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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No. 2710	Press. / Mis.
Dated 12.9.1877 197 .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th September 1877, No. 2,710.

Famine Relief.

Read the following papers :—

No. 200. From the Hon. J. G. COLEMAN, Chairman of the Town Relief Committee, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 10th September 1877.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor, a copy of the Proceedings of the Town Relief Committee, dated 6th instant, and to request to be informed, with reference to their Resolution No. 2, whether able-bodied men who are willing to work may be sent to Government Relief-works within the Municipality, and, if so, to what works. I may add, for the information of His Grace, that there is a very large number of such people who are now refused admittance at these works and who being able-bodied can neither receive money-dole nor be fed at Government feeding depôts.

PROCEEDINGS of a Meeting of the Town Relief Committee held at the Municipal Office on Thursday, the 6th September 1877, at 5 P.M.

PRESENT :

The Hon. J. G. COLEMAN, *Chairman*.

S. APPASAWMY CHETTIAR, Esq.
J. B. CARDOZO, Esq.
P. CHENTSAL ROW, Esq.
C. H. P. CHRISTIE, Esq.
THE VERY REV. J. COLGAN.
SURGEON-MAJOR W. R. CORNISH.
V. KRISTNAMA CHARIAR, Esq.
B. LOVERY, Esq.
J. P. NICHOLAS, Esq.
T. RAMACHENDRA ROW, Esq.
J. C. SHAW, Esq.
P. SOMASOONDRAM CHETTIAR, Esq.
J. STURROCK, Esq.
G. THORNHILL, Esq.
P. VEJIARUNGA MUDALIAR, Esq.
W. S. VENKATARAMANJOOLOO NAIDOO, Esq.
Y. VENKATARAMIAH, Esq., *Secretary*.

1. Read the following letters from Divisional Committees :—

2ND DIVISION.—Letter from the Chairman, dated 5th September 1877, forwarding Proceedings of 31st August and an original letter from Dr. Power suggesting an increased grant of Rs. 600 to the North Ward of the Division.

Do. Letter from the Chairman, dated 6th September 1877, expressing a hope that the requirements of this, the most populous division, will be duly considered in furnishing any estimate to the General Relief Committee.

3RD DIVISION.—Letter from the Secretaries, dated 5th September 1877, bringing to notice that a large number of paupers, considered fit objects of charity, have not been paid for want of funds, and requesting that allotments may be made with reference to the requirements of the division.

7TH DIVISION.—Letter from the Secretary, dated 6th September 1877, stating that the Registers are under revision.

Produced the following Reports from Divisional Committees for the week ending 1st September 1877 :—

			Rs.	A.	P.
1st Division.—Expenditure	...	...	232	4	0
2nd " "	...	...	1,215	8	0
3rd " "	...	...	984	12	0
4th " "	...	...	156	1	8
5th " "	...	...	484	0	2
6th " "	...	...	100	12	0
7th " "	...	...	719	4	0
8th " "	...	...	211	1	3
Total	...		4,103	11	1

(*a.*) Resolved that for the month of September the present allotment of funds be continued.

(*b.*) Resolved also that the General Relief Committee be addressed with the view of ascertaining the amount of funds that will be placed at the disposol of the Town Relief Committe.

2. Read letter from the Secretary, 7th Divisional Committee, dated 31st August, suggesting the issue of tickets which shall entitle holders to be taken on at the relief-works within the town.

Resolved that Government be addressed in view to ascertain whether able-bodied men, who are willing to work, may be sent to the Government relief-works within the Municipality, and if so, to what works.

3. Resolved that Mr. Ahmed Mohideen Khan be requested to join the Town Relief Committee.

4. Resolved that the Proceedings of the weekly meetings of this Committee be published in the newspapers for the information of the public.

5. The following statement was recorded :—

The Town Relief Fund.

Division.	Week ending 18th August 1877.			Week ending 25th August 1877.			Week ending 1st September 1877.			Amount paid in 3 Weeks.			Remarks.
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Rs.	A.	P.	
1st	100	56	156	330	144	474	393	143	536	497	4	0	
2nd	1,751	653	2,404	2,483	1,021	3,504	2,464	1,016	3,480	3,541	8	0	
3rd	1,358	359	1,717	1,535	388	1,923	1,767	405	2,172	2,618	0	0	
4th	151	61	212	214	77	291	243	74	317	357	0	0	
5th	...	...	*	555	247	802	781	365	1,146	821	0	0	*Commenced 25th Aug
6th	100	34	134	148	58	206	350	136	486	378	0	0	
7th	903	306	1,209	1,286	499	1,785	1,188	501	1,689	1,993	4	0	
8th	24	14	38	131	106	237	319	167	486	308	12	0	
	4,387	1,483	5,870	6,682	2,540	9,222	7,505	2,807	10,312	10,514	12	0	

Revenue Department, 12*th September* 1877, *No.* 2,710.

2710

Extracts from Proceedings and Reports.

2nd Division.—"This Division consists of Yeddapolliem, Vellappen Thoddi, John Pereira's Gardens, Shance Colum, Perumal Thottam, Nyneappah Naick's Street, Kondi Tope, and Weavers' quarters and other localities thickly peopled by the destitute caste poor who, the Divisional Committee presume, deserve timely attention and relief." * * * "Another circumstance that has come to notice in the course of registration is the preponderance of female paupers, and the sad fact that several of these women and their children were left adrift by their husbands from want of income of any sort. They have also to notice that the recent abnormal death-rate has deprived many a poor family of the only male member and bread-winner. There are others again who, from starvation or sickness, or from both causes combined, are unable to venture out of their homes and seek the present relief. The case of children is causing even more anxiety than that of adults, judging from the famished appearance of many of them indicative of the great want of means to give them sufficient nourishment of the proper sort. In these circumstances it is felt that it would be a hardship to say that only a certain number of children in each family should be relieved and that the others should shift for themselves. * * * It is a matter of vital importance to save the children from starvation and sickness consequent upon scanty feeding, and, seeing how much of the future of this city will be affected by the loss of the children of the working classes now struggling for existence, this Committee would request that a larger amount may be placed at their disposal in order to meet all urgent calls for relief."—*Proceedings of* 23*rd August* 1877.

"A large number, about 200 or 300 people at least, had to be sent away, from want of funds, unrelieved, and who, in the opinion of the Members (of the Divisional Committee) present, were in very great want."—*Dr. R. V. Power's letter, dated 6th September* 1877.

"It will have been seen from Dr. Power's letter already referred to you that there remain hundred of other claimants still unrelieved in the North Ward; and no fresh admissions have been permitted for some days past in the Centre and South Wards of this Division owing to financial considerations."—*Chairman's letter, dated 6th September* 1877.

3rd Division.—"The Committee have directed us to inform you that during the week ending the 1st instant upwards of 200 people, who were duly passed by the several Sub-Committees, were not registered, as the amount at the disposal of the Committees, viz., Rs. 1,000, was not sufficient to pay them. The Committee are very anxious for the present to limit their weekly expenditure to Rs. 1,000; but they fear that, in carrying out this Resolution, they will have to reject a considerable number of applicants for relief, who on other grounds will be unexceptionable." * * * "The Committee have now on the rolls only 2,213 people out of a population of 47,776, that is to say, only 4½ per cent. of the population intended to be relieved by the Town Relief Committee. It must be mentioned that this *was* the population in 1871, and must be considerably less than what it *is* at present. A very large number of people have come down from up-country and have been living with their friends and relatives in the Division even from before the 1st October 1876."—*Secretary's letter, dated 5th September* 1877.

5th Division.—"I can safely say that there are at least 1,000 very deserving cases not yet registered."—*Secretary's letter, dated 5th September* 1877.

(Signed) J. G. COLEMAN,
Chairman.

(,,) Y. VENKATARAMIAH,
Secretary.

Referred to the Commissioner of Police for early report whether there is work in the Municipality available for any considerable number of people in excess of those now so employed, and, if so, how many additional people could be taken on.

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

10th September 1877.

Revenue Department, 12*th September* 1877, *No.* 2,710.

No. 200-A. MEMORANDUM.

HAS the honor to report that he is not aware of any work within municipal limits on which local able-bodied laborers could be employed. Colonel Drever is now breaking up the Poodoopett Camp, the District Engineer having intimated that he has no further employment on the Cooum Shoals for its occupants.

MADRAS,
11th September 1877.

(Signed) W. S. DREVER,
Commissioner of Police.

No. 201. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1877, No. 2,710.

Miscellaneous.

THE works which are in progress or have been ordered to be taken in hand are—

(1.) The Cooum Shoals clearances up to the neighbourhood of the Poodoopett Bridge.

(2.) The traverses of the Powder Magazines.

(3.) The Veyausapadi Tank repair works.

(4.) The clearance of Cochrane's Canal from the Hospital Bridge to the Basin.

2. The three first-named works are under the executive charge of Major Ross Thompson, the Presidency Engineer; the last is under Colonel Moberly, the Superintending Engineer of Chingleput. The Committee are requested to apply to those officers to arrange for the reception and working of the able-bodied paupers in the town who are in need of work, and orders will be issued to them to receive and work as many as they can.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Chairman, Town Relief Committee.
,, the Commissioner of Police.
,, the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.
,, the District Engineer, Presidency.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

2740

Cobt. of [1877] Minutes.

REVENUE.

No.

THE TOWN RELIEF COMMITTEE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dat. September 12th.

Printed 13th.

Issued

Rd.

G.O., 12th September 1877, No. 2710.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 200-201.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1792.

Additional Papers in the Town of Madras.—Specifying the relief-works in progress and remaining the Committee for the Town relief to apply to the officers in charge of them for the execution and working of the — in need of work.

G.O. No 2710 / 12 September / 77

Read Copy of Proceedings of Madras Town Relief Committee

G.O.

The works which are in progress or have been ordered to be taken in hand are (1) the Cooum shoals clearances up to the neighbourhood of the Pudupett bridge.

(2) The traverses of the Powder Magazines.

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(4) The clearance of Cochrane's Canal from the Hospital Bridge to the ~~Shodaq and Kapaw Tank~~ Basin.

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Col.

To the Chairman Town Relief Committee 8/14 Sept

5 Carpenters
3 Sappers & Miners Chingleput
3 Pioneers Poonamallee
20 Coolies at Saidapet & Kistna
4 Tindal Coolies at Poonamallee
30 Bricklayers & Masons

No 2711 Dated 12 Sept

Town Relief Committee
Madras 10th September 1877

From,
The Chairman of the
Town Relief Committee
To The Secretary to Government
Famine Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the information of His Grace the Governor a Copy of the Proceedings of the Town Relief Committee dated 6th Instant and to request to be informed with reference to their Resolution No 2 whether able bodied men who are willing to work may be sent to Government Relief Works within the Municipality and if so to what works. I may add for the information of His Grace that there is a very large number of such people who are now refused admittance at these works and who being able bodied can neither receive money dole nor be fed at Government feeding depots.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
H Solomon
Chairman
Town Relief Committee

Proceedings of a Meeting of the Town Relief Committee, held at the Municipal Office, on Thursday, the 6th September 1877, at 5 P. M.

PRESENT:

The Hon'ble J. G. COLEMAN, *Chairman.*

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J. B. CARDOZO, ESQ.	J. C. SHAW, ESQ.
P. CHENTSAL ROW, ESQ.	P. SOMASOONDRAM CHETTIAR, ESQ.
C. H. P. CHRISTIE, ESQ.	J. STURROCK, ESQ.
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SURGEON-MAJOR W. R. CORNISH.	P. VEJIARUNGA MUDALIYAR, ESQ.
V. KRISTNAMA CHARIAR, ESQ.	W. S. VENKATARAMANJOOLOO NAIDOO, ESQ.
B. LOVERY, ESQ.	Y. VENKATARAMIAH, ESQ., *Secretary.*
J. P. NICHOLAS, ESQ.	

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(b.) Resolved also that the General Relief Committee be addressed with the view of ascertaining the amount of Funds that will be placed at the disposal of the Town Relief Committee.

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Resolved that Government be addressed in view to ascertain whether able bodied men, who are willing to work may be sent to the Government Relief Works within the Municipality, and if so to what works.

3. Resolved that Mr. AHMED MOHIDEEN KHAN be requested to join the Town Relief Committee.

4. Resolved that the Proceedings of the Weekly Meetings of this Committee be published in the Newspapers for the information of the Public.

5. The following statement was recorded.

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Secretary. Chairman.