Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 3427 W

DATED 7 Dec 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Ellore Municipality: Prov: Lt-Gov Dak C
recording with remarks the Sanitary Commissioner's
Inspection Notes on the —, recorded with
remarks.

Dr
7/12/97

[P. W. 25.
1,000—30-11-97*]

Indexed. 11/12

L. & Mr. Dept. for the Collector's consideration, & in G.O. No. 984 M. dated 12th June 1896, the Collector was requested to submit a report on the matter

(2) The Collector's reply dated 26th Sept. 1896, suggesting that the Sanitary Engr. might be asked to draw up a scheme for bringing water from the canal above the town, was transferred to the P.W. Dept. with endorsement No. 1152 L&M of 20th Oct. 1896, & by the P.W. Dept. it was transferred to the Sanitary Board for disposal on the 27th idem - on the 15th July 1897, the Sanitary Engineer submitted to the Board an approximate estimate for the water supply of the town amounting to Rupees 1,70,000, with annual charges of Rs 12,000, or if certain items were omitted, Rs 1,27,000, with annual charges of Rs 9,500. This estimate, with the note of the Sanitary Board's opinion & G.O. were forwarded by the Sanitary Board to the Collector of Godavari on the 9th March 1897, since which date the subject has not again come up in the P.W. Dept

(3) As regards the actual transfer of irrigation channels to the municipal council, the Govt. are pleased to accord in G.O. No. 4443 15th June

& 7 May P.W.

1896. & the Supdg Engr was directed to take the necessary action. The Superintendent will now be requested to report what he has done in the matter.

C.H.B. 3/12/97

W. 12.97

L. Tm. Supdt
S.E. Nellore
Ch. E. for I/
8/12/97

Public Works (1897) Department

Current No: 9541

Government {1897} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd. 24-5 } 1897. Enclosures —
Regd. 24-5 } Spare copies 8.

G.O., No. 1908 M., 31st August 1897.

5869
15-7-96

AUGUST.

Inspection Notes.

Recording, with remarks, Sanitary Commissioner's — on the Ellore Municipality.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From M.R.Ry. C. SITARAMAIYA PANTULU Garu, Chairman, Municipal Council, Ellore, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Collector of Gódávari), dated 29th January 1897, No. 605.

In enclosing an extract from the proceedings of the Municipal Council, Ellore, dated 16th January 1897, I have the honour to return herewith the Sanitary Commissioner's inspection notes with replies noted.

ENCLOSURES.

INSPECTION NOTES of Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

GODAVARI DISTRICT.

ELLORE MUNICIPALITY.

Inspected 9th to 12th September 1896.

Population as per census of 1891 29,382

Inspection Notes.

Dwellings.—(*a*) The question of dealing with the Turpu dwellings still hangs fire, apparently with reference to certain formalities under the control of the Revenue authorities or Magisterial authorities. It is very desirable that these matters should be pushed forward with as little delay as possible. In the meantime, the Turpu settlement has been rendered less overcrowded, and transfers have been effected to the new Turpu pettah beyond Power pettah. This site has been laid out without any uniform plan; there has been no provision for suitable drainage. The council should do their utmost to render effective powers placed in their hands under section 180 for due provision of sanitary details being observed during erection of dwellings; otherwise, any new ground of dwellings must pass into the same insanitary state as in the case of the old Turpu pettah, to rectify the evil conditions of which so much trouble has been undergone.

(*b*) It is suggested that the new Turpu pettah shall be situated on the Peddacheruvu. Provided the rubbish depôt be finally removed from its present site, and it be conclusively shown that no interruption of surface drainage exists which must have been the case when the area was used for a tank, this position is decidedly suitable.

Chairman's Remarks.

The council, by virtue of powers vested in them under section 180, refused permission to Turpus to rethatch their houses when some of them lately took fire, and consequently some Turpus went to the other side of Power pettah, beyond the Railway line, where again they built houses without plan or permission. Those that erected houses in the former place without permission were excused by the council. The council have already provided Rs. 600 for a site to be acquired for building purposes for the Turpus and toties in Peddacheruvu. The council hopes in time to remove this crying nuisance from the town.

When constructing new Turpu pettah care will be taken to see that all sanitary requirements are fully attended to as suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner. Before permitting the construction of a pettah in Peddacheruvu, care will also be taken to see that there will be no interruption to surface drainage and that the objectionable rubbish depôt is removed.

When all Turpus are properly housed in the pettah intended to be built for them, the council hopes that there will be no complaint of huts being side by side with a good class of houses.

Inspection Notes.

(*c*) In Power pettah huts are, as formerly, to be found side by side with a good class of houses. Endeavours should be made to buy these squatters out of the pettah. The result would be both a sanitary and financial improvement of the houses in this area.

(*d*) In certain parts of the town in the proximity of the main bazaar, there is much overcrowding of houses. It would certainly be advisable, both with reference to facility of communication and of permitting the free perflation of air which is necessary, to remove certain houses and thus enlarge roads. Certain parts were pointed out to me where this might with advantage be practised; but I think a matter of this sort cannot be settled by an inspection of the nature I was able to give the streets. I advise that a plan of the most crowded parts be drawn to scale, and that definite proposals be made by the council; as to these I should then be happy to give my advice.

2. *Roads.*—There was evidence of every endeavour on the part of the council to improve the condition of the roads. These efforts had, however, been delayed by negotiations having been long pending as to the purchase of suitable quarry. Consequently, at the time of my visit, matters were in a state of transition, in that metal had just arrived and had not been put down fully. More care is requisite as to the size of metal and manner generally of making roads. In G.O., No. 1526 W., dated 21st June 1895, paragraph 2, it was pointed out, in reference to this, that directions were available with the Public Works Department authorities, but correspondence by the Chairman shows no copies of the circular are available. After seeing much of the road-making in the municipalities of this Presidency, I am strongly of opinion that definite rules are requisite for guidance of municipalities, if money is to be spent to the best advantage. Since my last visit, Kumeragunta road has undergone improvement, the gunta having been filled in and a new road made.

Chairman's Remarks.

In the present financial condition of the municipality, the council cannot for the present undertake the work. The matter will, however, occupy the attention of the council when opportunity occurs.

The council will be glad to follow any definite instructions or rules as to the road-making. As has been rightly remarked by the Sanitary Commissioner, the council hopes to improve roads as it has got now a quarry of its own. The main road has almost reached thorough and complete repairing.

Inspection Notes.

3. *Surface Drainage.*—Near Kanakamma's chattram is an area, of which the surface drainage is much obstructed. It would seem possible by running a pipe close to the chattram to overcome this difficulty. In certain parts the railway embankment offers obstruction. This is a matter that should be entered into by the municipality in communication with the railway authorities. If any formerly existing drains have been interfered with, it is a foregone conclusion that the matter will receive consideration from the railway authorities. According to the Chairman, whose experience in the flood that some time back occurred in the town should be of weight on this point, the railway embankment proved a serious factor for evil. The ground near the old rubbish depôt at Peddacheruvu requires careful grading. This is requisite, not only with respect to the general drainage of the surrounding area, but also with respect to making the land suitable for cropping over the old deposits of night-soil and rubbish. Near the Buravil road is a pool of obstructed surface water in a highly-offensive condition. This should be filled in with clean material.

4. *Water-supply.*—(*a*) As pointed out in my last inspection notes, this town is in a most unfortunate position as to water-supply. The sub-soil water of the town is, with few exceptions, brackish. The canal, flowing direct through the town, which otherwise might be trusted to, is rendered unsafe by reason of the mooring of boats at the site whence the water is withdrawn by the people. The conjunction of circumstances which compels the townspeople to use this unsafe supply is peculiarly evil, in that it would seem, by shifting the mooring of the boats to a position but three hundred yards further down the canal, much of the difficulty would disappear. A committee, however, appointed to consider the matter (G.O., Mis. No. 1994 M., dated 27th November 1895) found that it would probably cost Rs. 20,000 to make even this small movement owing to the canal being silted at a lower point. This is due to the fact that the lock-gates formed at this point a *cul de sac*. It seems to me, however, that the committee here showed good cause why the Public Works Department should undertake action in the matter, irrespective of the sanitary results that would accrue, seeing that it cannot be supposed

Chairman's Remarks.

Notice will be given to the trustees of the choultry to permit the passage of surface drainage through means of a pipe through its premises.

Railway authorities will also be addressed to remove any obstruction caused by the construction of the railway embankment to the natural flow of surface drainage.

The ground near the old rubbish depôt will be levelled during the early part of the next official year, as the council proposed to raise a garden there and provided Rs. 100 in the budget for 1897–98 for a garden and for levelling the ground.

A provision of Rs. 400 has been made in the budget for the next year to fill in all insanitary places. If funds permit, steps will be taken to fill in the place referred to with clean material.

The council have tried, in vain, to get the mooring of boats removed to a place lower down the bridge.

Inspection Notes.

it is the intention of the Public Works Department to defer *sine die* the work of removal of silt. If accumulation progresses so that boats now cannot be moored close to the sides, it follows that soon it will prevent progress of boats even in its now very shallow midstream. A calculation would have shown how long action could be deferred, and would also probably have proved that it would have been well to have given the town the benefit of hastening the requisite work. This, therefore, seems to me to have been the correct outcome of the committee's deliberations. The moving of the boats 300 yards would have resulted in water being delivered to the Gazalawandla tank by a pipe in much better condition than at present, as well as freeing the residents of Power pettah from a source of danger to life. Granting the fact that it is not the intention of the Public Works Department to remove silt at present, one method suggested by the Acting Collector, Mr. Elphinstone, is to take water higher up the canal by pipes. Provided such a scheme were merely regarded as a stop-gap till the completion of a scheme for supply of the whole town, it would certainly be of considerable sanitary advantage. Thus, by use of a simple "Sultan water-lift" delivering into a vertical pipe fitted with a small tank-like expansion, it would be possible to supply the front of Power pettah and the group of huts in the same site and near the bridge, and by taking the pipe across the bridge and delivering all surplus into the Gazalawandla's tank the whole arrangement might prove economical.

(*b*) As I understand matters, however, the council is willing to at once, with the permission of Government, undertake a permanent water-supply scheme—provided Government allow it the benefit of a grant. Apparently, when the turn of Ellore comes for attention, it will not be difficult to secure from the Tamaleru river at a point above the bridge spanning the canal a suitable source of supply for the whole town.

(*c*) In the meantime, even if the scheme for the supply of what constitutes but the frontage of Power pettah be adopted, there remains the larger portion of the town to be attended to. The Chairman at my request had a well sunk at the side of the Gazulawandla tank, which should secure water filtered from the tank

Chairman's Remarks.

As the question of water-supply is now occupying the attention of the council and the Government, and as the hands of the council are, in a financial point of view, tied down, any attempt to take water from higher up the canal by pipes for the present will be impossible. The mooring of boats near the bridge extends over a distance of two furlongs above the bridge, and the beam and bamboo rafters, &c., and the new wood yards continue from that place almost up to the aqueduct. Hence, if pipes are to be used, they will have to extend over a distance of more than a mile and the cost will be simply prohibitive when the temporary nature of the arrangement is taken into consideration.

Inspection Notes.

and be infinitely safer than from the tank direct. I, however, understand that the water is not regarded as so "sweet" as that taken direct from the tank. Allowance must, however, be made for the fact that the people hardly know what clean water is, and that they must find certain constituents to which they have been accustomed in the foul water of that tank absent; also the well being new, it will require some time before the taste of chunam and disturbed soil be removed by frequent water withdrawal. But whether it be less palatable or not, there can be no difference of opinion as to the greater safety of the method. But this is more expensive than a still safer method, namely, that of using Norton's tube wells. These should be sunk at the sides of fresh-water tanks, along the river Tamaleru bank, on sites where it is known fresh sub-soil water is obtainable and along the banks of the canal near Power pettah. Not only would these wells give the highest protection possible under the circumstances of Ellore, but will ensure that no expense in sinking wells in vain be undergone. Thus, should a tube reveal in any spot that the sub-soil water is brackish, it can be removed and nothing but about half an hour's labour be lost. Each tube well would cost about Rs. 70 to Rs. 90 and one sinking apparatus for the whole would cost Rs. 225.

Chairman's Remarks.

A provision of Rs. 500 has already been made in the budget for 1897–98 for some tube wells and for sinking apparatus.

(*d*) *Venkanna's Tank.*—This is a tank concerning which I found that the Chairman's indubitable desire to subserve the sanitary requirements of the town had been set at naught by the action of one of the councillors, Mr. Sundarasiva Rao. I had the advantage of having both this gentleman and the Chairman to accompany me during my inspection of this tank, and believe I received from both a full statement of their respective views. The councillor claims that the tank is private property and that he has the right to alter it as he may wish—his intention being to make it available for general "domestic purposes" and, possibly, for drinking. Without consulting the municipality and, if I understand rightly, against the written request of the Chairman, this councillor has proceeded to alter the tank by placing a sluice within it and taking other decided action to effect his wishes. The Chairman has produced what seems to me ample proof of this tank being within municipal limits (*vide* his letter, No. 338, dated 17th September

Inspection Notes.

1896) and being moreover public property, so that there can be no doubt of section 143 being fully applicable. The persistence of the councillor in this matter is therefore most regrettable, and I may add, notwithstanding my pointing out to him how absolutely insanitary the water-supply to this tank was, I failed to elicit any definite promise of cessation of further work. I surveyed, in company with the Chairman and the councillor, the full course of the supply channel and the surroundings of the tank, and have no hesitation in saying that to allow this tank being used by the public for any purpose whatsoever would be absolutely unsafe; nor could it be possible, under expenditure such as either the councillor or the municipality could afford, to render this source safe. Under these circumstances, I advise the council to take immediate action under section 143 and direct that no further adaptation of this tank for public water-supply of any description be made.

Chairman's Remarks.

The council have passed a resolution under section 144 of the Act, as recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, and steps will be taken to secure better sanitation.

5. *Sewerage.*—(*a*) A large portion of the sewage reaches the irrigation channels which flow through the town. The foul condition of these channels was duly reported in my last inspection notes, and was treated in G.O., No. 801 M., dated 6th May 1895. No action has, however, apparently been yet taken by the Public Works Department as to this Government Order. Until the town is provided with a correct water-supply, it would be out of the question for the council to attend to any elaborate sewerage system. All that can be done, therefore, is to attempt to pursue the various makeshift methods described in this office circular dated 18th May 1896 (*vide* also proceedings of the Sanitary Commissioner for the second quarter of 1896).

(*b*) The Pechegunta is, however, on a spot where urgent action by the council is requisite. This is a foul pool of sewage nearly 100 yards long immediately behind the beef market and close to occupied houses. It is essential that this area should be surveyed by an Engineer, and it be ascertained in what direction it would be possible to effect drainage. This done, one or more of the narrow lanes leading to this spot should be enlarged. If no outlet for sewage can be obtained, at the worst the pool can be filled in with

A provision of Rs. 400 is made this year in the budget to fill in all insanitary places; but the council doubts whether the means at its disposal could permit the undertaking of a work like this. Before filling in this ditch, care should be taken to secure a passage for surface drainage, and the place being low and the ground surrounding being high, the cost for an outlet for surface drainage will be very great. If funds permit, the course recommended will be followed.

Inspection Notes.

clean material and used as a sewage irrigation plot, when, instead of noisome stenches, a garden of roses might be produced.

6. *Rubbish Conservancy.*—The following is the result of an inspection of the menial staff and plant provided :—

(*a*) There were present 32 sweepers; of these, 27 were females—several with children in arms—five were males, of whom four are mere children. This represents the staff for collecting 40·5 tons of rubbish per day. For transport of rubbish, there were present fourteen cavadi bearers; but some of these were not provided with baskets. If of the full size, these baskets may be taken as containing 1·75 cubic foot each.

(*b*) Ten carts were also available of the ordinary country-bamboo type. As, however, the cavadies carry rubbish only to the carts, and not outside the town, the total daily capacity available for transport from the town cannot be more than fifteen tons taking the carts as carrying full loads and working a full bullock's task per diem, so that no less than 25·5 tons of rubbish at least must be left behind in the town daily. The female sweepers are provided with common household brooms.

(*c*) With this organization, it is impossible that rubbish can be correctly collected. The sweepers should be *men* provided with proper street brooms. The cavadi baskets should be abolished in favour of wheelbarrows surrounded by an iron frame-work, so as to permit of service in narrow lanes. A total of 32 sweepers, including wheelbarrow men, should suffice for the work, if correctly supervised and *the sections be correctly defined.* Notwithstanding remarks made in my former inspection notes, no change of position of rubbish depôts has been made. That near the Peddacheruvu is most unsuitable, being in a line of surface drainage leading towards the inhabited parts of the town. This should be levelled and be used as a municipal cropping ground.

(*d*) The Poringi road depôt is also unsuitable, being near water-channels.

(*e*) The rubbish depôt near the old slaughter-house should be abolished.

(*f*) No sale is procurable for rubbish, silt deposits being presumably sufficient from the canal irrigation for the ryots'

Chairman's Remarks.

Some of the baskets and brooms became worn out and useless by the time the Sanitary Commissioner inspected. They were supplied with fresh ones subsequently. The cavadi men only take rubbish from lanes to bandies engaged for the purpose.

As there are rubbish depôts in each ward, the bandies make more trips than usual and thus transport more rubbish from town.

Fresh brooms were since supplied.

As the rubbish has been leased out this year, the council hopes that it will be properly removed, as otherwise the contractor will be a loser and not the council. The council will try to provide wheelbarrows as was recommended $\frac{5}{6}$ by the Sanitary Commissioner in the budget for 1898–99.

As it was almost impossible to procure scavengers here, the staff is left untouched for the present, but a change for the better is being gradually introduced by compelling every new sweeper or toti to deposit Rs. 2 as security for good conduct.

The rubbish depôt near Peddacheruvu will be levelled in 1897–98.

Will be considered and steps taken to secure better locality.

Will be abolished after selecting a fresh site.

This year rubbish was leased out for Rs. 100, and the Sanitary Commissioner's suggestions will be considered if this

Inspection Notes.

purposes; hence, some means of getting promptly rid of rubbish collections is essential. I advise the adoption of incineration. A couple of Roberts' incinerators would probably suffice for the requirements of the town. I enclose a description of them. The council should correspond direct with the makers (Messrs. Burn & Co.) on the subject. Rs. 2,000 would probably cover the cost of their erection.

7. *Night-soil Conservancy.*—(*a*) The number of latrines at disposal is far below requirements, namely, eighteen for the accommodation of 32,175 persons (estimated population). Although in my inspection notes it was promised by the council in 1894 that three more latrines would be erected in 1895, this has not been carried out. The latrines now available are, as formerly, mere enclosures with either brick or tatti walls.

Private Scavenging.—(*b*) This shows no advance. Indeed, whilst on the 31st March 1894, 215 houses were attended, on the date of my inspection only 213 were on the list out of a total of 5,226 occupied houses. The duty is conducted at a loss—a matter showing want of management. This is decidedly unsatisfactory, and I advise the council to raise the amount so as to recover charges on all accounts. Each toti ought to be able to attend forty houses, and as the pay at Ellore is but Rs. 5 per man, the addition of a small charge for wear and tear of plant would represent an exceedingly moderate charge per house.

(*c*) Inspection of the scavenger staff showed that for the eighteen latrines only eleven toties were provided—eight males and three females. These had for implements baskets and brooms, two having no baskets. Having arranged for toties with carts for private scavenging, &c., it is found that toties are at the rate of ten per each cart employed—an undesirable proportion. The carts are two wooden structures containing $20\frac{1}{4}$ cubic feet each, if really full—an unlikely contingency. Granting that these make three trips per day, there must remain to be accounted for within municipal limits no less than 200 cubic feet of fæcal matter.

Disposal of Night-soil.—(*d*) A total of only Rs. 2 was obtained on sale last year of night-soil. This year it is being

Chairman's Remarks.

system fails and if funds permit. Unless Government gives its helping hand, the council cannot in its present condition introduce incinerators.

Will be commenced and completed before the close of this official year.

When attempt was made to add some more houses to the private scavenging system, the scavengers struck work, and hence the matter had to be postponed. As, however, their salaries are recommended to be raised in the next budget, the council hopes to increase the number of houses under the system. Scavengers complain to work more than 25 houses under the system and the council is unable at present to enforce any strict discipline. It is hoped that in time there will be more houses under the system.

Baskets and brooms were subsequently supplied. An indent was made by the time the Sanitary Commissioner arrived here, and there was slight delay in supply.

In the budget for 1897–98, it was proposed to purchase three more air-tight night-soil iron carts.

The council regrets to state that, for want of rains, the betel gardens for which

Inspection Notes.

employed by a contractor for betel gardens. As there has hitherto been no demand, it is well that even at this small profit the night-soil should be disposed of. As soon as the betel gardens prove successful, I have no doubt others will come forward to compete for their share.

8. From the above account, it is evident that, both in the matter of rubbish and night-soil conservancy, the arrangements made by the municipality require complete remodelling. I have already stated what I regard as requisite as to rubbish conservancy. For night-soil conservancy, I consider the following staff, carts and latrines essential. To procure the requisite number of latrines and plant it is advisable the municipality should ask Government for a loan. A loan in the present state of municipal sanitation on this account would be *infinitely more appropriate* than the borrowing for a market, which I understand the council contemplate. Indeed, I trust Government will not accede to the wish of the council till this A.B.C. of municipal sanitation be correctly attended to :—

Sixty-four scavengers.

Seven night-soil carts of 16 cubic feet capacity—at three trips per day.

Thirty-two public latrines.

9. *Slaughter-houses.* — (*a*) A new slaughter-house has been erected at the Peddacheruvu. It has not, however, been taken from the contractor by the council. It is obviously badly built, being cracked from the eaves to the foundation—the foundation being probably defective. The council should make up its mind what is to be done with this useless building without delay.

(*b*) The *old sheep slaughter-house* has, in accordance with the design of the Sanitary Board, been undergoing alterations. It is advisable that the new well be cement-plastered down to the lowest water-level and that a pump be fixed for service of the slaughter-house by medium of a cistern.

(*c*) The *beef slaughter-house* is a most filthy and unsuitable place. If no new building can be afforded, at least a clean open space should be secured where arrangements for disposal of blood and refuse be made.

Chairman's Remarks.

the night-soil was purchased did not thrive well.

As the water scheme is considered important and pressing, the construction of a market has been postponed for the present and no provision was made for the same in the next budget.

Will be attended to when funds permit.

The matter is still under reference and will be disposed of soon.

The well will be cement-plastered down to the lowest water-level and a pump will be provided for when funds are available.

Will be attended to and necessary steps taken.

Inspection Notes.

(*d*) The slaughter-house refuse is being employed by a contractor for purposes of cultivation.

10. *Markets.*—The fish, mutton and beef markets remain in the state described in former reports. I have already stated that I think the council is apparently willing to raise a loan for the purpose of a large market; but I consider that, urgent as this matter is, the first efforts of the council must be directed towards putting the water-supply and conservancy of the town on a proper footing.

11. *Registration.*—The following shows the results of registration :—

Years.	Ratio of births per mille of estimated population.	Ratio of deaths per mille of estimated population.	Percentage of deaths from						Ratio of death of infants under one year of age per mille to registered births in the preceding year.
			Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Dysentery and diarrhœa.	Injuries.	Other causes.	
1894	19·7	22·2	16·9	1·7	16·9	7·7	1·5	55·3	129·7
1895	25·5	20·2	..	2·0	17·6	8·4	2·0	70·0	232·1
1896 up to October ..	18·0	15·2	1·2	..	26·8	13·2	1·2	57·6	130·9

These figures prove that registration is conducted with marked carelessness.

Constant changes in the office of registrar were to a great extent the cause for such negligence. In future more care will be taken and the permanent registrar has been ordered to constantly go out in the mornings into the town on inspection, and steps are being taken to prosecute persons who neglect to give information.

12. *Vaccination* —The following is the result of compulsory infantile vaccination as shown by the form laid down in G.O., No. 1502 M., dated 19th October 1894 :—

Total births during preceding six months, *i.e.*, from 1st July to 31st December 1895.	Number vaccinated successfully.	Number vaccinated unsuccessfully.	Number vaccinated a second time because first operation proved unsuccessful.		Postponed under medical certificate.	Died.	Left the town.	Unaccounted for.	Ratio of successful operations to total births per cent.	Remarks.
			Successful.	Unsuccessful.						
408	160	..	..	..	..	111	101	36	39·22	"Left the town" and "Unaccounted for" suspiciously high.

13. *Sanitary Administration.*—With reference to G.O., No. 801 M., dated 6th May 1895, paragraph 6, it is impossible to state that any material improvement has taken place in this municipality.

Chairman's Remarks.

Will be attended to.

Inspection Notes.

Still, there are symptoms of increased attention having been given to various sanitary objects of importance, which if not now complete, are in a state when shortly this will be the case. Thus, the roads are still neglected; but the Chairman has exerted himself to secure a good quarry and, if care be taken as to size of metal, good roads may now be looked for. The wood-yards, so long a source of nuisance, have actually been shifted and one important water-source has been improved. The question of water-supply has been agitated. On the whole, I believe that there is more *intention* on the part of the council to make the necessary movement towards sanitary improvement, and if their efforts be directed towards the simple, yet highly necessary, matter of improved conservancy and this be not effected by mere instalments but at once by aid of a loan, and the water-supply be temporarily improved by the use of tube wells, I consider much real advance at very little cost will have been effected.

Chairman's Remarks.

Provision was made for tube wells in the next budget.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
18*th December* 1896.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgn.-Lieut.-Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

From M.R.Ry.C. SITARAMAIYA PANTULU Garu, Chairman, Municipal Council, Ellore, to the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, dated 17th September 1896, No. 338.

With reference to Venkanna's tank, about which one of the councillors, M.R.Ry. D. Sundarasiva Rao, first promised to withdraw his connection with its repairs and opening and constructing a masonry sluice to let into and let out water from the said tank and who subsequently informed you that there were many others who were unwilling to abide by his advice, I have the honour to bring the following facts to your notice and consideration:—

I. That Venkanna's tank is a public tank and that it is within municipal limits. In support of this, I beg to state that when first the Towns Improvement Act X of 1865 was introduced into this town so far back as 1866, this Venkanna's tank was included within the municipal limits—*vide* (1) extract from the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 30th October 1866:—"South—A line drawn from the above point including Venkanna's tank to the extreme end of Vangagudem."

(2) Subsequently the same notification was confirmed and continued with some more extensions—*Vide* G.O., No. 2246 M., dated 19th December 1891, where Venkanna's tank was distinctly shown to have been included within municipal limits. Under section 143, clause 2, of the present Municipal Act, all public tanks are under the control and direction of the municipal council. Under section 144, clause 2, of the said Act, the municipal council may cause existing public channels, tanks, &c., to be maintained and supplied with water or they may close any such works and substitute other such works. Under section 234, clause 2, places beyond the municipal limits such as graveyards are also under the municipal control. (3) Duggirala Devalraj, late karnam and father of D. Sundarasiva Rao, and another Duggirala

Subbarayadu, late karnam and father of the present karnam, with some others, presented a petition in 1874 to the municipality in which they distinctly admitted that Venkanna's tank was a public tank and that the municipality should undertake to help in repairing and protecting the tank for the use of the public, both men and beasts. It will thus be clear that Venkanna's tank is a public tank and that it is within the municipal limits.

II. That this tank is not only a public tank, but a tank over which the municipality has complete control and for which it has spent municipal funds for conserving the tank: *vide* Municipal proceedings, dated 6th May 1867, paragraph 3, which runs thus:—"The local reservoirs of water well known as Gazavallivari and *Venkanna's tanks* are, it is understood, rendered injurious to the health and comfort of the public, the water being fouled by people washing animals and clothes, &c., in them. Ordered that notices be issued to prevent the fouling of water and the beat constables to see that the order is obeyed."

Municipal Proceedings, dated 6th and 7th May 1874.—Read petition from D. Devalraj (father of D. Sundarasiva Rao, the councillor), &c., asking for a grant to assist the people in repairing Venkanna's tank. "Resolved that Rs. 200 only be allotted this year and that none be given till the people have collected Rs. 100, and that the second instalment of Rs. 100 be paid within three weeks in order to get the work done before rains. The work to be done by the municipality."

Proceedings, dated 20th May 1874, paragraph 7.—Read estimate to repair Venkanna's tank amounting to Rs. 437-8-0. "Resolved that as Rs. 200 has been deposited by the inhabitants, work of the value of Rs. 400 be at once taken in hand."

Rupees 400 were accordingly spent for repairing Venkanna's tank as per cheque book for 1874–75. The cash account for 1874–75 will also show that a sum of Rs. 200 was received as contribution for the repairs of the said tank. By reference to the above Proceedings it will be clear that the tank has been a public tank, has been conserved and repaired by the municipality, and that the municipality has had a complete control over it.

III. The nature of water, the source of supply, and the surroundings of the tank, are the next points which I beg respectfully to bring to your worthy consideration.

The nature of water.—Kistna canal water is supplied to this tank. As you have already observed, Kistna canal water is unfit for any use, much less for drinking purposes, as it carries with it all manner of filth including corpses, apart from human excreta and urine. Under instructions from you I have already prevented, by posting constables during the recent outbreak of cholera, the use of canal water for any purposes.

The sources of supply.—The channel that supplies water to this blessed tank is an irrigation channel which carries the drainage and filth with the Kistna water to this tank and to the fields in its vicinity. This supply-channel passes through the dirtiest parts of the town, carrying with it the dirt and the drain of the town besides a large human excreta, as its bunds are resorted to as latrines and as the same passes by two rubbish depôts and one pukka latrine.

The surroundings of the tank.—Paddy-fields on two sides and burial and burning ground on one side and on the fourth side huts and cattle-sheds. Formerly there used to be municipal latrines on one side of the tank, but although they were subsequently removed, the surroundings of the tank are used as latrines, and further there is another tank with a very bad water which is connected with this tank by a channel to let water into this tank. As you have already observed all these facts personally, I have simply submitted these again here with a view that the only course left open for preventing people from resorting to this tank is temporarily, if not permanently, to close the tank for public use until some radical change is effected in the surroundings and in the source of supply.

In the circumstances stated above, I hope you will be pleased to order the closing of the said Venkanna's tank on sanitary grounds, as the only means of preventing spread of disease and the use of very bad water, on the ground that prevention is better than cure.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Municipal Council, Ellore, dated 16th January 1897.

* * * * *

IV. Read Sanitary Commissioner's notes and replies.

Read and approved the draft reply to the Sanitary Commissioner's notes.

Resolution.—Resolved that, under section 144 of the Act, immediate steps be taken, as recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner, to prevent the use of the tank water for any domestic or drinking purposes.

* * * * *

Ref. on C. No. 105-Eng.

Forwarded to the Deputy Collector, Ellore, for re-submission at an early date with his remarks, if any.

2. The Chairman should have sent these papers through the Divisional officer.

(Signed) V. A. BRODIE,
Collector.

8th February 1897.

Dis. No. 379-Rev.

Resubmitted to the Collector.

Dwellings.—As regards the question of the removal of huts belonging to the Turpu people, the council submitted a land statement for the acquisition of Ac. 6-84 to remove the Turpu people from their present site and to provide dwelling sites for municipal sweepers and a draft declaration for its acquisition was also submitted to the Collector with this office reference on current No. 961, dated 23rd July 1896, but the council having failed to intimate the amount of estimate, &c., required for the acquisition, the Collector ordered in his official memorandum, No. 1205-Eng. of 1896, dated 8th October 1896, that the matter should be dropped for the present and that it might be reopened when the council could see its way to make provision for the same and intimate the requisite information.

2. (4) *Water-supply.*—The most crying evil is the defective water supply in the town which is rendered more insanitary on account of the mooring of boats in a place where the canal water is much used by the people. As pointed out by the Sanitary Commissioner, much of the insanitary condition of the water would disappear by shifting the mooring of boats to a position but three hundred yards lower down the canal. My predecessor, Mr. Krishnamacharlu, gave a full account of the situation and I fully accord with the suggestions made by him in his letter, Camp Dis. No. 2 of 1896, dated 4th September 1896, in reply to Collector's Ref. No. 897-Eng. of 1896, dated 19th July 1896. He proposes to have the mooring place removed to a point 100 yards below the Madepalli sluice, on the opposite bank (left bank) of the canal, and the removal of the timber yards (depôts) and rafts to down the lock between the Gódávari and Ellore canals, towards the Gódávari canal side. A full description of the several steps to be taken in this direction with the best advantage and least expenditure to the municipality and inconvenience to the public is contained in the above letter, which, I think, the municipality can at once take up, deferring all other matters of less importance as only secondary to this pressing want, provided that the Public Works Department and the Government give their help to enable the municipality to achieve this object. The canal is sometimes so very shallow in this part of the town and the mooring of boats just near the bridge renders the water so very abominable that sometimes a sort of stink emanates from the canal as if the water were one mass of decaying animal matter. Unless the first attempts of all authorities concerned are directed to improve the water-supply of the town, no other improvements, however much they may contribute to enhance the other comforts of man, will be useful to render living in the municipal limits healthy and life secure.

3. As regards the well constructed on the bund of Gazavallivári tank, I have to say that nobody would use the well until and unless its water be baled out and the well is thoroughly cleansed, inasmuch as the present state of its water is anything but drinkable.

4. As regards Venkanna's tank, I have to observe that it is no better than any other source of water-supply in the town and even contains much worse water. I do not know what the council is going to do with this tank in right earnest. Mere passing a resolution would not mend matters much unless there is a determination to carry it out promptly and earnestly. I am afraid that the resolution in the present case would also remain a dead letter as many other resolutions of the council have already been remaining. Nor is it possible for the council in the present case to prevent people in that part of the town from taking the water of the tank for the use of their domestic purposes without first providing them with a better source of water-supply, as the closing up of the tank without at the same time making any provision for another source of water-supply would deprive the people there of their only source of water-supply, filthy though it be. The municipality should therefore either improve the present insanitary state of the tank by making provision elsewhere for communal purposes or provide people in that part of the town with a better source before asking them to give up using Venkanna's tank water for any purpose whatsoever.

5. As regards the state of roads, my own opinion is that they are anything but satisfactory. They are worse than even footpaths in rainy season, and I have called the Chairman's attention to this and suggested to make some provision in the next budget for the improvements of roads.

6. As regards imperfections in sewerage and in rubbish and night-soil conservancy, the Sanitary Commissioner's remarks appear to be too true to need any commentary thereon.

7. The town has a very insanitary look all about it and it directly impresses on any one at his very visit to the town. I have drawn the Chairman's attention to the fact that several resolutions passed in previous years, &c., seem to have remained unexecuted, and he stated in reply that he would attend to the same in due course.

(Signed) C. SIVAYYA,
Ag. Deputy Collector.

19th February 1897.

Dis. on C. No. 105-Eng.

Forwarded.

(Signed) V. A. BRODIE,
Collector.

4th March 1897.

Order—No. 1908 M., dated 31st August 1897.

Recorded, with the following remarks:—

(1) With reference to paragraph 2 of the Sanitary Commissioner's inspection notes, it is observed that in paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 1526 W., dated 21st June 1895, the Public Works Department pointed out that full instructions for the formation and maintenance of roads are contained in section VII of the standard specifications of that department. These can be obtained from the Superintendent, Government Press, to whom therefore the Chairman may apply for copies.

(2) The Public Works Department is requested to state what decision has been arrived at on the question, referred to in paragraph 4 (*a*) of the inspection notes, of changing the mooring site of boats on the Ellore canal and what action has been taken with reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 444 I., dated 19th May 1896, regarding the transfer to the municipal council of the irrigation channels within the town.

(3) As regards the preparation of a water-supply scheme for the town, the municipal council will be referred to G.O., No. 1900 M., dated 10th November 1896. In the present state of the Provincial finances, the Government cannot hold out any promise of a grant for this purpose or for the construction of incinerators.

(4) The attention of the municipal council is drawn to the Deputy Collector's remarks in paragraphs 3 to 7 of his endorsement. The Chairman should report at an early date the action that has actually been taken in regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the same.

(5) In G.O., No. 801 M., dated 6th May 1895, the Government severely commented on the sanitary condition of the town and the municipal council was warned that, unless the next inspection report showed considerable improvement in every respect, the Government will be constrained to consider the question of exercising its powers under the District Municipalities Act. From the Sanitary Commissioner's present inspection notes, it appears that, although there were some signs of increased attention on the part of the municipal council to this important subject, many of the defects noticed at the last inspection had not been remedied and no material improvement had taken place. This is very unsatisfactory. As, however, the administration report for the year 1896–97, subsequently received, shows that a certain number of useful and beneficial sanitary works have since been carried out, the Government will defer taking any further action in the matter for the present.

2. The Collector should not have contented himself with forwarding these important papers without comment. In transmitting them, he should have furnished any necessary explanations of fact, and given Government the benefit of his advice.

(True Extract.)

for *Secretary to Government.*

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ellore.
" Collector of Gódávari.
" Sanitary Board.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Sanitary Engineer.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. A. Raitt.