

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 3249 W

DATED 22nd Dec 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Permitting of the Subordinate Heads of the
Accounts Branch.

It is stated that Mr. A. A. Denny, Manager, P.W. Accounts, while
being examined to the extent that the findings
made it impossible for him for the time being, to comply
with the orders of the Government in regard to the

P.C.C.
approved
E.R.

Mr. Demmings points out that he made only ^{one} permanent appointment, viz. that of Mr. Coombes, & he thinks that it must be admitted that he had the best of reasons and justification for so doing. Besides, he made two temporary appointments, viz. those of Messrs Humphreys & Porrett. He states that these were made on special grounds, in order to maintain relative proportion between natives and non-natives.

With regard to this charge, the fact that Mr. Coombes was holding temporary rank as an Accountant, 8th grade, when Mr. Demmings joined, may be held to be a good reason for appointing him permanently. But no such excuse is tenable in the case of Messrs Humphreys & Porrett. They were men with little service & with no Divisional training, & their appointment in preference to Accountants with longer service was a violation of the orders of the Govt. of India. In this case

Mr. Demmings distinctly issued the orders of Govt.

5 As regards the second charge, Mr. Demmings now represents that almost immediately after he took up his present appointment at the end of March 1897, the famine began to develop, & a concentration to some of the Famine divisions of three and four Accountants, besides all available Account Clerks, became a necessity. He did make a start in the direction of the required interchange, but the exigencies of famine soon put an end to that. Hence he personally could not possibly have given effect to the orders on this point; & he submits that no blame should be allowed to rest on him for what was beyond his power to control.

6 The occurrence of famine doubtless made it impossible for the time being

being to carry out the
orders of Govt., & in this
respect Mr. Denny's ^{will} (may)
be exonerated. He should,
however, have represented
this more prominently, before,
& not merely have incidentally
alluded to it; as he did
in para 7 of his office Note
No 615 A/E dated 18th May 1898.

A/R
10.12.98.

[Signature]
12.12.98

X Flay J

To
The Examiner, P.W. Accounts

Recd
22/12/98

18.12.98 A.C.12.98

Urgent
Public Works (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 10083

From
The Examiner P.W. Accounts
Madras & Coorg

Order

No. 1387 A/2

Dated 5th December 1898.

Received
Registered } 6.12.98

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Recruitment of Subordinate
Accounts Establishment.
Desiring further explanation
in connection with _____

No.	Date.
2843W	8.11.58 ang.
14100W	24.8.12.61.28
2301/AW	3.5.58
885D	26.8.58
3630C	9.8.58
830D	9.8.58
734D	29.7.58
1864W	25.7.58
155D	2.5.58.
5154C	2.12.57
3078C	5.7.57
2468C	13.5.57
553W	13.2.56 (18.0)
1611W	28.2.56 (u)
2574W	22.1.56.
2515W	12.10.55 E.C.
1862W	10.7.53 u
2508W	2.7.52 -
1937W	5.7.52 -
1938W	do -
8836W	17.3.52 8.0.

No.	Date.
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CURRENT No.

dated

189

Vergent

E- No. 27.
1,000-16-5-98

GOVT. } 1898. { P. W.
OF MADRAS. } DEPT.
EXAMINER, P. W. ACCOUNTS.

Madras, 5th December 1898.

OFFICE NOTE No. 1387 *A/E*

To

W.

With reference to the interview I had with you on 2nd Instant on the subject of the orders passed in G.O.No.2843 W dated 8th November 1898 regarding recruitment of the subordinate grades of the Accounts Branch I beg once again to represent as follows:-

2. In para 2 of this G.O. my name is linked with those of two of my predecessors as not having given effect to the orders contained in G.O No.1802 W dated 10th July 1893; but it is not explained in what particular respect I personally have failed considering the circumstances.

3. The censure contained in para 2 referred to embodies two main charges viz:

(I) that of not having strictly followed the order as to the source from which appointments to the -- Subordinate Accounts

Branch were to be made.

(2) that of having failed to arrange for the inter-change of Accounts Clerks between the C's and Divisional offices.

4. Respecting the first of these -- charges I endeavoured in my O.N.No. 615A/E and para 2 of No. 990 A/E dated 18th May 1898 and 18th August 1898 respectively, set before government the extent of my own personal responsibility in the matter. The one and only permanent appointment I made (of course under the sanction of Government) was that of Mr Coombes, and I venture to think that, on a reperusal of the above O.Ns, it must be admitted that I had -- the best of reasons and justification for so doing. Besides that, I nominated for the next 2 temporary vacancies -- Messrs: Humphreys and Porrett. These last two appointments, as previously explained, were made on quite special -- grounds, under the sanction of Government, and in pursuance of a policy up till then adopted of maintaining a relative proportion between natives and non-natives and which Government had never previously taken exception to.

5. In respect to the second charge I would represent that almost immediately after I took up my present appointment at end of March 1897 the Famine began to develop, and a concentration to some of the Famine Divisions of three and

1864 W 1/98
2843 W 1/98

W

For orders.

The Examiner asks for the removal of the stricture passed on him in para 2 of S.O. 2843 W of 8. 11. 98.

Please see the Office Note flagged in on which the S.O. was based.

At R

Rev. G. 12. 98.

Inter-sept to the first charge. the fact that Mr Coombes has already held the post of Deputy Commissioner since he was a young man is a good reason for affirming him for it. No such

and four Accountants, besides all available Accounts Clerks, became a necessity. That a start was made in the direction of the required interchange will be seen from para 7 of my O.N. No. 615 A/E dated 18th May 1898, but the exigencies of Famine soon put an end to that. I am sure there is no need for me to refer to the utter dislocation of staff and work that followed during the succeeding months and until Famine operations came to a close. Hence it was that I personally could not possibly have -- given effect to the orders on this point and I would accordingly respectfully submit that no blame should be allowed to rest on me for what was beyond my power to control.

6. I might dilate at length in justification of my action and attitude in the matter, but I trust that what I have said, coupled with what I verbally explained to you at some length the other day, will suffice to enable you to move Government to remove the stricture passed on me. I have never once throughout my career of over 23 years service received any censure from Government about my work, and I naturally feel it hard that I should be considered as having incurred censure now over what I conscientiously did for the best, and at a time of exceptional strain and difficulty.

7. I have marked this as --