Revenue (1894) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 263

Dated 7th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Quinine Packets

Approving the proposals of the Govt. Cin. Plantations, for securing uniformity in the system of the supply and sale of — by the revenue and postal officials.

PAGE PAPERS.

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

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Government (1898) of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 263, 7th May 1898.

MAY.

Quinine Packets.

Approving the proposals of the Director, Government Cinchona Plantations, for securing uniformity in the system of the supply and sale of — by the revenue and postal officials.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following letter from W. M. STANDEN, Esq., Director of the Government, Cinchona Plantations, the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 25th March 1898, No. 19 :—

With reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 128, Revenue, dated 3rd March 1898, I have the honour to report that the issues of packets of quinine powders to revenue officials are so small, in comparison with those made to postmasters, that the difference in the number of powders contained in the packets sent to the former does not cause any great inconvenience to this office. At the same time, I am of opinion that it would be better if all packets of quinine powders were made up in the same form, and contained the same number, viz., 102.

2. Under the existing system, the quinine intended for sale by revenue officials is made up in open wrappers, each containing five grains of quinine, while the quinine sold by postmasters is packed in closed covers. I see no good reason why there should be this difference in the mode of packing. The closed covers are far more convenient than those which are open; and I would suggest that they be used in future for both agencies.

3. If it be decided that the Collector's packets shall contain 102 powders, I think the commission on the sale of each packet should be the same as that earned by postmasters, viz., 1½ annas.

One advantage of making both systems uniform is that in the event of the sale of quinine by revenue officials being discontinued at any time, the existing stocks could be returned to this office, and used for issue to postmasters, without the trouble and expense of re-packing.

Order—No. 263, Revenue, dated 7th May 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Government agrees in the views expressed by the Director of the Government Cinchona Plantations and approves of his proposals—

(1) that the packets sent to the revenue and postal officials should be of the same size and contain 102 powders each;

(2) that the commission allowed to both sets of officials should be the same and

(3) that the drug should be uniformly packed in closed covers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director, Government Cinchona Plantations.
„ the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Exd. Shaik Karim.

40 Copies.

Revenue Department.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 263, REVENUE, DATED 7th MAY 1898.

[Subject.—*Sale of Quinine by Revenue and Postal Officials.*]

From the Director of the Government Cinchona Plantations, dated 25th March 1898, *No.* 19.

To Under Secretary—

In the notes stitched with G.O., No. 128, Revenue, dated 3rd March 1898, it was pointed out that as the packets of quinine sold to Postmasters and Revenue officials contained 102 and 100 powders respectively, while the price of the two kinds of packets and of each powder remained the same, the Revenue officer obtained a lower rate of commission than the Postmaster; and the question was raised as to whether it would not be advisable to increase the rate now allowed to the Revenue officers, so as to equalize it with that allowed to Postmasters. The Secretary thereon noted: "I "would not increase it. It is not desirable to give them, [*i.e.*, the Revenue officers], "extra encouragement to sell, to the possible neglect of their own duties." The Honourable Member, however, thought that Mr. Standen should be asked about the matter. The Honourable Member added: "It must increase work and give rise to mistakes if stocks are made up—some containing 100 and some 102 powders." A reference was accordingly made to Mr. Standen in paragraph 3 of the Government Order already quoted and his reply thereto (since received) is now submitted for orders.

2. Mr. Standen, it will be seen, reports that "the issues of packets of quinine "powders to Revenue officials are so small in comparison with those made to Post-"masters that the difference in the number of powders contained in the packets sent to "the former does not cause any great inconvenience" to his office. He, however, considers that it would be better if all the packets were made up in the same form and contained the same number of powders, and that in case the above view is concurred in by Government, the commission on the sale of each packet should be the same to both Revenue officers and Postmasters. He adds that one advantage of having a uniform system is that when sales of the drug by the Revenue agency are discontinued, the packets can readily be transferred to the Postmasters without being returned to his office for re-packing. This advantage, however, seems to be but nominal—first, because it does not hold good in the case of opened packets, and, secondly, because the Director can, if necessary, easily arrange to send to Postmasters the extra two powders required to make up the total number. If therefore, as Mr. Standen states, no appreciable inconvenience or mistake has resulted from the observance of the existing practice, it is a question for consideration whether that practice should be changed and the amount of commission to Revenue officers enhanced. Orders are solicited.

3. Mr. Standen has taken this opportunity to bring to notice an anomaly in the making up of the powders which now obtains in his office. He states that under the existing system, the powders intended for sale by Revenue officers are made up in open wrappers while those sent to Postmasters are packed in closed covers; and he suggests that as the closed covers are far more convenient than open ones, they may

be used in future in both cases. The introduction of the closed-cover system was ordered in paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 180, Revenue, dated 2nd March 1894, and paragraphs 3 and 4 of G.O., No. 647, Revenue, dated 3rd September 1894. These orders were no doubt issued in connexion with the question of the distribution of quinine by the Postal agency, but the main object being to prevent the occurrence of "opportunities for tampering with the contents which will be afforded by the use of wrappers," the intention of Government, it is submitted, was clearly that all powders, sent out for sale to the public, should be made up in closed covers. The late Mr. Lawson was, all along, opposed to the closed-cover system as it gave more work to his office, and he must therefore apparently have thought it unnecessary to give any but a literal interpretation to the orders above referred to. From the fact, however, that Mr. Standen does not speak of coloured quinine, it would appear that one of the directions contained in those orders, viz., the discontinuance of the supply of coloured quinine, was given effect to by the late Mr. Lawson himself. It is submitted in the above circumstances that Mr. Standen's attention may be drawn to the orders in question with the remark that when issuing them it was the intention of Government that the open-wrapper system should be substituted by the closed-cover system in the supply of quinine both to Revenue officers and Postmasters.

Vide also Honourable Member's note on last page of the office-note in G.O., No. 4506, dated 22nd November 1894.

Nothing need be said about this or about coloured quinine.

J.G[ROSE].

P.N.M.
27-4-98.

To Secretary—

No change in the number of powders in packets to Post officers and Revenue officials, *i.e.*, in the rates of commission to these officers, seems necessary.

As to the method of packing, Mr. Standen may be told to issue all packets in closed covers.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS.
28-4-98.

To Honourable Member—

On the whole, considering what Mr. Standen says, we may adopt a uniform system in all respects for both Post officers and Revenue officials.

G. S. FORBES.
29-4-98.

Yes.

J. G[ROSE].
4-5-98.

To Under Secretary—

A draft Government Order is submitted below.

P.N.M.

To Secretary—

N.E.M.
6-5-98.

Issue.

G.S.F.
7-5-98.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2486.

From W. R. Standen Esqr
Director, Govt. Cinchona Plant
Nilgiris

Order

No. 19

Dated 25th March 1898

Received 28 "

Registered 29 "

Enclosures Nil

Spare copies Nil

SUBJECT.

Quinine packets

Is of opinion that the Collectors' packets also be made up of 102 powders in closed covers as Post Masters

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
n	128	Rev	3-3-98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No 19

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,

OOTACAMUND, 25 March 1898.

From

W. M. STANDEN, ESQ.,

DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT

CINCHONA PLANTATIONS,

Nilgiris.

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St George.

SIR,

With reference to para 3 of G.O. No 128, Revenue, dated 3d March 1898, I have the honor to report that the issues of Packets of Quinine powders to Revenue officials are so small, in comparison with those made to Post Masters, that the difference in the number of powders contained in the packets sent to the former does not cause any great inconvenience to this office. At the same time, I am of opinion that it would be better if all packets of Quinine powders were made up in the same form, and contained the same

same number Viz 102.

2. Under the existing system, the Quinine intended for sale by Revenue officials is made up in open wrappers, each containing 5 grains of Quinine, while the Quinine sold by PostMasters is packed in closed covers. I see no good reason why there should be this difference in the mode of packing. The closed Covers are far more convenient than those which are open, and I would suggest that they be used in future for both agencies.

3. If it be decided that the Collectors packets shall Contain 102 powders, I think the Commission on the sale of each packet should be the same as that Earned by Postmasters Viz 1½ annas.

One advantage of making both systems uniform is that in the event of the sale of Quinine by Revenue Officials being discontinued at any time, the existing stocks could be returned to this office, and used for issue to Postmasters without the trouble and expense of re-packing.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most obed.t Servant

W Standen

Director

DR

Letter from the Director of the Govt Cinchona Plantations
No 19 dy 25.3.98 (Cur. 2486

Note

In the notes attached with G.O. No 128 Rev: dy 3rd March 1898, it was pointed out that as the packets of quinine sold to Postmasters and Revenue Officials contained 102 and 100 powders respectively, while the price of the two kinds of packets and of each powder remained the same, the Revenue officers obtained a lower rate of commission than the Postmasters; and the question was raised as to whether it would not be advisable to increase the rate now allowed to the Revenue officers, so as to equalize it with that allowed to Postmasters. The Secretary thereon noted "I would not increase it" "It is not desirable to give them" i.e. the Revenue officers, "extra" "encouragement to sell, to the" "possible neglect of their own

G.O. No 263/1.5.98

16/10

page 3

29/4/98.

the Hon: member however thought that mr Standen should be asked about the matter. The Hon added "It must increase work and give rise to mistakes if stocks are made up - some containing 100 and some 52 powders". A reference was accordingly made to mr Standen in para 3 of the C.O. already quoted and his reply thereto (since received) is now submitted for order.

Circ. 2486 of 98

2 mr Standen, it will be seen, reports that "the issues of packets of eucinine powders to Revenue Officials are so small in comparison with those made to Postmasters that the "difference in the number of powders "contained in the packets sent to "the former does not cause any "great inconvenience" to this Office He however considers that it would be better if all the packets were made up in the same form and contained the same number of powders and that in case the new is concurred in by Govt the

the commission on the sale of each packet should be the same to both Revenue Officers and Postmasters. He adds that an advantage of having a uniform system is that when sales of the drug by the Revenue Agency are discontinued, the packets can readily be transferred to the Postmasters without being returned to this Office for re-packing. This advantage however, seems to be but nominal first because it does not hold good in the case of opened packets and secondly because the Director can, if necessary, easily arrange to send to Postmasters the extra two powders required to make up the total number. If therefore, as mr Standen states, no appreciable inconvenience or mistake in taking observance has resulted from the contravention of the existing practice, it is a question for consideration whether that practice should be changed and the com

of commissions to Revenue
Officers enhanced. Orders are
Solicited.

3. Mr Standen has
taken this opportunity to
bring to notice an anomaly
in the making up of the
powders which now obtains
in this Office. He states that
under the existing system, the
powders intended for sale by
Revenue Officers are made up
in open wrappers while those
sent to Postmasters are packed
in closed covers; and he suggests
closed covers
that as the latter are far more
convenient than open ones, they
may be used in future in both
cases. The instructions of
the closed cover system was
ordered in para 3 of G.O. no 180 — ½ page 7
Revd dy 2nd Mar 1896 and paras
3 and 4 of G.O. no 647 Revd dy 8th — 2½ page 3
Sept 1894. These orders were no
doubt issued in connexion with
the question of the distribution
of quinine by the Postal Agency
the main object being
went the occurrence of
"opportunities

3

order also this note on last page of the Office Note in G.O.
46·56
22.11.94

"opportunities for tampering
"with the records contents which
"will be afforded by the use of
"wrappers", the intention of
Govt, it is submitted, was clear
that all powders, sent out for
sale to the public, should be
made up in closed covers. The
late Mr Lawson was, however,
all along opposed to the closed
cover system as it gave more
work to this Office, and he must
therefore
apparently have thought it un-
necessary to give any but a
literal interpretation to the
orders above referred to. From
however
the fact that Mr
Standen does not speak of Colour
quinine, it would appear that
one of the directions contained
in those orders viz the discon-
tinuance of the supply of
~~Colour~~ coloured quinine ~~would~~
had was
appear to have been given effect
to by the late Mr Lawson himself.
It is submitted in the above
circumstances that Mr S'
attention may be drawn

orders in question with the remark that, when issuing them, it was the intention of Govt that the open wrapper system should be substituted by the closed cover system in the supply of envelopes both to Revenue officers and Postmasters.

27.V.98

Jekyll

No change in the no. of powders in pkts to P.O.s & Rev. Os, i.e. in the rates of commission to them upon sales, seems necessary.

As to the method of packing, Mr S. may I think be asked to issue all pkts in closed covers.

28/4/98

I.
Hm.
On the whole, considering what Mr Saunders says, we may adopt a uniform system (separate for both P.O. & Revenue officials.

Yes
29
4/5/98

p.s. Mr Jekyll (from orders)

Read letter from the Director of the C.C.P. No 19 of 25th March 1898 (Cus. 228693/98)

Order No. 263 of 7th May 1898.

The Govt agrees in the views expressed by the Director of the Govt Cinchona Plantations and approves of his proposals, ~~made by him in his letter read above~~, viz.

(1) that the packets sent to the Revenue and Postal Officials should be of the same size and contain 102 powders each,

(2) that the commission allowed to both sets of officials should be the same and

(3) that the drug powders should be uniformly packed in closed covers.

To { The Director C.C.P. 7/5/98
Board of Revenue &c.

Draft 21.5.98

Hmm 6.V.98 40/3

Hly 6.5.98

7/5/98

First copy sent to Press.

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PRESIDENCY G.O., No. .

DATED

1900.

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO C. No.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

CAPITAL OF GOVERNMENT.

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