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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.		Press.
B.P. No.	4386	Mis.
Dated	7.8.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

24th July 1877, No. 1976.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 167. *From the Honorable J. G. COLEMAN, Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 18th July 1877, G. No. 447.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the G.O., No. 1901, dated 13th instant, requesting the Municipal Commissioners, in communication with Sir William Robinson and Colonel Drover, Commissioner of Police, to reconsider the proposals made by Mr. Burrows in his letter of 10th February 1877, with a view of organising a scheme of divisional inspection for relief of any distress which the present system fails to reach.

2. In reply, I beg to forward, for information of Government, the Proceedings of a Meeting held at the Municipal Office on the 16th instant, from which it will be seen that it is proposed to have a Central Committee to control and manage generally the relief operations of the whole city with Sub-Committees in each Municipal Division for immediate executive duties. It is intended that such leading residents of the town as may from their position or knowledge be able to render assistance or furnish information be invited to associate themselves with the Committees in furthering the object in view.

3. It is also proposed that the relief afforded should be in the form of a money allowance of one Anna daily for an adult and of six Pies daily for a child under 12 years of age, and that an essential condition of the grant of relief in any division should be that the person relieved is *bonâ fide* a native resident of that division.

4. The above divisional arrangements are proposed especially in reference to those resident inhabitants who, on inquiry, may be found to be greatly suffering from distress, and who by feelings of self-respect are debarred from availing themselves of the relief now afforded at the poor sheds. It is respectfully suggested that the arrangements now in existence, which seem to be unexceptionally good and under which the local non-caste and houseless poor and needy strangers daily receive a meal at the poor-houses, will be permitted to continue without being disturbed, especially, as from the inquiries made, it has been ascertained that the cost of feeding at such depôts does not exceed 15 Pies per head. The Committee greatly apprehend that the transferring of upwards of 12,000 local poor who are daily fed at the relief houses to Divisional Pay Officers might be attended with serious inconvenience.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

PROCEEDINGS of a Meeting held at the Municipal Office, No. 22, Errabauloo Chetty Street, Black Town, on Monday the 16th July 1877, at 1 o'clock P.M.

Present.

The Honorable J. G. Coleman, in the Chair.

N. Ramalingam Pillai.
Captain D. Heming.
V. Kristnama Charriar.
Y. Venkataramiah Garu.
P. S. Ramasawmy Mudaliar.
P. Somasoondrum Chettiar.
P. Vijiarunga Mudaliar.

E. Teroovengada Mudaliar.
V. Vanoogopala Charriar.
Colonel W. S. Drever.
The Hon. V. Ramiengar, c.s.i.
Mr. B. Lavery.
„ J. B. Nicholas.
„ R. K. Puckle.

The Chairman read the order of Government, 13th July 1877, No. 1901, Financial Department, resolving to request the Municipal Commissioners, in communication with Sir W. Robinson and Colonel Drever, Commissioner of Police, to reconsider the proposals made by Mr. Burrows in his letter of 10th February 1877, with a view of organizing a scheme of divisional inspection for relief of any distress which the present system fails to reach.

Mr. Burrows' letter alluded to in the above mentioned Government Order was also read.

After a few observations from the Chairman, the Hon. V. Ramiengar and Messrs. R. K. Puckle, V. Kristnama Charriar, and Y. Vencataramiah, the following Resolutions were adopted:—

RESOLUTION 1.—That this Meeting is of opinion that great distress prevails among the local poor of the town and that a special organization is necessary to seek out and relieve the prevailing distress.

RESOLUTION 2.—That a Central Committee be formed for the purpose of regulating and auditing the expenditure to be incurred in connection with the relief of the town poor. The Committee to consist of—

The Hon. J. G. Coleman,
Mr. R. K. Puckle,
Colonel W. S. Drever,
The Hon. V. Ramiengar, c.s.i.

P. Somasoondrum Chettiar,
V. Kristnama Charriar,
Y. Vencataramiah Garu,
Rev. Dr. J. M. Strachan,

with power to add to their number.

RESOLUTION 3.—That Divisional Committees be formed consisting of—

1st Division.

N. Ramalingum Pillai,
Captain D. Heming,
A. Aroomoogum Mudaliar,
C. Cundasawmy Mudaliar,

2nd Division.

P. S. Ramasawmy Mudaliar,
V. Kristnama Charriar,
Y. Vencataramiah Garu,
C. V. Sashachellum Chettiar,
Umbasunkarra Davy,
C. Ramiah Garu,

3rd Division.

P. Somasoondrum Chettiar,
P. Vejiarunga Mudaliar,
C. Vencatasooboo Chettiar,
G. Mahadava Chettiar,
C. Kalyana Soondrum Chettiar,

4th Division.

C. V. Kristnama Charriar,
V. Vanoogopala Charriar,
E. Teroovengada Mudaliar,
D. Nursinga Row,

with power to add to their number.

The Meeting then terminated.

(Signed) J. G. GOLEMAN,
Chairman.

No. 168.

ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1877, No. 1976.

The President will convey the thanks of Government to the Commissioners for the attention they have paid to the request of Government in the Proceedings replied to in the above letter, and will inform them that the Government accept the proposals detailed therein and in the enclosed resolution, and beg the Commissioners to proceed to carry them into effect with as little delay as possible; it being understood that the relief to be thus administered is to be restricted to deserving objects whom the present arrangements fail to reach, and that all necessary precautions will be adopted to obviate any risk of double relief or other abuse.

2. The Government will be glad to receive from time to time information as to the progress made and results attained, and note with satisfaction that the importance of a close supervision over the financial details is provided for by the Commissioners. They trust that the Commissioners will be able to enlist the sympathy of the public in alleviating the distress which prevails in the Presidency town.

(True Extra)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Honorable Sir W. Robinson, K.C.S.I.
" President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Commissioner of Police.
" Revenue (Famine) Department, with G.O., 13th July 1877, No. 1901.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

4386

Nov: 1877 *deft*
Cobt. of 11877 *adms*

FINANCIAL.
7th Dec 1877
The Hon. Sir W. ROBINSON, Bart.
Esq.

Dated July, 24th.

Inclosed

Per 4th Aug: 1/77.

G.O. 24th July 1877, No 1936.

Mr. 40th August 1877, 4386

JULY.
Nov. 187-188.

*Remains Defy! — The Municipal Commissioners,
Widnes, requested to carry out their proposals in
connection with the relief of high-class paupers
in the town.*
Mr. 40th 4386

44
7 August 1877