Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 333625

DATED 28th Nov 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jammie: Pros: Revenue dept re crediting Board's Pros: Submitting the fortnightly narrative of the Bellary Dist for the period ending 30th September 97 Comd. 6 Lt. III Cubs.

D 30.11.97

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-06.]

Indexed. 30/11

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Public Works (187) dept. Current No. 11546

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 20 Nov 1897.
Regd. }

Enclosures

Spare copies 16

G.O., No. 927, 10th November 1897.

№ 3336 W. 30.11.97.

To

NOVEMBER. Communicated to Ld. S.S. III Circle.

Ch

Circd 25.11.97.

S.S. III Circle 16 copies
2/12/97

Fortnightly Narrative.

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

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 667, dated 13th October 1897, :—

W. J. H. LeFanu, Esq.
(Famine Commissioner).

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th of September 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	3·18	21·47	17·04
Adóni	12·25	25·51	21·12
Alúr	9·42	26·37	15·98
Siruguppa	5·09	20·65	15·88
Kampli	10·02	31·89	13 11
Bellary	8·14	18·55	12·27
Rayadrug	10·28	27·21	11·62
Hospet	12·76	39·07	19·52
Kúdligi	15·76	40·44	17·34
Harpanahalli	8 74	23·96	16·15
Hadagalli	7·80	21·39	14·59
Sandúr	8·70	31·95	..

The rainfall during the fortnight was unusually heavy throughout the district. The quantity registered up to the fortnight is in all cases considerably more than the average. Water-supply for drinking and irrigation purposes is everywhere sufficient. Almost all the tanks have received full supply ; a few have breached, and some are in danger.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Weeding is going on vigorously in lands sown with cotton, korra, early cholam and pulses. Irrigated korra, cumbu and cholam are being harvested, outturn varying from fair to good. The condition of standing crops is everywhere above the average, but it is feared that the cholam and cumbu may be damaged by the rain ; no serious damage, however, has yet been done. In Kowtalam, the crops are reported to be so good that the ryots say that they have not seen such crops for the last twenty years. Harvest will begin in about a fortnight, and the outturn is estimated at 12 to 16 annas. *Alúr taluk.*—Cotton and korra have been sown in almost all the black cotton soil villages. White cholam is being sown. Standing crops are reported to be in excellent condition. *Bellary division.*—White cholam, cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, and horse-gram in mixed soil. Lands under tanks and channels are being sown with paddy, and those under wells with ragi and cholam. Standing crops are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Korra, cotton and horse-gram are being sown in Hospet,

Hadagalli and Harpanahalli, and horse-gram in Kúdligi. Weeding and harrowing operations are going on everywhere. Gingelly is harvested in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli, the outturn being from 2 to 8 annas. Korra has been harvested in Hadagalli, with an estimated outturn of 12 annas. Standing crops are thriving well, but the castor plants in Kúdligi and parts of Hadagalli are attacked by caterpillars, and the dry crops in Juriganur village of Hospet taluk are likewise affected. This pest is attributed to the unusual damp.

Sandúr State.—Weeding operations are being carried on. The condition of the standing crops is good.

Supply of fodder and pasture, and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—There is abundant pasture in all villages; fodder is scanty, but there is plenty of green grass. The condition of cattle is much improved. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is sufficient in red soil villages. Fodder is scanty, but there is very little demand for it. The condition of cattle is greatly improved. *Bellary division.*—Pasture abundant. Fodder is scanty. The condition of cattle is improving. *Hospet division.*—Pasture available everywhere. Fodder is limited to river side villages. Condition of cattle is improving.

Sandur.—Pasture is plentiful. There is no fodder. The condition of cattle is improving. Foot and mouth disease prevails in three villages, but there are no deaths reported.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall in September is not the highest on record, but it is far above the average. The statistics show that in other years when the September fall was high the amount of rain in October was also excessive. It is to be hoped that this will not be the case this year for fine weather is now badly wanted for harvest. So far there has not been much harm done, but I have already seen some cholam sprouting in the ear.

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 30th September 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	8·10	8·64	9·79	11·85	11·07	14·42	14·55	16·49	There has been a heavy fall in prices subsequent to the date to which these figures relate. Ragi sells at 20·37 seers per rupee in Bellary and cholam at 17·51 in Alúr.
Alúr	7·02	7·56	8·24	12·36	10·30	14·42	11·64	15·52	
Bellary	7·56	7·56	9·27	12·36	12·36	14·42	13·58	17·46	
Rayadrug	8·64	8·64	11·33	16·48	11·33	..	13·10	15·52	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	11·33	10·30	12·36	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·07	12·36	13·58	13·10	
Harpanahalli ..	7·56	7·56	..	..	11 85	12·36	13·58	14·55	
Hadagalli	7·56	7 56	..	..	11·33	14·42	13·58	15·52	
Sandúr	8·10	8·91	..	..	12·88	14·94	13·58	16·49	
Average ..	7·74	7·95	9·99	12·67	11·62	13·58	13·42	15·36	

Activity of trade.—There has been a marked change in the volume of external trade, for during the fortnight there was a net import by rail of only 13,602 maunds of food-grains against 56,852 maunds during the previous fortnight. Ryots are now opening their grain pits freely, and it is clear that there are considerable stocks of grain in the villages. I am collecting statistics from a few typical villages. With the cessation of rain, prices will become easier still.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Fair.

Sickness and Mortality.—Cholera still prevails in parts of Adóni, Alúr and Bellary and has broken out at Heramyagalgeri in Harpanahalli taluk. The number of attacks and deaths during the fortnight are noted below:—

	Attacks.	Deaths.	
Adóni	406	208	Steps are being taken to stamp out the disease.
Alúr	277	140	
Bellary	128	55	
Harpanahalli	12	6	

There were during the fortnight 50 cases of small-pox in Harpanahalli and 2 in Hadagalli, but none proved fatal.

No deaths reported from starvation.

Remarks.—The death-rate continues high, the total number of deaths in August being 4,058, of which 1,038 were due to cholera. Detailed inquiries made by Messrs. Lloyd and Narasimha Row in Adóni and Alúr, respectively, show that the excessive mortality was common to all classes and not confined to those in poor circumstances. As stated last fortnight, measles of a bad type have been prevalent. In Adóni town, out of 103 deaths in July, 34 were due to measles, and of the 137 deaths in August, 66 were due to this cause. It is a reasonable assumption that many of the deaths in the taluk which appear under the head of other causes are in reality due to measles, a disease which is not in any way a sequence of famine or privation.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	21,278	9,014	There has been a very great fall in numbers. This is mainly due to the rainfall which has produced lower prices and a greatly extended field for employment. According to the latest information, the number on works has fallen to 16,877, of whom 4,139 are men, 9,754 women and 2,984 children, but many of the so-called men are mere youths.
Alúr	40,060	21,615	
Bellary	17,556	9,526	
Hospet	8,071	4,203	
Kúdligi	1,450	629	
Hadagalli	8,235	3,034	
	96,650	48,021	
Sandúr	901	655	
Total ..	97,551	48,676	

The following works have been closed during the fortnight—Yemmiganur-Kosigi road work, the Kotikal and Madavaram sections of the Adóni-Nagaladinne road, the Kupgal section of the Adóni—Madavaram road, Halvi-Kosigi road work, both the sections of the Adóni-Alur and Adóni-Siruguppa road works and Darogi-Metri road work. The kitchens at Hulibedu, Kammarchedu, Chagi kitchen No. 2 of the Holagandi-Hebbatam road, the Yemmiganur road kitchen and the kitchens at Kotikal-Mugeti, Pandavagal Agraharam, Adóni kitchen No. 2.

The following kitchens have been started to give food to those still requiring gratuitous relief—(1) Herihal-Sidiginamola and Sindavalam, in Bellary taluk, and Gudikota in Kúdligi taluk. It is late in the day to start kitchens, but, with the closure of kitchens on works, more central kitchens become necessary. The number fed, whether at kitchens or by means of grain doles, has declined by 4,300. In Bellary town, large numbers have been removed from the grain dole list, and attention is now being directed to the kitchen inmates. I anticipate great reductions everywhere during the current fortnight, as employment is now being freely offered, and the wages which are usually paid in grain approximate to the normal.

I regret to say that the figures relating to the relief of weavers are not altogether trustworthy, as the number actually relieved is appreciably less than the number given. Many have now obtained private employment, and I hope to close operations at Rayadrug altogether this week. In Bellary, too, I find that a considerable reduction can be made.

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

Taluks.	Number relieved					
	At kitchens.				In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.			
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,369	451	1,406	1,704	3,568	3,210
Alúr	2,560	2,208	408	251	2,907	2,916
Bellary	807	717	989	1,133	4,954	3,071
Rayadrug	118	101	..	..	22	20
Hospet	738	617	445	455	3,211	2,500
Kúdligi	41	20	11	28	399	399
Hadagalli	252	183	35	25	909	834
Total ..	5,885	4,297	3,294	3,596	15,970	12,950
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	140	125

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	180	180	4,698	4,227	1,783 †	45,109
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	149	149	1,329	1,011	658	4,320
Rayadrug	10	9	2,465	3,048 *	1,315	6,146
Hospet	67	66	..	..	..	..
Kúdligi	54	65	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	34	37	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	8	8	..	..	..	..

* Increase due to the adoption of Board's method of calculation. † Yemmiganúr figures not available.

Private charity.—Private charity, never wholly absent, is becoming active again, as prices fall and prospects improve.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund Committees are busy in investigating claims to assistance. Many of the poorer ryots and artisans will be greatly benefited by the grants from this fund.

General remarks.—The ryots say that the *mungari* crop is now assured, even if no more rain falls, for the black cotton soil is so thoroughly soaked that the dews will afford the crops all the additional moisture they want. We need no longer fear drought therefore, but the continuance of the rain causes some apprehension. There is already a brisk demand for labour, and if the rain will only stop, thus allowing the harvest to begin and the sowing to continue, our works may be closed entirely, and gratuitous relief may be greatly contracted. The rain also prevents prices falling, as it delays the harvest and renders the bringing of grain to market in black cotton tracts practically impossible.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of folder.						Cattle and seed-grain for relief of distress.						Total.						Number of wells
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		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.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Adóni	15	3,310	12	1,970	..	..	158	13,465	154	18,010	..	..	811	29,513	629	23,583	17	356	984	46,288	795	43,563	17	356	13
Alúr	44	11,390	44	8,705	7	2,100	1,499	1,62,170	1,483	1,61,465	..	..	207	4,219	63	1,260	88	4,099	1,750	1,77,779	1,590	1,67,428	95	4,099	44
Bellary	49	7,225	49	7,225	40	15,894	335	44,640	333	43,295	3	1,345	48	2,570	32	1,551	..	..	432	54,435	414	52,071	43	1,345	46
Rayadrug	87	19,422	82	12,169	5	7,254	52	3,975	52	3,975	15	1,550	30,655	1,305	4,998	88,237	2,536	31,569	620	31,417	152	9,920	175	20,234	82
Hospet	22	4,870	22	2,660	18	4,650	..	..	..	..	36	7,240	2,126	88,237	2,536	31,569	620	31,417	152	9,920	175	20,234	2	152	12
Kudligi	..	..	..	..	6	800	60	7,165	57	6,905	39	4,075	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	7,165	57	6,905	39	4,075	..
Harpanahalli ..	1	100	1	50	3	500	126	15,385	121	14,895	22	4,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	126	15,385	121	14,895	22	4,750	9
Hadagalli	17	2,775	16	1,838	6	2,400	3,178	3,39,118	3,147	3,35,863	199	65,521	3,413	3,88,210	3,373	3,69,980	284	99,122	3,147	3,35,863	199	65,521	3,413	3,88,210	207
Total ..	235	49,092	226	34,117	85	33,598																			

Note.—Nearly Rs. 30,000 were disbursed as loans for relief of distress; more than half this sum was paid in the Alúr taluk. In Adóni much more should have been given, but the Tahsildar has unfortunately been ill.

Inspections of the district officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—The kitchens, the distribution of grain doles and the weaving operations at Bellary, the Southern Section of the Bellary-Siruguppa road, Sidaragadda, Allipuram, &c.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Yerrigeri, Kowtalam, Pedda Thumbalam, Malapalli and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alur-Aspari road, Adóni-Alur road, Alur-Muddanagiri road and Hebbattam road. The kitchens at Aspari, Alur and Hebbattam and the villages of Chigili, Nagarur, Kammerchedu, Hulebedu, Hattibelagal, Karadiguddam, Muddanagiri, Kurukundi, Lingadahalli, Alur.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Northern section of Siruguppa roadwork, Tekkalakota roadwork, the kitchens at Sindigiri, Tekkalakota and Rayadrug and the villages of Sindigiri, Samaspur, Holakundi, Hiradahal, Horaguddam, Somalapur and Hirehal.

Head Assistant Collector.—Bommasamudram (relief works) Gadihalli (grain dole) at Suginahalli, Baunijolu Basarakodu, Tambrahalli, Hadagalli, Holalgundi, Uttangi and Nellukudirai, Hampasagram relief work, Devagondanahalli work, Itigi work, Hagari, Bommanahalli, Naraindevarukeri and Hospet and inspection of standing crops in several villages.

———

Resolution—No. 667, dated 13th October 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was exceedingly heavy, and it is feared that cholam and cumbu may have suffered from the excessive fall. The heavy rain also retards the closure of relief operations, for harvesting and sowing cannot continue, and grain can only be brought to market with difficulty.

3. Notwithstanding this, and a reduced importation, the price of dry grains fell sharply. The comparative position of prices is shown below:—

Rate.	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·9	13·1	15·4
September 1892 ..	11·0	22·9	26·2
Do. 1877 ..	5·5	6·1	6·7

4. The condition of the people is reported fair to good, but cholera and measles prevailed. The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to favour the Famine Commissioner with his views on the subject of the largely increased death-rate. The numbers on works fell by 50 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 17 per cent., and since the close of the month the numbers on works have again fallen sharply.

5. The disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
September, 11th	6,28,436
,, 18th	6,51,282
,, 25th	6,91,299
October, 2nd	7,17,696

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 927, Revenue, dated 10th November 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

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Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

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Remarks.—The death-rate continues high, the total number of deaths in August being 4,058, of which 1,038 were due to cholera. Detailed inquiries made by Messrs. Lloyd and Narasimha Row in Adóni and Alúr, respectively, show that the excessive mortality was common to all classes and not confined to those in poor circumstances. As stated last fortnight, measles of a bad type have been prevalent. In Adóni town, out of 103 deaths in July, 34 were due to measles, and of the 137 deaths in August, 60 were due to this cause. It is a reasonable assumption that many of the deaths in the taluk which appear under the head of other causes are in reality due to measles, a disease which is not in any way a sequence of famine or privation.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight	This fortnight.	
Adóni	21,278	9,014	There has been a very great fall in numbers. This is mainly due to the rainfall which has produced lower prices and a greatly extended field for employment. According to the latest information, the number on works has fallen to 16,877, of whom 4,139 are men, 9,754 women and 2,984 children, but many of the so-called men are mere youths.
Alúr	40,060	21,615	
Bellary	17,556	9,526	
Hospet	8,071	4,203	
Kúdligi	1,450	629	
Hadagalli	8,235	3,034	
	96,650	48,021	
Sandúr	901	655	
Total ..	97,551	48,676	

The following works have been closed during the fortnight—Yemmiganur-Kosigi road work, the Kotikal and Madavaram sections of the Adóni-Nagaladinne road, the Kupgal section of the Adóni—Madavaram road, Halvi-Kosigi road work, both the sections of the Adóni-Alur and Adóni-Siruguppa road works and Darogi-Metri road work. The kitchens at Hulibedu, Kammarchedu, Chagi kitchen No. 2 of the Hola-gandi-Hebbatam road, the Yemmiganur road kitchen and the kitchens at Kotikal-Mugeti, Pandavagal Agraharam, Adóni kitchen No. 2.

The following kitchens have been started to give food to those still requiring gratuitous relief—(1) Herihal-Sidiginamola and Sindavalam, in Bellary taluk, and Gudikota in Kúdligi taluk. It is late in the day to start kitchens, but, with the closure of kitchens on works, more central kitchens become necessary. The number fed, whether at kitchens or by means of grain doles, has declined by 4,300. In Bellary town, large numbers have been removed from the grain dole list, and attention is now being directed to the kitchen inmates. I anticipate great reductions everywhere during the current fortnight, as employment is now being freely offered, and the wages which are usually paid in grain approximate to the normal.

I regret to say that the figures relating to the relief of weavers are not altogether trustworthy, as the number actually relieved is appreciably less than the number given. Many have now obtained private employment, and I hope to close operations at Rayadrug altogether this week. In Bellary, too, I find that a considerable reduction can be made.

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

Taluks.	Number relieved					
	At kitchens.				In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.			
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,369	451	1,406	1,704	3,568	3,210
Alúr	2,560	2,208	408	251	2,907	2,916
Bellary	807	717	989	1,133	4,954	3,071
Rayadrug	118	101	..	..	22	20
Hospet	738	617	445	455	3,211	2,500
Kúdligi	41	20	11	28	399	399
Hadagalli	252	183	35	25	909	834
Total ..	5,885	4,297	3,294	3,596	15,970	12,950
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	140	125

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	180	180	4,698	4,227	1,783 †	45,109
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	149	149	1,329	1,011	658	4,320
Rayadrug	10	9	2,465	3,048 *	1,315	6,140
Hospet	67	66	..	..	..	..
Kúdligi	54	65	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	34	37	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	8	8	..	..	..	..

* Increase due to the adoption of Board's method of calculation. † Yemmiganúr figures not available.

Private charity.—Private charity, never wholly absent, is becoming active again, as prices fall and prospects improve.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund Committees are busy in investigating claims to assistance. Many of the poorer ryots and artisans will be greatly benefited by the grants from this fund.

General remarks.—The ryots say that the *mungari* crop is now assured, even if no more rain falls, for the black cotton soil is so thoroughly soaked that the dews will afford the crops all the additional moisture they want. We need no longer fear drought therefore, but the continuance of the rain causes some apprehension. There is already a brisk demand for labour, and if the rain will only stop, thus allowing the harvest to begin and the sowing to continue, our works may be closed entirely, and gratuitous relief may be greatly contracted. The rain also prevents prices falling, as it delays the harvest and renders the bringing of grain to market in black cotton tracts practically impossible.

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	15	3,810	12	1,970	..	..	158	13,465	154	13,010	..	..	173	16,775	166	14,980	..	..	..	13
Alúr	44	11,390	44	8,705	7	2,100	1,499	1,62,170	1,483	1,61,465	81	45,764	1,543	1,73,560	1,527	1,70,170	10	2,600	..	44
Bellary	49	7,225	49	7,225	40	15,894	947	92,318	947	92,318	81	45,764	996	99,543	996	99,543	121	61,658	..	46
Rayadrug	87	19,422	82	12,169	5	7,264	336	44,640	333	43,295	3	1,345	423	64,062	415	55,464	8	8,599	..	82
Hespet	22	4,870	22	2,060	18	4,650	62	8,975	52	3,975	15	1,850	74	8,845	74	6,035	33	6,500	..	12
Kudligi	..	..	..	..	6	800	..	..	..	..	36	7,240	74	8,845	74	6,035	42	8,040	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	3	500	60	7,165	57	6,905	39	4,075	61	7,265	58	6,955	42	4,575	..	1
Hadagalli	17	2,775	16	1,338	6	2,400	126	15,385	121	14,895	22	4,750	143	18,160	137	16,283	28	7,150	..	9
Total ..	235	49,092	226	34,117	85	33,598	3,178	3,39,118	3,147	3,35,563	199	65,624	3,413	3,88,210	3,373	3,69,980	284	99,122	..	207

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain for relief of distress.						Purchase of fodder.						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.	
	28	29	30	31	32	33	22	23	24	25	26	27	34	35	36	37	38	39	
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Adóni	45	1,817	26	1,507	104	5,148	811	29,513	629	23,583	17	356	1,063	35,549	862	29,309	184	6,764	
	207	4,219	207	4,219	63	1,260				For relief of distress	88	4,099							
Alúr	48	2,570	43	2,250	32	1,551	2,824	99,692	2,661	92,862	63	2,100	4,998	1,32,917	4,797	1,25,095	170	6,955	
	2,126	30,655	2,103	29,983	50	1,305				For relief of distress	139	19,514							
Bellary	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,027	78,673	2,027	78,673	139	19,514	2,536	88,237	2,536	88,237	176	20,234	
	509	9,564	509	9,564	36	720				For relief of distress	2	152							
Rayadrug	136	7,425	136	7,425	..	..	475	23,964	475	23,812	2	152	620	31,569	620	31,417	2	152	
	9	180	9	180	..	..				For relief of distress									
Hospet	..	..	..	..	..	..	148	6,610	148	6,610	216	9,920	148	6,610	148	6,610	216	9,920	
Kudligi	..	..	..	..	..	..	566	13,816	564	13,796	171	10,342	565	13,816	564	13,796	161	10,946	
	..	..	..	..	30	604				For relief of distress									
Harpanahalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	543	19,583	485	17,557	253	16,567	543	19,583	485	17,557	253	16,567	
Hadagalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	520	15,522	448	12,568	162	7,471	520	15,522	448	12,568	162	7,471	
Total ..	229	11,812	205	11,182	136	6,699	7,913	2,87,373	7,427	2,69,461	1,048	68,421	10,993	3,43,803	10,460	3,24,589	1,323	79,009	
	2,851	44,618	2,828	43,946	179	8,889				For relief of distress									

Note.—Nearly Rs. 30,000 were disbursed as loans for relief of distress; more than half this sum was paid in the Alúr taluk. In Adóni much more should have been given, but the Tahsildar has unfortunately been ill.

Inspections of the district officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—The kitchens, the distribution of grain doles and the weaving operations at Bellary, the Southern Section of the Bellary-Siruguppa road, Sidaragadda, Allipuram, &c.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Yerrigeri, Kowtalam, Pedda Thumbalam, Malapalli and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alur-Aspari road, Adóni-Alur road, Alur-Muddanagiri road and Hebbattam road. The kitchens at Aspari, Alur and Hebbattam and the villages of Chigili, Nagarur, Kammerchedu, Hulebedu, Hattibelagal, Karadiguddam, Muddanagiri, Kurukundi, Lingadahalli, Alur.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Northern section of Siruguppa roadwork, Tekkalakota roadwork, the kitchens at Sindigiri, Tekkalakota and Rayadrug and the villages of Sindigiri, Samaspur, Holakundi, Hiradahal, Horaguddam, Somalapur and Hirehal.

Head Assistant Collector.—Bommasamudram (relief works) Gadihalli (grain dole) at Suginahalli, Baunijolu Basarakodu, Tambrahalli, Hadagalli, Holalgundi, Uttangi and Nellukudirai, Hampasagram relief work, Devagondanahalli work, Itigi work, Hagari, Bommanahalli, Naraindevarukeri and Hospet and inspection of standing crops in several villages.

Resolution—No. 667, dated 13th October 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was exceedingly heavy, and it is feared that cholam and cumbu may have suffered from the excessive fall. The heavy rain also retards the closure of relief operations, for harvesting and sowing cannot continue, and grain can only be brought to market with difficulty.

3. Notwithstanding this, and a reduced importation, the price of dry grains fell sharply. The comparative position of prices is shown below:—

Rate.	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·9	13·1	15·4
September 1892 ..	11·0	22·9	26·2
Do. 1877 ..	5·5	6·1	6·7

4. The condition of the people is reported fair to good, but cholera and measles prevailed. The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to favour the Famine Commissioner with his views on the subject of the largely increased death-rate. The numbers on works fell by 50 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 17 per cent., and since the close of the month the numbers on works have again fallen sharply.

5. The disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
September, 11th	6,28,436
„ 18th	6,51,282
„ 25th	6,91,299
October, 2nd	7,17,696

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 927, Revenue, dated 10th November 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Public Works (1897) Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 927, 10th November 1897.

No 3330 W 30.11.97

Communicated to the

NOVEMBER. S.E III circle.
(Id) C&BB

To
S.E III circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

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

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 667, dated 13th October 1897, :—

W. J. H. LeFanu, Esq.

(Famine Commissioner).

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th of September 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	3·18	21·47	17·04
Adóni	12·25	25·51	21·12
Alúr	9·42	26·37	15·98
Siruguppa	5·09	20·65	15·88
Kampli	10·02	31·89	13 11
Bellary	8·14	18·55	12·27
Rayadrug	10·28	27·21	11·62
Hospet	12·76	39 07	19·52
Kúdligi	15·76	40·44	17·34
Harpanahalli	8 74	23·96	16·15
Hadagalli	7·80	21·39	14·59
Sandúr	8·70	31·95	..

The rainfall during the fortnight was unusually heavy throughout the district. The quantity registered up to the fortnight is in all cases considerably more than the average. Water-supply for drinking and irrigation purposes is everywhere sufficient. Almost all the tanks have received full supply ; a few have breached, and some are in danger.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Weeding is going on vigorously in lands sown with cotton, korra, early cholam and pulses. Irrigated korra, cumbu and cholam are being harvested, outturn varying from fair to good. The condition of standing crops is everywhere above the average, but it is feared that the cholam and cumbu may be damaged by the rain ; no serious damage, however, has yet been done. In Kowtalam, the crops are reported to be so good that the ryots say that they have not seen such crops for the last twenty years. Harvest will begin in about a fortnight, and the outturn is estimated at 12 to 16 annas. *Alúr taluk.*—Cotton and korra have been sown in almost all the black cotton soil villages. White cholam is being sown. Standing crops are reported to be in excellent condition. *Bellary division.*—White cholam, cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, and horse-gram in mixed soil. Lands under tanks and channels are being sown with paddy, and those under wells with ragi and cholam. Standing crops are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Korra, cotton and horse-gram are being sown in Hospet,

Hadagalli and Harpanahalli, and horse-gram in Kúdligi. Weeding and harrowing operations are going on everywhere. Gingelly is harvested in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli, the outturn being from 2 to 8 annas. Korra has been harvested in Hadagalli, with an estimated outturn of 12 annas. Standing crops are thriving well, but the castor plants in Kúdligi and parts of Hadagalli are attacked by caterpillars, and the dry crops in Juriganur village of Hospet taluk are likewise affected. This pest is attributed to the unusual damp.

Sandúr State.—Weeding operations are being carried on. The condition of the standing crops is good.

Supply of fodder and pasture, and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—There is abundant pasture in all villages ; fodder is scanty, but there is plenty of green grass. The condition of cattle is much improved. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is sufficient in red soil villages. Fodder is scanty, but there is very little demand for it. The condition of cattle is greatly improved. *Bellary division.*—Pasture abundant. Fodder is scanty. The condition of cattle is improving. *Hospet division.*—Pasture available everywhere. Fodder is limited to river side villages. Condition of cattle is improving.

Sandur.—Pasture is plentiful. There is no fodder. The condition of cattle is improving. Foot and mouth disease prevails in three villages, but there are no deaths reported.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall in September is not the highest on record, but it is far above the average. The statistics show that in other years when the September fall was high the amount of rain in October was also excessive. It is to be hoped that this will not be the case this year for fine weather is now badly wanted for harvest. So far there has not been much harm done, but I have already seen some cholam sprouting in the ear.

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 30th September 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	8·10	8·64	9·79	11·85	11·07	14·42	14·55	16·49	There has been a heavy fall in prices subsequent to the date to which these figures relate. Ragi sells at 20·37 seers per rupee in Bellary and cholam at 17·51 in Alúr.
Alúr	7·02	7·56	8·24	12 36	10·30	14·42	11·64	15·52	
Bellary	7·56	7·56	9·27	12·36	12·36	14·42	13·58	17·46	
Rayadrug	8·64	8·64	11·33	16·48	11·33	..	13·10	15·52	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	11·33	10·30	12·36	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·07	12·36	13·58	13·10	
Harpanahalli ..	7 56	7·56	..	..	11 85	12·36	13·58	14·55	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·33	14·42	13·58	15·52	
Sandúr	8·10	8·91	..	..	12·88	14·94	13·58	16·49	
Average ..	7·74	7·95	9·99	12·67	11·62	13·58	13·42	15·36	

Activity of trade.—There has been a marked change in the volume of external trade, for during the fortnight there was a net import by rail of only 13,602 maunds of food-grains against 56,852 maunds during the previous fortnight. Ryots are now opening their grain pits freely, and it is clear that there are considerable stocks of grain in the villages. I am collecting statistics from a few typical villages. With the cessation of rain, prices will become easier still.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Fair.

Sickness and Mortality.—Cholera still prevails in parts of Adóni, Alúr and Bellary and has broken out at Heramyagalgeri in Harpanahalli taluk. The number of attacks and deaths during the fortnight are noted below:—

	Attacks.	Deaths.	
Adoni	406	208	Steps are being taken to stamp out the disease.
Alúr	277	140	
Bellary	128	55	
Harpanahalli	12	6	

There were during the fortnight 50 cases of small-pox in Harpanahalli and 2 in Hadagalli, but none proved fatal.

No deaths reported from starvation.

Remarks.—The death-rate continues high, the total number of deaths in August being 4,058, of which 1,038 were due to cholera. Detailed inquiries made by Messrs. Lloyd and Narasimha Row in Adóni and Alúr, respectively, show that the excessive mortality was common to all classes and not confined to those in poor circumstances. As stated last fortnight, measles of a bad type have been prevalent. In Adóni town, out of 103 deaths in July, 34 were due to measles, and of the 137 deaths in August, 60 were due to this cause. It is a reasonable assumption that many of the deaths in the taluk which appear under the head of other causes are in reality due to measles, a disease which is not in any way a sequence of famine or privation.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight	This fortnight.	
Adóni	21,278	9,014	There has been a very great fall in numbers. This is mainly due to the rainfall which has produced lower prices and a greatly extended field for employment. According to the latest information, the number on works has fallen to 16,877, of whom 4,139 are men, 9,754 women and 2,984 children, but many of the so-called men are mere youths.
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The following kitchens have been started to give food to those still requiring gratuitous relief—(1) Herihal-Sidiginamola and Sindavalam, in Bellary taluk, and Gudikota in Kúdligi taluk. It is late in the day to start kitchens, but, with the closure of kitchens on works, more central kitchens become necessary. The number fed, whether at kitchens or by means of grain doles, has declined by 4,300. In Bellary town, large numbers have been removed from the grain dole list, and attention is now being directed to the kitchen inmates. I anticipate great reductions everywhere during the current fortnight, as employment is now being freely offered, and the wages which are usually paid in grain approximate to the normal.

I regret to say that the figures relating to the relief of weavers are not altogether trustworthy, as the number actually relieved is appreciably less than the number given. Many have now obtained private employment, and I hope to close operations at Rayadrug altogether this week. In Bellary, too, I find that a considerable reduction can be made.

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

Taluks.	Number relieved					
	At kitchens.				In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.			
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
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Hadagalli	34	37	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	8	8	..	..	..	..

* Increase due to the adoption of Board's method of calculation. † Yemmiganúr figures not available.

Private charity.—Private charity, never wholly absent, is becoming active again, as prices fall and prospects improve.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund Committees are busy in investigating claims to assistance. Many of the poorer ryots and artisans will be greatly benefited by the grants from this fund.

General remarks.—The ryots say that the *mungari* crop is now assured, even if no more rain falls, for the black cotton soil is so thoroughly soaked that the dews will afford the crops all the additional moisture they want. We need no longer fear drought therefore, but the continuance of the rain causes some apprehension. There is already a brisk demand for labour, and if the rain will only stop, thus allowing the harvest to begin and the sowing to continue, our works may be closed entirely, and gratuitous relief may be greatly contracted. The rain also prevents prices falling, as it delays the harvest and renders the bringing of grain to market in black cotton tracts practically impossible.

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

Talaks.	Other purposes								Total.				Number of wells	
	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.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Adóni	15	3,310	12	1,970	..	..	158	13,465	154	13,010	..	..	..	13
Alúr	44	11,390	44	8,705	7	2,100	1,499	1,62,170	1,483	1,61,466	3	500	..	44
Bellary	49	7,225	49	7,225	40	16,894	947	92,318	947	92,318	81	45,764	..	46
Hospet	87	19,422	82	12,169	5	7,254	336	44,640	333	48,295	3	1,345	..	82
Kudligi	22	4,870	22	2,660	18	4,650	52	3,975	52	3,975	15	1,850	..	12
Harpanahalli	..	..	..	..	6	800	..	..	..	..	36	7,240	..	..
Hadagalli	1	100	1	50	3	500	60	7,165	57	6,905	39	4,075	..	1
	17	2,775	16	1,338	6	2,400	126	15,385	121	14,395	22	4,750	..	9
Total ..	235	49,092	226	34,117	85	33,598	3,178	3,39,118	3,147	3,35,863	199	65,524	..	207

Talaks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain for relief of distress.						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	811	29,513	629	23,583	17	356	45	1,817	26	1,507	104	5,148	1,063	35,549	862	29,309	184	6,764
				For relief of distress														
Alúr	2,824	99,692	2,651	92,862	88	4,009	207	4,219	207	4,219	63	1,260	4,908	1,32,917	4,797	1,25,095	170	6,955
				For relief of distress														
Bellary	2,027	78,673	2,027	78,673	189	19,614	2,126	30,655	43	2,250	32	1,551	2,536	88,237	2,536	88,237	175	20,234
				For relief of distress														
Rayadrug	475	23,964	475	23,812	2	152	136	7,425	9	180	..	..	620	31,569	620	31,417	2	152
				For relief of distress														
Hospet	148	6,610	148	6,610	216	9,920	..	..	..	..	..	..	148	6,610	148	6,610	216	9,920
Kudligi	565	13,816	564	13,796	171	10,342	..	..	..	..	30	604	565	13,816	564	13,796	161	10,946
				For relief of distress														
Harpanahalli	485	17,557	485	17,557	263	16,567	..	..	..	..	..	..	543	19,583	485	17,557	253	16,567
Hadagalli	448	12,568	448	12,568	162	7,471	..	..	..	..	..	..	520	15,522	448	12,568	162	7,471
Total ..	7,427	2,69,461	1,048	68,421			299	11,812	205	11,182	136	6,699	10,993	3,43,803	10,460	3,24,589	1,323	79,009
		For relief of distress					2,851	44,618	2,828	43,946	179	3,889						
	7,913	2,87,373																

Note.—Nearly Rs. 30,000 were disbursed as loans for relief of distress; more than half this sum was paid in the Alúr taluk. In Adóni much more should have been given, but the Tahsildar has unfortunately been ill.

Inspections of the district officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—The kitchens, the distribution of grain doles and the weaving operations at Bellary, the Southern Section of the Bellary-Siruguppa road, Sidaragadda, Allipuram, &c.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Yerrigeri, Kowtalam, Pedda Thumbalam, Malapalli and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alur-Aspari road, Adóni-Alur road, Alur-Muddanagiri road and Hebbattam road. The kitchens at Aspari, Alur and Hebbattam and the villages of Chigili, Nagarur, Kammerchedu, Hulebedu, Hattibelagal, Karadiguddam, Muddanagiri, Kurukundi, Lingadahalli, Alur.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Northern section of Siruguppa roadwork, Tekkalakota roadwork, the kitchens at Sindigiri, Tekkalakota and Rayadrug and the villages of Sindigiri, Samaspur, Holakundi, Hiradahal, Horaguddam, Somalapur and Hirehal.

Head Assistant Collector.—Bommasamudram (relief works) Gadihalli (grain dole) at Suginahalli, Baunijolu Basarakodu, Tambrahalli, Hadagalli, Holalgundi, Uttangi and Nellukudirai, Hampasagram relief work, Devagondanahalli work, Itigi work, Hagari, Bommanahalli, Naraindevarukeri and Hospet and inspection of standing crops in several villages.

Resolution—No. 667, dated 13th October 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was exceedingly heavy, and it is feared that cholam and cumbu may have suffered from the excessive fall. The heavy rain also retards the closure of relief operations, for harvesting and sowing cannot continue, and grain can only be brought to market with difficulty.

3. Notwithstanding this, and a reduced importation, the price of dry grains fell sharply. The comparative position of prices is shown below:—

Rate.	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·9	13·1	15·4
September 1892 ..	11·0	22·9	26·2
Do. 1877 ..	5·5	6·1	6·7

4. The condition of the people is reported fair to good, but cholera and measles prevailed. The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to favour the Famine Commissioner with his views on the subject of the largely increased death-rate. The numbers on works fell by 50 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 17 per cent., and since the close of the month the numbers on works have again fallen sharply.

5. The disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
September, 11th	6,28,436
,, 18th	6,51,282
,, 25th	6,91,299
October, 2nd	7,17,696

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 927, Revenue, dated 10th November 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Public Works (1897) Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 927, 10th November 1897.

No 3336 W/S 80 11.97

NOVEMBER. Communicated to the S-E III circle (21) C 4 03 13

To
S-E III circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

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

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 667, dated 13th October 1897, :—

W. J. H. LeFanu, Esq.

(Famine Commissioner).

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th of September 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Stations.	In the fortnight	From 1st April up to the fortnight.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	3·18	21·47	17·04
Adóni	12·25	25·51	21·12
Alúr	9·42	26·37	15·98
Siruguppa	5·09	20·65	15·88
Kampli	10·02	31·89	13 11
Bellary	8·14	18·55	12·27
Rayadrug	10·28	27·21	11·62
Hospet	12·76	39·07	19·52
Kúdligi	15·76	40·44	17·34
Harpanahalli	8 74	23·96	16·15
Hadagalli	7·80	21·39	14·59
Sandúr	8·70	31·95	..

The rainfall during the fortnight was unusually heavy throughout the district. The quantity registered up to the fortnight is in all cases considerably more than the average. Water-supply for drinking and irrigation purposes is everywhere sufficient. Almost all the tanks have received full supply; a few have breached, and some are in danger.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Weeding is going on vigorously in lands sown with cotton, korra, early cholam and pulses. Irrigated korra, cumbu and cholam are being harvested, outturn varying from fair to good. The condition of standing crops is everywhere above the average, but it is feared that the cholam and cumbu may be damaged by the rain; no serious damage, however, has yet been done. In Kowtalam, the crops are reported to be so good that the ryots say that they have not seen such crops for the last twenty years. Harvest will begin in about a fortnight, and the outturn is estimated at 12 to 16 annas. *Alúr taluk.*—Cotton and korra have been sown in almost all the black cotton soil villages. White cholam is being sown. Standing crops are reported to be in excellent condition. *Bellary division.*—White cholam, cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, and horse-gram in mixed soil. Lands under tanks and channels are being sown with paddy, and those under wells with ragi and cholam. Standing crops are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Korra, cotton and horse-gram are being sown in Hospet,

Hadagalli and Harpanahalli, and horse-gram in Kúdligi. Weeding and harrowing operations are going on everywhere. Gingelly is harvested in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli, the outturn being from 2 to 8 annas. Korra has been harvested in Hadagalli, with an estimated outturn of 12 annas. Standing crops are thriving well, but the castor plants in Kúdligi and parts of Hadagalli are attacked by caterpillars, and the dry crops in Juriganur village of Hospet taluk are likewise affected. This pest is attributed to the unusual damp.

Sandúr State.—Weeding operations are being carried on. The condition of the standing crops is good.

Supply of fodder and pasture, and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—There is abundant pasture in all villages; fodder is scanty, but there is plenty of green grass. The condition of cattle is much improved. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is sufficient in red soil villages. Fodder is scanty, but there is very little demand for it. The condition of cattle is greatly improved. *Bellary division.*—Pasture abundant. Fodder is scanty. The condition of cattle is improving. *Hospet division.*—Pasture available everywhere. Fodder is limited to river side villages. Condition of cattle is improving.

Sandur.—Pasture is plentiful. There is no fodder. The condition of cattle is improving. Foot and mouth disease prevails in three villages, but there are no deaths reported.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall in September is not the highest on record, but it is far above the average. The statistics show that in other years when the September fall was high the amount of rain in October was also excessive. It is to be hoped that this will not be the case this year for fine weather is now badly wanted for harvest. So far there has not been much harm done, but I have already seen some cholam sprouting in the ear.

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 30th September 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	8·10	8·64	9·79	11·85	11·07	14·42	14·55	16·49	There has been a heavy fall in prices subsequent to the date to which these figures relate. Ragi sells at 20·37 seers per rupee in Bellary and cholam at 17·51 in Alúr.
Alúr	7·02	7·56	8·24	12 36	10·30	14·42	11·64	15·52	
Bellary	7 56	7·56	9·27	12·36	12·36	14·42	13·58	17·46	
Rayadrug	8·61	8·64	11·33	16·48	11·33	..	13·10	15·52	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	11·33	10·30	12·36	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·07	12·36	13·58	13·10	
Harpanahalli ..	7 56	7·56	..	..	11 85	12·36	13 58	14·55	
Hadagalli	7·56	7 56	..	..	11·33	14·42	13·58	15·52	
Sandúr	8·10	8·91	..	..	12·88	14·94	13·58	16·49	
Average ..	7·74	7·95	9·99	12·67	11·62	13·58	13 42	15·36	

Activity of trade.—There has been a marked change in the volume of external trade, for during the fortnight there was a net import by rail of only 13,602 maunds of food-grains against 56,852 maunds during the previous fortnight. Ryots are now opening their grain pits freely, and it is clear that there are considerable stocks of grain in the villages. I am collecting statistics from a few typical villages. With the cessation of rain, prices will become easier still.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Fair.

Sickness and Mortality.—Cholera still prevails in parts of Adóni, Alúr and Bellary and has broken out at Heramyagalgeri in Harpanahalli taluk. The number of attacks and deaths during the fortnight are noted below:—

	Attacks.	Deaths.	
Adoni	406	208	Steps are being taken to stamp out the disease.
Alúr	277	140	
Bellary	128	55	
Harpanahalli	12	6	

There were during the fortnight 50 cases of small-pox in Harpanahalli and 2 in Hadagalli, but none proved fatal.

No deaths reported from starvation.

Remarks.—The death-rate continues high, the total number of deaths in August being 4,058, of which 1,038 were due to cholera. Detailed inquiries made by Messrs. Lloyd and Narasimha Row in Adóni and Alúr, respectively, show that the excessive mortality was common to all classes and not confined to those in poor circumstances. As stated last fortnight, measles of a bad type have been prevalent. In Adóni town, out of 103 deaths in July, 34 were due to measles, and of the 137 deaths in August, 60 were due to this cause. It is a reasonable assumption that many of the deaths in the taluk which appear under the head of other causes are in reality due to measles, a disease which is not in any way a sequence of famine or privation.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	21,278	9,014	There has been a very great fall in numbers. This is mainly due to the rainfall which has produced lower prices and a greatly extended field for employment. According to the latest information, the number on works has fallen to 16,877, of whom 4,139 are men, 9,754 women and 2,984 children, but many of the so-called men are mere youths.
Alúr	40,060	21,615	
Bellary	17,556	9,526	
Hospet	8,071	4,203	
Kúdligi	1,450	629	
Hadagalli	8,235	3,034	
	96,650	48,021	
Sandúr	901	655	
Total ..	97,551	48,676	

The following works have been closed during the fortnight—Yemmiganur-Kosigi road work, the Kotikal and Madavaram sections of the Adóni-Nagaladinne road, the Kupgal section of the Adóni—Madavaram road, Halvi-Kosigi road work, both the sections of the Adóni-Alur and Adóni-Siruguppa road works and Darogi-Metri road work. The kitchens at Hulibedu, Kammarchedu, Chagi kitchen No. 2 of the Holagandi-Hebbatam road, the Yemmiganur road kitchen and the kitchens at Kotikal-Mugeti, Pandavagal Agraharam, Adóni kitchen No. 2.

The following kitchens have been started to give food to those still requiring gratuitous relief—(1) Herihal-Sidiginamola and Sindavalam, in Bellary taluk, and Gudikota in Kúdligi taluk. It is late in the day to start kitchens, but, with the closure of kitchens on works, more central kitchens become necessary. The number fed, whether at kitchens or by means of grain doles, has declined by 4,300. In Bellary town, large numbers have been removed from the grain dole list, and attention is now being directed to the kitchen inmates. I anticipate great reductions everywhere during the current fortnight, as employment is now being freely offered, and the wages which are usually paid in grain approximate to the normal.

I regret to say that the figures relating to the relief of weavers are not altogether trustworthy, as the number actually relieved is appreciably less than the number given. Many have now obtained private employment, and I hope to close operations at Rayadrug altogether this week. In Bellary, too, I find that a considerable reduction can be made.

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

Taluks.	Number relieved					
	At kitchens.				In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.			
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,369	451	1,406	1,704	3,568	3,210
Alúr	2,560	2,208	408	251	2,907	2,916
Bellary	807	717	989	1,133	4,954	3,071
Rayadrug	118	101	..	..	22	20
Hospet	738	617	445	455	3,211	2,500
Kúdligi	41	20	11	28	399	399
Hadagalli	252	183	35	25	909	834
Total ..	5,885	4,297	3,294	3,596	15,970	12,950
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	140	125

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	180	180	4,698	4,227	1,783 †	45,109
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	149	149	1,329	1,011	658	4,320
Rayadrug	10	9	2,465	3,048 *	1,315	6,140
Hospet	67	66	..	..	..	..
Kúdligi	54	65	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	34	37	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	8	8	..	..	..	..

* Increase due to the adoption of Board's method of calculation. † Yemmiganúr figures not available.

Private charity.—Private charity, never wholly absent, is becoming active again, as prices fall and prospects improve.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund Committees are busy in investigating claims to assistance. Many of the poorer ryots and artisans will be greatly benefited by the grants from this fund.

General remarks.—The ryots say that the *mungari* crop is now assured, even if no more rain falls, for the black cotton soil is so thoroughly soaked that the dews will afford the crops all the additional moisture they want. We need no longer fear drought therefore, but the continuance of the rain causes some apprehension. There is already a brisk demand for labour, and if the rain will only stop, thus allowing the harvest to begin and the sowing to continue, our works may be closed entirely, and gratuitous relief may be greatly contracted. The rain also prevents prices falling, as it delays the harvest and renders the bringing of grain to market in black cotton tracts practically impossible.

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	15	3,310	12	1,970	..	..	158	13,465	154	13,010	..	..	173	16,775	166	14,980	..	..	..	13
Alúr	44	11,390	44	8,705	7	2,100	1,499	1,62,170	1,483	1,61,465	3	500	1,543	1,73,560	1,527	1,70,170	10	2,600	..	44
Bellary	49	7,225	49	7,225	40	15,894	947	92,318	947	92,318	81	45,764	996	99,543	996	99,543	121	61,658	..	46
Rayadrug	87	19,422	82	12,169	5	7,254	336	44,640	333	43,295	3	1,345	423	64,062	415	55,464	8	8,599	..	82
Hespet	22	4,870	22	2,660	18	4,650	52	3,975	52	3,975	15	1,850	74	8,845	74	6,635	33	6,500	..	12
Kudligi	..	..	..	..	6	800	..	..	..	..	36	7,240	..	..	..	..	42	8,040	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	3	500	60	7,165	57	6,905	39	4,075	61	7,265	58	6,955	42	4,575	..	1
Hadagalli	17	2,775	16	1,338	6	2,400	126	15,385	121	14,895	22	4,750	143	18,160	137	16,233	28	7,150	..	9
Total ..	235	49,092	226	34,117	85	33,598	3,178	3,39,118	3,147	3,35,863	199	65,524	3,413	3,88,210	3,373	3,69,980	284	99,122	..	207

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain for relief of distress.						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	811	29,513	629	23,583	17	356	45	1,817	26	1,507	104	5,148	1,063	35,549	862	29,309	184	6,764
				For relief of distress			207	4,219	207	4,219	63	1,260						
Alúr	2,824	99,692	2,651	92,862	88	4,099	48	2,570	43	2,250	32	1,551	4,998	1,32,917	4,797	1,25,095	170	6,955
				For relief of distress			2,126	30,655	2,103	29,983	50	1,305						
Bellary	2,027	78,673	2,027	78,673	139	19,514	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,536	88,237	2,536	88,237	175	20,234
				For relief of distress			509	9,564	509	9,564	36	720						
Rayadrug	475	23,964	475	23,812	2	152	136	7,425	136	7,425	..	..	620	31,569	620	31,417	2	152
				For relief of distress			9	180	9	180	..	..						
Hospet	148	6,610	148	6,610	216	9,920	..	..	..	..	..	..	148	6,610	148	6,610	216	9,920
Kudligi	565	13,816	564	13,796	171	10,342	..	..	..	..	..	..	565	13,816	564	13,796	161	10,946
				For relief of distress			..	..	..	..	30	604						
Harpanahalli	543	19,583	485	17,557	253	16,567	..	..	..	..	..	..	543	19,583	485	17,557	253	16,567
Hadagalli	520	15,522	448	12,568	162	7,471	..	..	..	..	..	..	520	15,522	448	12,568	162	7,471
Total ..	7,913	2,87,373	7,427	2,69,461	1,048	68,421	229	11,812	205	11,182	136	6,699	10,993	3,43,803	10,460	3,24,589	1,323	79,009
				For relief of distress			2,851	44,618	2,828	43,946	179	3,889						

Note.—Nearly Rs. 30,000 were disbursed as loans for relief of distress; more than half this sum was paid in the Alúr taluk. In Adóni much more should have been given, but the Tahsildar has unfortunately been ill.

Inspections of the District officers.

Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—The kitchens, the distribution of grain doles and the weaving operations at Bellary, the Southern Section of the Bellary-Sirugúppa road, Sidaragadda, Allipuram, &c.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Yerrigeri, Kowtalam, Pedda Thumbalam, Malapalli and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alur-Aspari road, Adóni-Alur road, Alur-Muddanagiri road and Hebbattam road. The kitchens at Aspari, Alur and Hebbattam and the villages of Chigili, Nagarur, Kammerchedu, Hulebedu, Hattibelagal, Karadiguddam, Muddanagiri, Kurukundi, Lingadahalli, Alur.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Northern section of Sirugúppa roadwork, Tekkalakota roadwork, the kitchens at Sindigiri, Tekkalakota and Rayadrug and the villages of Sindigiri, Samaspur, Holakundi, Hiradahal, Horaguddam, Somalapur and Hirehal.

Head Assistant Collector.—Bommasamudram (relief works) Gadihalli (grain dole) at Suginahalli, Baunijolu Basarakodu, Tambrahalli, Hadagalli, Holalgundi, Uttangi and Nellakudirai, Hampasagram relief work, Devagondanahalli work, Itigi work, Hagari, Bommanahalli, Naraindevarukeri and Hospet and inspection of standing crops in several villages.

Resolution—No. 667, dated 13th October 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was exceedingly heavy, and it is feared that cholam and cumbu may have suffered from the excessive fall. The heavy rain also retards the closure of relief operations, for harvesting and sowing cannot continue, and grain can only be brought to market with difficulty.

3. Notwithstanding this, and a reduced importation, the price of dry grains fell sharply. The comparative position of prices is shown below:—

Rate.	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·9	13·1	15·4
September 1892 ..	11·0	22·9	26·2
Do. 1877 ..	5·5	6·1	6·7

4. The condition of the people is reported fair to good, but cholera and measles prevailed. The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to favour the Famine Commissioner with his views on the subject of the largely increased death-rate. The numbers on works fell by 50 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 17 per cent., and since the close of the month the numbers on works have again fallen sharply.

5. The disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
September, 11th	6,28,436
,, 18th	6,51,282
,, 25th	6,91,299
October, 2nd	7,17,696

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 927, Revenue, dated 10th November 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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