was, after consultation with the Divisional-officer, introduced on the northern and southern sections of the Siruguppa road work in the Bellary taluk. Ragi is now issued for the grain doles in Bellary town, and this practice will be extended to all

the villages in the Bellary taluk except those in the Tekkalakota firka, and to all villages of the Kudligi taluk. The Head Assistant Collector has been requested to report whether ragi might not be adopted for grain-doles in Hospet. Ragi will be substituted for cholum in the Bellary town kitchen. Its effects there will be watched, and if the result is satisfactory, the grain will be introduced in other kitchens also. Great care will be necessary in cleaning the grain.

6. The following statement gives the statistics of offences against property reported in the month of June 1897 as compared with the three previous years:—

Nomenclature of offence.	In June.			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	2	2	4	2
Robbery	1	1	1	1
Highway robbery	..	..	1	1
House-breaking by day	..	1	1	3
Do. by night	8	14	19	13
Cattle-thefts	5	3	2	5
Ordinary thefts above 5 rupees ..	15	5	11	18
Do. below 5 rupees	5	11	7	6

These figures are more encouraging than those for previous months, for they show but little increase of crime.

7. I referred in my last report to a statement that there was a good deal of drinking by relief-workers. I find that the consumption of arrack in the Alúr taluk during 1896–97 was but little below that of 1895–96, being 2,243 gallons against 2,270 gallons; and in the first quarter of this year the shops at Alúr, Kuruvalli, Halharini, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Aspari, Kammarachedu, Nemakallu and Beladona, all near relief-works, show an increased consumption. This increase is practically confined to Alúr, where very little toddy is drunk. We have no statistics for toddy, but relief-workers are found at all the toddy-shops in the evening, I believe. This place (Nandavaram) is notorious for it, and I found a number of them having their "glass" the evening before last.

8. There have been complaints of delays in payment, and there undoubtedly was some delay owing to a sudden accession of workers, rain, illness of paymasters and confusion in the arrangement of gangs; but I have already reported that the delay of seven days which was said to have occurred in the case of two gangs on the Adóni work was in reality a delay of two days only, and the paymaster informs me that there would have been a delay of only one day but for the action of the relief-workers who refused to accept their wages on the first day because they had been fined. There cannot have been any urgent need of the money in their case.

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

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.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
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		
Adóni	12	2,710	10	1,180	55	12,134	156	13,270	155	13,200	309	27,140	168	15,980	165	14,380	364	39,274	..	8
Alár	41	10,390	41	7,670	37	12,910	1,527	1,63,100	1,468	1,58,248	161	46,290	1,568	1,73,490	1,509	1,65,918	198	59,200	..	41
Bellary	39	5,037	39	5,037	27	9,443	913	88,243	913	88,243	164	52,667	952	93,280	952	93,280	191	62,110	..	39
Ráyadrug	74	15,972	67	9,156	34	9,850	306	40,805	297	39,435	110	14,060	380	56,777	364	48,591	144	23,910	..	67
Hospet	20	4,520	20	2,360	26	5,300	52	3,975	52	3,975	21	2,300	72	8,495	72	6,335	47	7,600	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	51	6,155	27	2,825	60	7,205	52	6,205	28	3,075	..	1
Hadagalli	9	1,000	8	550	21	5,600	74	9,685	70	9,220	109	18,755	83	10,685	78	9,770	130	24,355	..	6
Total ..	198	39,989	186	26,003	238	62,827	3,087	3,26,183	3,006	3,18,476	908	1,64,937	3,285	3,66,172	3,192	3,44,479	1,146	2,27,764	..	173

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.
Adóni	437	15,363	341	11,584	341	34,001	17	485	6	240	132	6,480	454	15,848	347	11,824	473	40,481
Alár	1,553	54,555	1,198	41,755	608	42,514	23	1,348	18	1,070	88	5,158	1,576	55,903	1,216	42,825	696	47,672
Bellary	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178	..	..	..	..	..	..	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178
Ráyadrug	125	6,350	123	6,200	243	11,859	12	690	12	690	20	1,445	137	7,040	135	6,890	263	13,304
Hospet	101	3,490	101	3,490	98	5,160	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	3,490	101	3,490	98	5,160
Kúdligi	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358	..	..	..	..	..	..	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358
Harpanahalli	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970	..	..	..	..	..	..	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970
Hadagalli	135	4,823	91	4,051	367	13,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	4,823	91	4,051	367	13,750
Total ..	3,935	1,40,311	3,414	1,21,961	2,745	1,63,790	52	2,523	36	2,000	240	13,083	3,987	1,42,834	3,450	1,23,961	2,985	1,76,873

Note.—The amount disbursed in the fortnight is only Rs. 44,796, but it must be remembered that fodder loans are for small amounts and that it is the number of loans rather than the amount of money, which shows the work done.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Bellary kitchen, Hirehal road work, Somalapur, Rayadrug, Kanekal, Mogalam, Garudachedu, Meenahalli, Bidurukunta, Honnuru, Govindavada, Uddihal, Bommanahal and other villages in the Ráyadrug taluk, and the Adóni kitchen.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Naranapur, Adóni-Alur road and kitchen, Yerigeri, Kuppagal road and kitchen, Kowtalam road, Bapuram, Hatehalli, Halvi and surrounding villages, Kosgi, Adóni, Nandavaram.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Siruguppa road, Holagondi-Hebbattam road, the kitchens at Raravi, Nadanganu, Ravihal, Harivanam, Santekudlur, Holagondi, Hebbattam, the villages of Saliganur, Kotekal, Suguru, Agasanuru, Venkatapuram, Nagarehal, Alabanur, Bevinamaradasaguru, Baladur, Edavalli, Ittikihal, Gajjihalli and Alúr.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Parmadevanahalli, Joladarasi, Chellagurki, Virapur, Karekal, Sidiginamola, Kaggal, Lingavinhalli, Kuntanakal, Tolamamidi, Asundi, Godihal, Bisalahalli, Somasamudram (kitchen), Bylore, Sindigeri (kitchen), Sandaspur, Tekkalakota (kitchen and work), Siruguppa and the northern and southern sections of Siruguppa road work.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hirehal, Gundlahalli, Metriki, Gangalapuram, Vitlapuram, Avinamadugu, Antapur (relief-work), Chickkantapuram, Kodalu, Marutla, Lingadahalli, Bannilatti, Nagalapuram, Joga, Taluru, Woddu, Gadiganuru (relief-work) and Buvvanahalli.

I regret the delay in the submission of this report. It is due to the fact that I am in an out-of-the-way corner of the district and the papers had to be sent to me from Bellary.

Read—also the following letter from H. A. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th August 1897, Ref. on G and B No. 1828 :—

In continuation of the remarks in my last fortnightly narrative regarding the ration which I had substituted for the D wage, I have the honour to report that the Sanitary Commissioner informs me that the omission of the allowance of oil is sanitarily undesirable.

2. I omitted the oil because of the difficulty in issuing it to recipients of grain-doles, and because it is not used by the people of this district in conjunction with the kind of meal served in our kitchens, viz., parridge and *châru*. I beg further to point out that there is no oil or ghee in the ration given in section 122 of the Famine Code.

3. If, however, the Famine Commissioner considers that oil should be given, I beg that the quantity may be some common fraction of a tola, for a bazaar shopkeeper has no idea of the value of 0·83. This also applies to the ration of salt. I further request that I may be given detailed instructions as to the quantity of condiments and vegetables to be issued.

Resolution—No. 582, dated 20th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good in the Adóni and Alúr taluks, and the northern portion of Bellary taluk, though the Adóni firka received but little rain. The fall in the rest of the district was poor. The prospects of part of the Adóni and the northern portions of Alúr and Bellary taluks were fair; but in other parts sowings were much restricted, and standing crops affected by want of sufficient rain. Pasture was available to, but, a limited extent, and fodder was scanty.

3. Prices on the whole rose slightly, but ragi fell a little. Imports were large. The comparative positions of prices are shown by the following figures :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee. Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.
Normal	13·2	...	30·0
Warning	10·6	...	22·5
Scarcity	7·9	...	15·0
Current	7·7	12·8	9·5
July 1892	9·3	17·5	16 3
„ 1877	5 5	6·6	5·8

4. The condition of the people was generally good, though small-pox and cholera prevailed in parts. The numbers on works increased by 22 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 9 per cent. The Collector should keep a list of wanderers from the Nizam's Dominions as directed in G.O., No. 560, dated 13th July 1897. His remarks as to the condition of the 5,000 immigrants from Hyderabad, "most of whom were in wretched condition," are instructive. The condition of the Nizam's coolies is the result of withholding relief, and the same conditions would have been present in British territory but for the relief given.

The attention of Government is invited to the Collector's remarks on the condition of the Rayadrug taluk and the possibility of relief having to be extended to that area. It has already been found necessary to start weavers' relief operations there. The Famine Commissioner is unable to understand Mr. Stuart's remarks as to the severity of the restrictions on fining; G.O., No. 216 of 1897, gave ample power for the punishment of malingerers.

The Collector gives no reason in his fortnightly narrative why oil and ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, but furnishes an explanation in his subsequent letter read at the head of this proceedings; these articles are not provided for in section 122 of the Famine Code. The Collector's revised ration is cheaper than the Code D ration. The omission of oil or ghee and vegetables makes a serious change in the already attenuated ration, and the Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to give his opinion on the subject, communicating a copy of it direct to the Collector.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans :—

Up to end of week ending—	Amount disbursed. Rs.
July 3rd	4,08,711
„ 10th	4,32,853
„ 17th	4,44,404
„ 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695

It would be well if other districts had been as forward in this matter as Bellary.

The amount disbursed during the fortnight was not large, but, as the Collector says, it is the number of loans, rather than the amount of money, that shows the work done.

6. As to the condition of the Adóni coolies, the Collector holds that their poor physique is due to previous illness, not to the present distress. There is nothing special in the climate of Adóni to lower the physique of its inhabitants. In times of distress people are more liable to illness and less capable of recuperation. There is a general disposition to reverse the positions of *post hoc* and *propter hoc*. So famine diarrhœa is ignored and "bowel complaints" are credited with the results of stinting. It is very mysterious that cases are rarely found in which it is admitted that any one died of privation. Even in the worst cases, the deceased generally has some copper in his pocket so that he is reported to have had the means of purchasing food. No one can cross the Styx without an obolus.

7. The Famine Commissioner has already recorded his own experience as to drinking in distressed tracts. He recently paid a surprise visit to the Paniem toddy-shop in the evening and found it deserted.

8. The Collector's remarks regarding scurvy will be communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner. That officer is an expert in scurvy. Probably, Surgeon-Major Evans is not.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 773, Revenue, dated 9th September 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Brd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 773, 9th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st July 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 582, dated 20th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 31st July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight.	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
Yemmiganúru	3·99	10·07	7·83
Adóni	2·28	5·97	9·97
Alúr	1·64	8·63	6·91
Siruguppa	1·30	8·55	7·00
Kampli	0·94	9·22	5·26
Bellary	0 30	4·09	5·92
Rayadrug	0·23	7·36	5·91
Hospet	0·84	15·60	9·14
Kúdligi	0·67	15·54	8·18
Harpanahalli	0·51	9·89	8·39
Hadagalli	0 28	9·26	7·37
Sandúr	0·25	9·24	..

There has been good rain during the fortnight in the first four rain-recording stations. Except in Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight has been more than the average of 25 years, but the long break has caused much anxiety except in parts of Adóni and Alúr. The rains have been well distributed and fairly continuous between Kosgi and Yemmiganúru and along the river in the Adóni taluk, but the Adóni firka has not received as much as is wanted. In Alúr the rain was heavy within a radius of 4 or 5 miles from the head-quarter station and in villages on the Harivanam side. There was moderate rain in Siruguppa, Tekkalakota, Parmadevanahalli, Chaganur, Chellagurki, Virapur, Banapur, Sauvaspur, Handihal and Hirehadagalli in Bellary taluk, and Bhupasamudram, Avaladatla, Kaderampalli and Macheri in Rayadrug taluk ; elsewhere there was but a slight drizzle. Water-supply for drinking purposes is generally sufficient all over the district. In Adóni taluk the Chinnatambalam tank has received two months' supply, and all the small tanks and kuntas, especially in Kosgi and Yemmiganúru firkas, are full. In Alúr, only the Kuruvalli, Alúr and Timmapuram tanks have received some supply. In Bellary, Rayadrug, Hospet and Harpanahalli taluks, the tanks do not contain sufficient supply for irrigation purposes. Six tanks in Hadagalli and many tanks in Kudligi as well as river-fed channels and tanks contain sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Even the heaviest black-cotton soil in the Yemmiganúru firka is being sown with cotton and korra. Weeding operations are in progress to some extent. The standing crops are up to the average everywhere except in some villages round Adóni, where they had already died off before the rains.

Alúr taluk.—In many villages red-soil lands are being sown. The condition of standing crops has been much improved. Crops under wells are in good condition.

Bellary division.—Ragi and cholam under wells and *Kartikaru* (first-crop) paddy under the Hagari channels are being sown. Black-cotton soils are being prepared for sowing. Early dry crops are reported to be withering in Rayadrug taluk. In the Tekkalakóta firka of Bellary taluk the dry crops look better than elsewhere in the taluk.

Hospet division.—Ploughing and weeding are going on in Kudligi and Harpanahalli. Sowing operations are in progress in Gádiganúru firka of Hospet taluk. Paddy is being sown under the tanks in Hadagalli and Kudligi taluks. Garden crops are in good condition. Cholam is in good condition in Harpanahalli, fair in Hadagalli, but is withering in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk. In parts of Hospet and Hadagalli standing crops are being damaged by insects. Want of more rain has checked the progress of cultivation in some villages of Hiréhadagalli firka of Hadagalli taluk and parts of Hospet and Harpanahalli.

Sandur State.—Weeding is over for the present. Standing dry crops are not so good as they should be and are wilting in some places. Garden crops are fair.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is sparingly available in villages irrigated by river channels. Elsewhere it is springing up and in about a week will give a good deal of sustenance to the cattle. Ploughing cattle are almost entirely stallfed and are in fair condition. The condition of other cattle is poor.

Alúr taluk.—Pasture not yet available. Fodder is very scanty, except with a few well-to-do ryots. Hill grass is procurable to a small extent in the hills of Mugamangundi, Sulukoy, Virupapuram and Neriniki, but it is said to be unwholesome for cattle. The condition of cattle of poor ryots is still bad.

Bellary division.—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. Hill grass, prickly-pear and grass roots are much used as fodder. Hill grass is getting very dear and is selling at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug, and bad in Bellary except in the case of stallfed animals.

Hospet division.—Grass generally has not grown sufficiently to be of much use for pasture. Fodder is insufficient except in villages under river channels. In villages situated within easy reach of the reserves, the condition of cattle is good. Cattle in parts of Antapur valley of Hospet taluk are emaciated. In Hadagalli the condition of cattle is deteriorating and there is some slight cattle disease at Bylahunsi. In Kudligi the condition of cattle is fair.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available in the hills. There is little or no fodder. The condition of cattle is much improved. 9,152 head of cattle and 4,877 sheep and goats belonging to British territory are grazing in the Sandúr hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—During the fortnight under report I have travelled through the greater part of the Rayadrug taluk going from Bellary to Rayadrug *viâ* Somalapur, thence to Kanekal and returning to Bellary *viâ* Meenahalli, Gamdachedu, Pridurakunta, Honnur, Govindavada, Uddihal and Bommanahal. I was surprised to find the standing crops in such good condition after the long drought. I saw no crop that had been lost and only patches here and there which were wilting. But the area sown is small and more rain is urgently wanted.

Mr. Spencer has visited most of the villages of the Antapur valley in Hospet and has thoroughly acquainted himself with the condition of things in that part of the taluk. He states that "about two-thirds of the cultivated lands seem to have been sown, but in parts cholam is fading ; on the west and south the crops are in rather better condition, but considering that this part of the country depends on the South-west monsoon chiefly, and it has had very deficient rainfall compared with the other parts of the division, the prospects must be said to be gloomy." With a view to provide the labourers of this part of the taluk with works within their easy reach, the Antapur-Vaddu staff will be transferred to the Avinamadugu tank work, and the Gádiganúru road work will be moved to the Tornagal-Sandúr road with head-quarters about the point where the Antapur-Vaddu road crosses it. The kitchen attached to the work at Antapur will be transferred to Kodalu, the existing one at Antapur being retained as a central kitchen.

In the Adóni taluk prospects are much brighter and it is a treat to see such an expanse of green and healthy-looking crops. The immediate neighbourhood of Adóni, however, has not shared in the general good fortune, for though there has been very fair rain at Adóni itself, but little seems to have fallen in the villages just to the north

of it. The north of Alúr and Bellary taluks are also fairly satisfactory, but elsewhere more rain is badly needed to save the standing crops and to enable the remaining land to be prepared for sowing. We are at present in a state of suspense, but the prospects are, on the whole, somewhat brighter than they were a fortnight ago.

The condition of the cattle leaves much to be desired. The Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has been obliged to stop the free grants of fodder from the depôts and owing to the temporary cessation of the rains there is not the usual extent of pasture available.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

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

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	
Adóni	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·76	9·79	10·82	12·13	14·07	There has been very light change in prices. Ragi has fallen slightly and other grains are a trifle dearer.
Alúr	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	7·56	8·76	8·24	10·80	9·27	13·10	14·55	
Ráyadrug	8·10	8·10	9·79	9·27	10 82	10·04	11·64	12·13	
Hospet	8·10	7·56	9·27	9·79	10·30	10·30	13·10	13·50	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	12·61	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	11·85	10·82	13·10	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	..	11·64	
Sandúr	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	..	12·61	
Average ..	7·80	7·68	8·86	8·86	10·36	10·10	12·61	12·84	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 108,514 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 42,310 maunds in the previous fortnight. This is by far the largest import we have yet had and is sufficient to give nearly 638,000 persons one pound of grain a day for a fortnight.

Condition of the people.

On works.—Satisfactory. Exceptional cases are met with, but these are usually persons who have been suffering from illness. Many of the people from the Nizam's country were in poor condition. The Famine Commissioner has himself seen many of the works recently.

In villages.—Generally good. In Rayadrug I found a few persons in some of the eastern villages who seemed to be in need of relief and I have accordingly sanctioned the grant of grain-doles in that neighbourhood. The numbers will be very small for the present, but if good rain does not fall there soon we shall have to extend operations.

Sickness and Mortality.

Small-pox still prevails in parts of Harpanahalli and Hadagalli. There have been 112 attacks and 11 deaths from this cause. Guinea worm and sore eyes prevail among the relief workers in Bellary and Hospet, but guinea worm is, I think, now less prevalent than it was. Perhaps, this is due to the improvement in the drinking-water.

There is cholera in 11 villages of Adóni taluk. There have been 180 attacks and 90 deaths. It prevails also in 4 villages of Bellary taluk, the number of attacks and deaths being 44 and 32, respectively. Two cases of cholera were reported from Hospet and one from Alúr, but they appear to have been sporadic. Active measures are being taken to combat the disease. On the Nandavaram road, the disease was introduced by wanderers from the Nizam's dominions, who have been its principal victims. The youthful Hospital Assistant on the spot completely lost his head and reported that most of the coolies on the work were suffering from starvation, that this predisposed them to cholera and most of them were dying of that complaint. The Assistant

Surgeon was at once sent to Nandavaram, and the Hospital Assistant then said that there had been one death from starvation, but even this on enquiry proved to be a death from fever and exposure, though no doubt aggravated by privation. The deceased was a man from the Nizam's dominions, whence there has been a regular invasion. At one time the numbers are believed to have reached 5,000 and most of them were in wretched condition. In my last report I referred to this matter and suggested the desirability of measures of relief being undertaken by the Hyderabad authorities, for a rush of some thousands of half-starved coolies is a severe tax on our resources. Most of them have now gone back again though a few are still under Apothecary Stocking's care in the temporary hospital. From Nandavaram (where I now write) the disease has spread to the town of Yemmiganuru and the medical staff there is now being strengthened.

Two cases of death from starvation were reported from Bannihatti, a shrotriem village in Hospet taluk bordering the Sandur territory. Mr. Spencer held an enquiry and discovered that the cause of death was dropsy in one case (an old man of 80) and fever in the other. He considers that their death was attributed by the villagers to starvation in the hope of getting grants for fodder and the grain doles.

The Sanitary Commissioner reported that 13 per cent. of the inmates of the branch kitchen at Adóni and 5 per cent. of those in the main kitchen were suffering from scurvy. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer has been on the watch for an outbreak of scurvy for some time, but has found none. On the receipt of this report from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, I happened to be in Bellary, and I asked Surgeon-Major Evans to examine the inmates of the Brucepettah kitchen. He did so in my presence and did not find a single case of scurvy. I then went to Adóni where I arrived on the 31st July and at once proceeded to the kitchen, but the Sanitary Commissioner had unfortunately left no record of the scurvy patients, and a fresh examination was, therefore, necessary to discover them in order that they might be given vegetables. This examination was made at the branch kitchen by the apothecary. Out of 131 persons examined, he found only three with any signs of scurvy and the symptoms were so slight that he was not prepared to say that they were actually suffering from that disease. One of the cases was that of a child admitted a month ago when just recovering from an attack of measles, he has had vegetables in addition to the ordinary ration for the past four weeks, so that the scurvy, if it be scurvy, can hardly be due to want of vegetable diet in this instance. Another case was that of a little boy who was much emaciated when admitted, but is now plump and cheerful. Three cases out of 131 gives a proportion of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Remarks.

I investigated a number of cases of persons in poor condition on the Adóni work, and my inquiries confirmed the conclusion already reported to the Board that where such cases are met with the cause is to be found in previous illness and not in want of food. There are, of course, many people of poor physique, especially among the Mussalman weavers, but that is not produced by the present distress.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	47,488	50,499
Alúr	46,925	56,392
Bellary	15,477	22,695
Hospet	10,357	13,228
Kúdligi	1,598	2,080
Hadagalli	5,694	10,376
Total ...	127,539	155,270
Sandur	412	562

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,788	1,685	1,590	1,458	..	..	2,470	3,511
Alúr	2,177	* 2,399	632	294	..	..	5,297	3,812
Bellary	992	1,194	1,156	1,183	..	..	3,926	† 6,339
Rayadrug	..	116	..	..	..	..	..	5
Hospet	725	705	306	286	..	..	1,977	2,606
Kúdligi	62	32	..	19	..	..	105	182
Hadagalli	225	272	25	27	..	..	2,315	1,920
Total ..	5,969	6,403	3,709	3,267	..	..	16,090	18,375
Sandur	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	107

* The increase is due to opening of two central kitchens at Nadangam and Gooliem with a view to reduce the number of dependants on gratuitous relief.
† Explanation called for for the large increase.

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.
Adóni	138	180	3,579	4,485	4,886	27,573
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	118	517	657	535	1,090
Rayadrug	..	1	..	523	..	..
Hospet	33	46	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	..	36	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	62	..	..	..	..
Sandur	6	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work. The fodder depôt at Kuditani was abolished, there being practically no demand for fodder there now. The local committees are making grants for the purchase of fodder and seed-grain, and to a small extent for the purchase of cattle also. Clothing is being distributed to those whom enquiry shows to be in need of it. It has been found that it is impossible to go by the appearances of relief workers alone, for many come to the works in rags leaving their better garments at home in the hope that they may be selected as objects of the fund's charity. The Famine Commissioner recommended the gift of a square of flannel to sickly babies, but the District Committee was of opinion that this would be a useless expense.

There is still a good deal of private charity in villages that have not been seriously affected.

General Remarks.

As alreay stated I visited the Rayadrug taluk during the fortnight. At the last census the population of the town of Rayadrug was 10,382, of whom 3,793 depended for their livelihood upon weaving. Government relief was offered to these weavers in January last but they refused to avail themselves of it. On my arrival, however, they came forward in large numbers and asked for relief. The system of working and the scale of remuneration were explained to them and they were told to consider it and return the next day. They did so and said that they had no work and nothing to

live upon and would take relief on the Adóni terms. Operations were accordingly started at once, a kitchen being opened for the non-working dependants. The number enrolled is now 523 and I expect that this will increase somewhat during the current month. I trust that my action in starting this measure of relief will be approved.

2. During the fortnight a number of changes have been made in the details of the administration of relief. The old scale of distance allowances has been restored and the grant of wages for half days and the lenient treatment of late comers have been abolished. The last was fatal to discipline, but the relief worker is very fertile in getting round rules and it has already been found that persons marked absent for late attendance go off to another part of the work, get themselves enrolled as new-comers and receive the minimum wage for that day. This is, of course, possible only on large works. The severe restrictions on fining which were having a bad effect on work and discipline have been withdrawn and the provisions of Section 106 of the Famine Code will now be enforced with firmness, but I have warned Divisional Officers to be on the alert for any signs of falling off in condition and to make prompt enquiry in all cases in which the wage is frequently reduced below the minimum.

3. The effect of the reduction of the kitchen ration and grain dole to the D wage will also be watched. I have been obliged to make some modifications in the D wage, as oil or ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, and it is necessary to specify the exact quantity of condiments. I have accordingly omitted "oil or ghee" and "condiments or vegetables" and substituted for them 1·25 tolas of tamarind and 1·25 tolas of chillies, these being the quantities issued in the past. I have also ordered that the quantity of grain shall be that allowed for males, for it is practically impossible without a great increase of trouble and much extra account work to have separate rations for males and females. The effect, therefore, of the change is to reduce the quantity of grain from 50 to 40 tolas and the quantity of salt from 1·75 to 0·83 tolas. The quantity of grain given in the revised table is, however, husked grain and the equivalent of unhusked grain is approximately 43 tolas. Again 0·83 tola of salt is a very awkward fraction to deal with and as there is some saving by the substitution of the tamarind and chillies for "oil or ghee" and "condiments and vegetables", and as a number of officers whom I have consulted are of opinion that the quantity of salt is insufficient, I have raised it to 1½ tolas. The financial effect of these changes is shown below. The prices quoted are those prevailing in Adóni on the 1st instant :—

—	Other items of D ration × 100.		Revised ration × 100.	
	Quantity in tolas.	Value.	Quantity in tolas.	Value.
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Salt	83	0 1 6	150	0 2 9
Oil or ghee (average)	83	0 11 10	..	..
Tamarind (say)	75	0 1 9	125	0 3 0
Chillies (say)	75	0 6 3	125	0 10 5
Total ..	..	1 5 4	..	1 0 2

If oil is used, the cost of 100 D rations is Rs. 1–0–6, so that the revised ration is 0·04 of a pie cheaper. I trust that my action may be approved. I would have sought the previous sanction of the Famine Commissioner and the Government, but it was necessary to take prompt action.

4. None of the Salt Sub-Inspectors deputed from the Bellary Sub-division has as yet arrived and most of those that came from the Southern Division are unable to read or write Telugu though shown in the departmental lists as knowing Telugu.

5. The system of calculating wages on the mean of the prices of yellow cholam and ragi was, after consultation with the Divisional-officer, introduced on the northern and southern sections of the Siruguppa road work in the Bellary taluk. Ragi is now issued for the grain doles in Bellary town, and this practice will be extended to all

the villages in the Bellary taluk except those in the Tekkalakota firka, and to all villages of the Kudligi taluk. The Head Assistant Collector has been requested to report whether ragi might not be adopted for grain-doles in Hospet. Ragi will be substituted for cholum in the Bellary town kitchen. Its effects there will be watched, and if the result is satisfactory, the grain will be introduced in other kitchens also. Great care will be necessary in cleaning the grain.

6. The following statement gives the statistics of offences against property reported in the month of June 1897 as compared with the three previous years:—

Nomenclature of offence.	In June.			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	..	2	4	2
Robbery	2	1	1	1
Highway robbery	..	1	1	3
House-breaking by day	8	14	19	13
Do. by night	5	3	2	5
Cattle-thefts	15	5	11	18
Ordinary thefts above 5 rupees ..	5	11	7	6
Do. below 5 rupees	..	..	..	..

These figures are more encouraging than those for previous months, for they show but little increase of crime.

7. I referred in my last report to a statement that there was a good deal of drinking by relief-workers. I find that the consumption of arrack in the Alúr taluk during 1896–97 was but little below that of 1895–96, being 2,243 gallons against 2,270 gallons; and in the first quarter of this year the shops at Alúr, Kuruvalli, Halharini, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Aspari, Kammarachedu, Nemakallu and Beladona, all near relief-works, show an increased consumption. This increase is practically confined to Alúr, where very little toddy is drunk. We have no statistics for toddy, but relief-workers are found at all the toddy-shops in the evening, I believe. This place (Nandavaram) is notorious for it, and I found a number of them having their "glass" the evening before last.

8. There have been complaints of delays in payment, and there undoubtedly was some delay owing to a sudden accession of workers, rain, illness of paymasters and confusion in the arrangement of gangs; but I have already reported that the delay of seven days which was said to have occurred in the case of two gangs on the Adóni work was in reality a delay of two days only, and the paymaster informs me that there would have been a delay of only one day but for the action of the relief-workers who refused to accept their wages on the first day because they had been fined. There cannot have been any urgent need of the money in their case.

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

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.		
Adóni	12	2,710	10	1,180	55	12,134	156	13,270	155	13,200	309	27,140	168	15,980	165	14,380	364	39,274	..	8
Alúr	41	10,390	41	7,670	37	12,910	1,527	1,63,100	1,468	1,68,248	161	46,290	1,568	1,73,490	1,509	1,65,918	198	59,200	..	41
Bellary	39	5,037	39	6,037	27	9,443	913	88,243	913	88,243	164	52,667	952	93,280	952	93,280	191	62,110	..	39
Báyadrug	74	16,972	67	9,156	34	9,850	306	40,805	297	39,435	110	14,060	380	56,777	364	48,591	144	23,910	..	67
Hospet	20	4,520	20	2,360	26	6,300	62	3,975	62	3,975	7	900	72	8,495	72	6,335	47	7,600	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	21	2,300	72	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli ..	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	51	6,155	27	2,825	2	7,205	52	6,205	28	3,075	..	1
Hadagalli	9	1,000	8	550	21	5,600	74	9,685	70	9,220	109	18,755	83	10,655	78	9,770	180	24,855	..	6
Total ..	198	39,989	186	26,003	238	62,827	3,087	3,26,183	3,006	3,18,476	908	1,64,937	3,285	3,66,172	3,192	3,44,479	1,146	2,27,764	..	173

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.				Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	Rs.	24	Rs.	26	Rs.	36	Rs.	38	Rs.
Adóni	437	15,363	341	11,584	341	11,824	347	11,824	473	40,481
Alúr	1,553	54,555	1,198	41,755	608	42,614	1,216	42,825	696	47,672
Bellary	947	36,792	947	36,792	492	29,178	947	36,792	492	29,178
Báyadrug	125	6,350	123	6,200	243	11,869	947	6,890	263	18,304
Hospet	101	3,490	101	3,490	98	6,160	135	7,040	98	6,160
Kúdligi	476	12,329	475	12,309	220	9,358	101	3,490	220	9,358
Harpanahalli ..	161	6,609	138	5,780	376	17,970	475	12,309	376	17,970
Hadagalli	135	4,823	91	4,961	367	13,760	138	5,780	367	13,760
Total ..	3,935	1,40,311	3,414	1,21,961	2,745	1,63,790	91	4,661	2,985	1,76,873
							3,460	1,23,961		

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.			
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	28	Rs.	30	Rs.	32	Rs.	34	Rs.	36	Rs.
Adóni	..	..	..	..	132	6,480	454	15,848	347	11,824
Alúr	17	455	6	240	88	5,168	1,676	55,903	1,216	42,825
Bellary	23	1,348	18	1,070	..	..	947	36,792	947	36,792
Báyadrug	..	690	..	690	20	1,445	137	7,040	135	6,890
Hospet	12	..	12	..	..	..	101	3,490	101	3,490
Kúdligi	..	..	..	..	..	..	476	12,329	475	12,309
Harpanahalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	161	6,609	138	6,780
Hadagalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	135	4,823	91	4,661
Total ..	52	2,523	36	2,000	240	13,083	3,997	1,42,834	3,460	1,23,961

Taluks.	Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications pending.				Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.				
	38	Rs.				
Adóni	473	40,481				
Alúr	696	47,672				
Bellary	492	29,178				
Báyadrug	263	18,304				
Hospet	98	6,160				
Kúdligi	220	9,358				
Harpanahalli ..	376	17,970				
Hadagalli	367	13,760				
Total ..	2,985	1,76,873				

Note.—The amount disbursed in the fortnight is only Rs. 44,796, but it must be remembered that fodder loans are for small amounts and that it is the number of loans rather than the amount of money, which shows the work done.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Bellary kitchen, Hirehal road work, Somalapur, Rayadrug, Kanekal, Mogalam, Garudachedu, Meenahalli, Bidurukunta, Honnuru, Govindavada, Uddihal, Bommanahal and other villages in the Ráyadrug taluk, and the Adóni kitchen.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Naranapur, Adóni-Alur road and kitchen, Yerigeri, Kuppagal road and kitchen, Kowtalam road, Bapuram, Hatehalli, Halvi and surrounding villages, Kosgi, Adóni, Nandavaram.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Siruguppa road, Holagondi-Hebbattam road, the kitchens at Raravi, Nadanganu, Ravihal, Harivanam, Santekudlur, Holagondi, Hebbattam, the villages of Saliganur, Kotekal, Suguru, Agasanuru, Venkatapuram, Nagarehal, Alabanur, Bevinamaradasaguru, Baladur, Edavalli, Ittikihal, Gajjihalli and Alúr.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Parmadevanahalli, Joladarasi, Chellagurki, Virapur, Karekal, Sidiginamola, Kaggal, Lingavinhalli, Kuntanakal, Tolamamidi, Asundi, Godihal, Bisalahalli, Somasamudram (kitchen), Bylore, Sindigeri (kitchen), Sandaspur, Tekkalakota (kitchen and work), Siruguppa and the northern and southern sections of Siruguppa road work.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hirehal, Gundlahalli, Metriki, Gangalapuram, Vitlapuram, Avinamadugu, Antapur (relief-work), Chickkantapuram, Kodalu, Marutla, Lingadahalli, Bannilatti, Nagalapuram, Joga, Taluru, Woddu, Gadiganuru (relief-work) and Buvvanahalli.

I regret the delay in the submission of this report. It is due to the fact that I am in an out-of-the-way corner of the district and the papers had to be sent to me from Bellary.

Read—also the following letter from H. A. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th August 1897, Ref. on G and B No. 1828 :—

In continuation of the remarks in my last fortnightly narrative regarding the ration which I had substituted for the D wage, I have the honour to report that the Sanitary Commissioner informs me that the omission of the allowance of oil is sanitarily undesirable.

2. I omitted the oil because of the difficulty in issuing it to recipients of grain-doles, and because it is not used by the people of this district in conjunction with the kind of meal served in our kitchens, viz., parridge and *châru*. I beg further to point out that there is no oil or ghee in the ration given in section 122 of the Famine Code.

3. If, however, the Famine Commissioner considers that oil should be given, I beg that the quantity may be some common fraction of a tola, for a bazaar shopkeeper has no idea of the value of 0·83. This also applies to the ration of salt. I further request that I may be given detailed instructions as to the quantity of condiments and vegetables to be issued.

Resolution—No. 582, dated 20th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good in the Adóni and Alúr taluks, and the northern portion of Bellary taluk, though the Adóni firka received but little rain. The fall in the rest of the district was poor. The prospects of part of the Adóni and the northern portions of Alúr and Bellary taluks were fair; but in other parts sowings were much restricted, and standing crops affected by want of sufficient rain. Pasture was available to, but, a limited extent, and fodder was scanty.

3. Prices on the whole rose slightly, but ragi fell a little. Imports were large. The comparative positions of prices are shown by the following figures :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.
Normal	13·2	...	30·0
Warning	10·6	...	22·5
Scarcity	7·9	...	15·0
Current	7·7	12·8	9·5
July 1892	9·3	17·5	16·3
„ 1877	5 5	6·6	5·8

4. The condition of the people was generally good, though small-pox and cholera prevailed in parts. The numbers on works increased by 22 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 9 per cent. The Collector should keep a list of wanderers from the Nizam's Dominions as directed in G.O., No. 560, dated 13th July 1897. His remarks as to the condition of the 5,000 immigrants from Hyderabad, "most of whom were in wretched condition," are instructive. The condition of the Nizam's coolies is the result of withholding relief, and the same conditions would have been present in British territory but for the relief given.

The attention of Government is invited to the Collector's remarks on the condition of the Rayadrug taluk and the possibility of relief having to be extended to that area. It has already been found necessary to start weavers' relief operations there. The Famine Commissioner is unable to understand Mr. Stuart's remarks as to the severity of the restrictions on fining; G.O., No. 216 of 1897, gave ample power for the punishment of malingerers.

The Collector gives no reason in his fortnightly narrative why oil and ghee are unsuitable for kitchens and doles, but furnishes an explanation in his subsequent letter read at the head of this proceedings; these articles are not provided for in section 122 of the Famine Code. The Collector's revised ration is cheaper than the Code D ration. The omission of oil or ghee and vegetables makes a serious change in the already attenuated ration, and the Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to give his opinion on the subject, communicating a copy of it direct to the Collector.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans :—

Up to end of week ending—

	Amount disbursed. Rs.
July 3rd	4,08,711
„ 10th	4,32,853
„ 17th	4,44,404
„ 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695

It would be well if other districts had been as forward in this matter as Bellary.

The amount disbursed during the fortnight was not large, but, as the Collector says, it is the number of loans, rather than the amount of money, that shows the work done.

6. As to the condition of the Adóni coolies, the Collector holds that their poor physique is due to previous illness, not to the present distress. There is nothing special in the climate of Adóni to lower the physique of its inhabitants. In times of distress people are more liable to illness and less capable of recuperation. There is a general disposition to reverse the positions of *post hoc* and *propter hoc*. So famine diarrhœa is ignored and "bowel complaints" are credited with the results of stinting. It is very mysterious that cases are rarely found in which it is admitted that any one died of privation. Even in the worst cases, the deceased generally has some copper in his pocket so that he is reported to have had the means of purchasing food. No one can cross the Styx without an obolus.

7. The Famine Commissioner has already recorded his own experience as to drinking in distressed tracts. He recently paid a surprise visit to the Paniem toddy-shop in the evening and found it deserted.

8. The Collector's remarks regarding scurvy will be communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner. That officer is an expert in scurvy. Probably, Surgeon-Major Evans is not.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 773, Revenue, dated 9th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Sxd. Shaik Karim.

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