

Revenue (Sp) (1919) *Mar* Department.

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 476

DATED 21-10-19

[Despatch Abstract.]

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Reett. II-9-1-16

DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT FILE.

CONTENTS.

Current No.	From	Number.	Date.	Pages.

[P.T.O. FOR PUT UP PAPERS]

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (=O) or spare copy (= S.C.).	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department

Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S. C.).	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

To

The Chief Secretary

to the Government of Madras.

Through

The Collector of

Malabar District.

Sir,

The undersigned beg to submit the following representation for the kind consideration of the Governor-General in Council and of the Government of Madras.

1. Of the undersigned the first is the present General Agent of the Basel Mission Industrials and the --- remaining being the employees now in charge of the several branches of the Basel Mission Industrials in Malabar and - South Kanara.

2. The memorialists except number 3 are all lay missionaries of Swiss nationality, who were engaged by the - Home Committee and sent out to India to take charge of the - various Industrials owned by the Basel Mission in Malabar -- and South Kanara. Memorialists need scarcely say that the -- present prosperous condition of the Industrials is all due - to their unstinted labours and ceaseless devotion to duty -- and of their predecessors in office, all of whom have toiled hard and given up the best part of their lives in starting - these Industrials and in keeping them going and in bringing them to their present flourishing condition, so as to give - not only an impetus to the Industrial life of this country - but to maintain and give a practical training to the hundreds and thousands of the Mission converts of these districts who, if not for these Industrials, should have been in great ---- difficulties and their existence rendered very hard.

CURRENT NO.

2386

PUBLIC (MADRAS)

By: 2.7.19



3. That on the outbreak of the war, Government took over the control of all the Basel Mission Industrials - and appointed an auditor to check the accounts of the same. Memorialists continued however to work for the Industrials as hitherto, under a license granted by the Governor ----- General in Council to the first of the undersigned Mr. H. Eidenbenz.

4. That for their services memorialists as in the case of their predecessors in office contented themselves till of late with drawing a small pay of Rs.100.- in case of a bachelor and Rs.200.- for married men. In -- addition to this they were getting furlough-, passage-, --- sick- and other allowances, besides a pension on retire - ment or in lieu thereof a bonus varying according to the period of their service. It would have been impossible -- for memorialists to work for this small pittance of Rs.100.- to Rs.200.- a month, if not for this various allowances and the prospective bonus or pension on retirement.

5. The Home Committee on due consideration of the present circumstances and difficulties sanctioned an - increase of pay from 1st July 1918, in the case of them all, which they have been drawing since. This increase has not - met with any objection and has been acquiesced in by the -- auditor and the Collector of Malabar. On further consider - ation the Home Committee also sanctioned the payment to --- memorialists of a bonus equivalent to five years salary at the present rate. Memorialists however have not yet drawn - this bonus and have deferred doing so, pending the orders - of the Government, concurring in the amount sanctioned. --- This memorial is accordingly submitted with a prayer and in the earnest hope that Government will be pleased to confirm this bonus and allow memorialists to draw the same from out of the monies at present in their hands.

6. In their order dated 22nd May 1919, the Governor General in Council has directed the vesting of all the moveable and immoveable properties of the Basel Mission Industrials in the Custodian of Enemy Property Madras. Arrangements are already being made for the disposal of the said Industrials. This will probably necessitate the early retirement of the memorialists from their present posts and their return back to Europe.

7. Should the Government withhold their assent to the payment of the 5 years back salary sanctioned by the Home Committee and not be pleased also to sanction the ---- expenses of their passages back Home and a lump sum as ---- gratuity for the pension and other allowances which they -- should have drawn under the previous existing terms of their employments, as sanctioned by the Home Committee, it would - subject them to great hardship and put their families to unnecessary difficulties and privations. Their hard work and - past services in this foreign land amidst serious difficulties may be taken into kind consideration and it may be seen ---- whether in justice and fairness they should be granted or not an adequate gratuity or bonus so as to maintain themselves - and their families in tolerable ease and comfort on retirement in Europe. In the case of one of the undersigned, Mr. - Glattfelder, he already counts a service of 33 years and it is mainly due to his exertions and expert knowledge that the Jeppoo Tile factory is what it is at present. It would ---- indeed be hard that he should now retire in his old age without anything to fall back upon. Mr. H. Eidenbenz has put in a service of 25 years, first as Manager of the Cannanore Weaving Establishment and later on as General Agent of Basel --- Mission Industrials and Manager of the Calicut Weaving Establishment. Mr. H. Stokes counts 21 years of service, Mr. C. Wuthrich, 12, Mr. S. Gysin, 11, and Mr. Lusher, 5 years.

It is respectfully suggested that should Government not be pleased to assent to the payment of the 5 years salary above prayed for, then atleast in lieu thereof a lump sum may be ordered to be drawn by them by way of bonus or gratuity and in lieu of the allowance which they should -- have been entitled to under the previous system. As the assets of the Head Office are mostly held up in London, it would not be possible for memorialists to get any payment from the Home Committee; they must therefore draw the same from out of the monies in their hands. Permission of the Government is therefore respectfully solicited for their doing so.

8. Memorialists are informed that the Government is going to sell the Basel Mission Industrials to the Common Wealth Trust of London and that the latter will soon step in the place of the former directorate. If so, the said company may be directed by the Government to pay up all the claims of the memorialists and to see that they are fairly treated.

9. Memorialists are of opinion that the minimum sum they should receive is Rs.1000.- for every year of service.

Calicut, 28th June 1919 H. Hidenberg
A. Chatterjee.
M. W. K. S.
O. W. K. S.
S. Gopin
A. L. S. S.

Calicut, 28th June 1919 H. Hidenberg
A. Chatterjee.
M. W. K. S.
O. W. K. S.
S. Gopin
A. L. S. S.

To

The Chief Secretary

to the Government of Madras.

Through .

The Collector of

Malabar District.

Sir,

The undersigned beg to submit the following representation for the kind consideration of the Governor-General in Council and of the Government of Madras.

1. Of the undersigned the first is the present General Agent of the Basel Mission Industrials and the --- remaining being the employees now in charge of the several branches of the Basel Mission Industrials in Malabar and South Kanara.

2. The memorialists except number 3 are all lay missionaries of Swiss nationality, who were engaged by the Home Committee and sent out to India to take charge of the various Industrials owned by the Basel Mission in Malabar and South Kanara. Memorialists need scarcely say that the present prosperous condition of the Industrials is all due to their unstinted labours and ceaseless devotion to duty - and of their predecessors in office, all of whom have toiled hard and given up the best part of their lives in starting these Industrials and in keeping them going and in bringing them to their present flourishing condition, so as to give not only an impetus to the Industrial life of this country - but to maintain and give a practical training to the hundreds and thousands of the Mission converts of these districts who, if not for these Industrials, should have been in great --- difficulties and their existence rendered very hard.

3. That on the outbreak of the war, Government took over the control of all the Basel Mission Industrials - and appointed an auditor to check the accounts of the same. Memorialists continued however to work for the Industrials as hitherto, under a license granted by the Governor ----- General in Council to the first of the undersigned Mr. H. Eidenbenz.

4. That for their services memorialists as in the case of their predecessors in office contented themselves till of late with drawing a small pay of Rs.100.- in case of a bachelor and Rs.200.- for married men. In addition to this they were getting furlough-, passage-, - sick- and other allowances, besides a pension on retirement or in lieu thereof a bonus varying according to the period of their service. It would have been impossible - for memorialists to work for this small pittance of Rs.100. to Rs.200.- a month, if not for this various allowances and the prospective bonus or pension on retirement.

5. The Home Committee on due consideration of the present circumstances and difficulties sanctioned an - increase of pay from 1st July 1918, in the case of them all, which they have been drawing since. This increase has not - met with any objection and has been acquiesced in by the -- auditor and the Collector of Malabar. On further consideration the Home Committee also sanctioned the payment to -- memorialists of a bonus equivalent to five years salary at the present rate. Memorialists however have ^{yet} not drawn this bonus and have deferred doing so, pending the orders of the Government, concurring in the amount sanctioned. This ---- memorial is accordingly submitted with a prayer and in the earnest hope that Government will be pleased to confirm -- this bonus and allow memorialists to draw the same from out of the monies at present in their hands.

6. In their order dated 22nd May 1919, the Governor General in Council has directed the vesting of all the moveable and immoveable properties of the Basel Mission Industrials in the Custodian of Enemy Property Madras. --- Arrangements are already being made for the disposal of the said Industrials. This will probably necessitate the early retirement of the memorialists from their present posts and their return back to Europe.

7. Should the Government withhold their assent to the payment of the 5 years back salary sanctioned by the Home Committee and not be pleased also to sanction the --- expenses of their passages back Home and a lump sum as --- gratuity for the pension and other allowances which they -- should have drawn under the previous existing terms of their employments, as sanctioned by the Home Committee, it would - subject them to great hardship and put their families to unnecessary difficulties and privations. Their hard work and -- past services in this foreign land amidst serious difficulties may be taken into kind consideration and it may be seen - whether injustice and fairness they should be granted or not an adequate gratuity or bonus so as to maintain themselves - and their families in tolerable ease and comfort on retirement in Europe. In the case of one of the undersigned Mr. - Glattfelder, he already counts a service of 33 years and it is mainly due to his exertions and expert knowledge that the Jeppoo Tile factory is what it is at present. It would ---- indeed be hard that he should now retire in his old age without anything to fall back upon. Mr. H. Eidenbenz has put in a service of 23 years, first as Manager of the Cannanore Weaving Establishment and later on as General Agent of Basel --- Mission Industrials and Manager of the Calicut Weaving Establishment. Mr. H. Stokes counts 21 years of service, Mr. O. Wuthrich, 12, Mr. S. Gysin, 11, and Mr. Lusher, 5 years.

It is respectfully suggested that should Government not be pleased to assent to the payment of the 5 years salary above prayed for, then atleast in lieu thereof a lump sum may be ordered to be drawn by them by way of - bonus or gratuity and in lieu of the allowance which they -- should have been entitled to under the previous system. As - the assets of the Head Office are mostly held up in London, it would not be possible for memorialists to get any pay- ment from the Home Committee; they must therefore draw the same from out of the monies in their hands. Permission of the Government is therefore respectfully solicited for --- their doing so.

8. Memorialists are informed that the Government is going to sell the Basel Mission Industrials to the Common Wealth Trust of London and that the latter will soon step in the place of the former directorate. If so, the said company may be directed by the Government to pay up all the claims - of the memorialists and to see that they are fairly treated.

9. Memorialists are of opinion that the minimum sum they should receive is Rs.1000.- for every year of service.

Calicut, 28th June 1919

H. Hidenberg

A. Staufeld

M. W. K. S.

O. K. S.

L. G. S.

A. S. S.

Copy to The Collector of Malabar District.

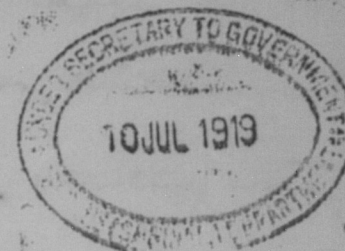
Through L. Drysdale, Esq.,

Calicut.

GENERAL AGENT,
BASEL MISSION INDUSTRIALS.

CURRENT NO.
2529
PUBLIC (MI)

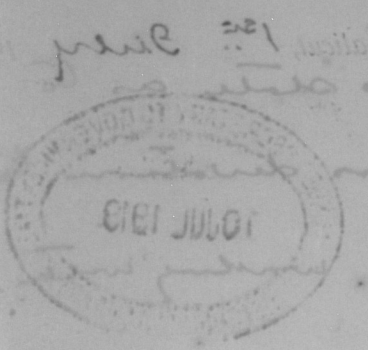
Calicut, 1st July 191



The Collector of Malabar
Calicut

Sir,

I have been asked to send in to you
Enclosed Petition from 6 of the European Employ
of the Basel Mission Industrials to be forward
to Government in which they pray for a bonus
of 5 years Salary, inclusive of the present year
in which full salaries have been paid, or in the
alternative a bonus of Rs 1000/- for each year
Service. In the former case the sum involved
would be Rs 182,400. and in the latter case
Rs 97,000/- I may mention that if sanction is
accorded the Industrials are not in a position
to meet the former amount, and in case of
latter it would mean payment by instalments
as our funds could not stand such a heavy
payment in one lump sum. I have pleasure



1000 JUL 18

11

I have been asked to send in to you
a letter from 6 of the European
of the Board of Directors to be
to Government in which they pray for a
of 2 years salary, whereas of the present
in which the salaries have been paid, or in the
alternative a bonus of Rs 1000/- to each
Director. In the former case the sum involved
would be Rs 182,400. and in the latter case
Rs 99,000/- I have mentioned that if Committee
decided the Directors are not in a position
to meet the former amount, and in case of
latter it would mean payment of gratuity
as on former case with some other
payment in case of death.

(2)

11

in confirming what the Petitioners state as to
their "sustained labours and careless devotion to
to duty" the whole time I have been working with
them.

I have the honor to be Sir

Your obedient servant

Sir

I have been informed in to
of the Board of Directors to be
to Government in which they pray for a
of 2 years salary, whereas of the present
in which the salaries have been paid, or in the
alternative a bonus of Rs 1000/- to each
Director. In the former case the sum involved
would be Rs 182,400. and in the latter case
Rs 99,000/-

The Directors are not in a position
to meet the former amount, and in case of
latter it would mean payment of gratuity
as on former case with some other
payment in case of death.

(5)

2) as the committee at the present time
 is not in a position to make any recommendation
 to the Government on the subject of the
 proposed bonus, the Government have been
 asked to consider the matter and to
 make a decision on it.

I have the honour to be Sir
 Your obedient servant
 J. F. Hall

Malabar Collector's Office,
 Calicut, 8th July 1919.

From

J. F. Hall Esq., I.C.S.,

Collector.

To

The Secretary to Government,

Revenue (special) Department,

Madras.

EXPENT NO.

2522

PUBLIC

Aug. 11. 19

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a memorial from
 six of the European employees of the Basel Mission Indus-
 trials addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government
 together with a covering letter from Mr. Drysdale addressed
 to me.

(2) The memorialists ask for the payment of a
 bonus when their services are dispensed with and say that
 this bonus has been sanctioned by the Home Committee.
 It is perfectly true that until quite recently the
 European staff of the Basel Mission Industrials worked
 for very low pay--little more than maintenance allowances--
 and received by way of compensation various concessions
 such as free passages, education, and a bonus ^{or pension} on retire-
 ment. Presumably, there is with the Head Office in Basel
 a separate pension fund to provide these pensions and it
 is upon this fund that the payment of any bonus sanctioned
 should be a charge. It would appear from paragraph 7 of the
 memorial that the Head Office has considerable assets in
 London. I do not know what action is being taken in respect
 of these. In the absence of information as to what is being
 done with the Home property of the Mission Industrials, it

is

(2)

is impossible for me to make any recommendation upon the memorial except to express my opinion that the charge is scarcely one that could be debited entirely to the Indian assets of the company. Mr. Drysdale's letter will show that these assets could not bear the charge.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Ag. Collector.

13

Rev (spl) Rept

Encl N. 2386/1-2 18.7.19

Referred to the

Custodian of Enemy Property
Madras, for remarks.

22/7
To the Custodian of Enemy
Property, Madras
(with copy of pps
5-12 CF)

14.7.19
15.7.19

all
17.7.19

Letter N. 2386/1-2 18.7.19
Ref.

To

22/7
Sent with encls.

The Rev. W. Meaton M.A.B.E.
Chairman, Board of Trustees
of Enemy Property,
Madras Christian College
(with copy of pps 5-12 CF)

Captain John Dove,
Representative of the
Commonwealth Trust
Company,
Case of Collector,
Madras Club,
South Kanara Madras
(with copy of pps 5-12 CF)

22/7
Sent with encls.
Present address

Sir,

I am directed to
forward a copy of a memorial
from the European Employees

pps-8CF

of the Basel mission Industrials
 & 28.6.19 praying for a
 bonus of 5 years salary. ^{I enclose also copies of}
 the ~~letter~~ ^{expressed by} opinions of Mr D. Drysdale, pp 9-10 CF
 Supervisor of the Basel mission
 Industrials, Calicut and the
 Collector of Malabar thereon.
 for favour of your remarks.

pp 11-12 CF

1st reminder on 15.8.19

See
 14.7.19
 15.7.19
 17.7.19
 17.7.19

Note. Subd that the memorial
 maybe forwarded to the Custodian,
 Chairman Board of Trustees and
 Captain Dove as in the case
 of the leave application from
 Mr D. Drysdale.

See
 14.7.19
 15.7.19

memo No. 2386/H-3 of 29.7.19

pp 11 CF

pp 6 CF

With reference to his
 letter of 8.7.19 enclosing a
 memorial from six of the
 European employees of the
 Basel mission Industrials,
 the Collector of Malabar is
 requested to report at
 an early date regarding the
 statement made by the
 memorialists that the
 Home Committee of the
 Basel mission Industrial
 sanctioned an increase of
 pay of its employees from
 1st July 1918. Information
 is also required regarding
 the previous practice of
 the mission in the matter
 of bonuses and pensions
 granted to its employees

To
 The Collector of
 Malabar
 (Memo only)
 29.7.19
 29.7.19
 29.7.19

See
 25.7.19
 28.7.19

DEPARTMENT.

Received 191 Registered

Subject

CORRESPONDENCE.

3000 2922

PUB. 100

Aug: 7.8.19

ENCLOSURES.

No.

Spare copies

No. P140

Station Madras Dated the 5th August 1919.

10/5/8

From (Name) D. Chamier Esq., Bar-at-law,

(Designation) Ag. Custodian of Enemy Property, Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Revenue (Special) Department.

Ootacamund.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of

p13 ante ~~MEMORANDUM~~ endorsement No. 2386 W-1, dated 18th July 1919,
with one enclosure.

2. The claims put forward by these six employees

p19-10 ante are summarized by Mr. Drysdale, who also carries them

into figures. The amount claimed appears to be out of

all proportion to the salaries which the claimants

2.

have been willing to work for, even allowing for other advantages which they say the Home Committee of the Mission Trading Company have held out as ^{further} ~~for their~~ inducements and which are mentioned in the memorial.

3. It is suggested that the short answer to the memorial is that Government have no interest in the property or business of the Mission and that any claim, whether it be based on legal right or on an appeal for sympathy, should be made to the British Company which has been authorized to take over the property and business. It would seem that this Company is the appropriate authority to consider and deal with the claims.

4. There appears to be no copy in this office of the draft deed by which the Board of Trustees in Madras propose to transfer the property and business to the Commonwealth Company, but if reference be made to that ~~document~~ it would probably be found that that Company undertakes all liabilities of the business on the footing that the latter is being taken over as a going concern.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

J. Chamber

Ag. Custodian of Enemy Property,
Madras.

18

Extract from the letter dated 12th August 1919 from Rev.

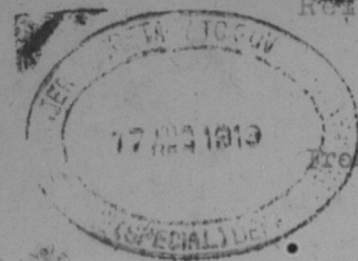
W. Meston, Chairman, Board of Trustees of Enemy Mission Properties.

Read application addressed to Government from the European employees of the Basel Mission Trading Co. requesting that they might be granted a bonus of 5 years salary, or alternatively Rs.1000 for each year of service. Resolved to inform Government that the Trustees because of the insufficiency of the data before them and of the complexity of the ~~matter~~ matter are not prepared to make any recommendation.

19

Ref. 8043-D-1/19.

Malabar Collector's Office,
Calicut, 15th Aug. 1919.



CURRENT NO.
3088
PUBLIC (Minor)

J. F. Hall, Esq., I.C.S.,
Collector of Malabar.

Aug. 15. 8. 19

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras,
Revenue (Special-War) Department.

Sir,

Government Memo:--Revenue (Special-War)

Plante Department No. 2386 - W-3 dated 26-7-1919 -- Basel Mis-
sion Industrials.

I have the honour to forward Mr. Drysdale's
letter to me dated 9-8-1919 in reply to my reference re-
questing him to furnish me with the particulars called
for in the Memorandum referred to above.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

DESPATCHED
15 AUG.

J. F. Hall
for Ag. Collector.

P.V.K./15-8.



From

L. Drysdale Esq.,

B. M. Industrials,

Calicut.

To

The Collector of Malabar,

Calicut.

Sir,

The p/5 auto
I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, Ref. 8043 D 1/19 informing me that the Government have now called for a report regarding the statement made by the memoreslists of the Basel Mission Industrials that the Home Committee of the Basel Mission Industrials sanctioned an increase of pay of its Employees from 1st July 1918, and also regarding the previous practice of the Company in the matter of bonuses and pensions granted to its employees. I called on Mr. Eidenbenz, the General Agent to furnish such report and enclose the same herewith. I would only supplement the report by enclosing copy of a letter I addressed to the Collector of Malabar on the 2nd January 1919, with reference to the resolution of the employees to draw salaries instead of the usual subsistence allowances hitherto drawn, and copy of the Collector's reply. The basis on which salaries was fixed is Rs.400/- per mensem with Rs.50/- increase for every 5 years service.

p/21 m/fm

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

BASEL MISSION INDUSTRIALS,
CALICUT.

L. Drysdale

(true copy)

BASEL MISSION INDUSTRIALS
CALICUT.

Calicut, 2nd Jany. 19

From

L. Drysdale Esq.,

Basel Mission Industrials,

Calicut.

To

The Collector of Malabar,

Calicut.

Sir,

I have the honour to intimate that with the sanction of the Board office in Basel the Swiss employees of the Basel Mission Industrials, who are also lay Missionaries, have elected for the future to receive salaries instead of subsistence allowances only as heretofore, in consequence of the uncertainty prevailing as regard the future of the Industrials. It is intended that the arrangement is to have retrospective effect from July 1918 the commencement of the Industrials financial year.

I presume the Government will not interfere in a matter of this description, but I report same for information.

The salaries proposed to be given do not err on the side of extravagance, but are fair remuneration for experts as you will see from the enclosed statement.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

ad. L. Drysdale

S.

	Service	Salary	
Mr. H. Eidenbenz	General Agent, Calicut	22 years.	Rs. 600/-
" A. Glatfelder	Manager, Jeppoo and Kudroli Tile Works.	32 do	" 700/-
" O. Wuthrich	Controller, S. Canara Industrial, Mangalore.	10 do	" 450/-
" H. Stokes	Manager, Malpe Tile Works & Engineering Establishment	20 do	" 600/-
" S. Gysin	Manager, B.M. Weaving Estt., Mangalore	9 do	" 450/-
" C. Montigel	Manager, Palghat Tile Works	5 do	" 450/-
Mrs. H. Eidenbenz	Calicut	19 do	" 200/-
" M. Stuckert	Calicut	19 do	" 200/-
Mr. A. Luscher	Manager, Weaving Estt., Cannanore.	4 do	" 400/-
" C. Spahn	Feroke Tile Works.	" 400/-	

Calicut, 2nd January 1919.

With Rs. 400/- special allowance as General Agent.

With Rs. 200/- as controller of the S. Canara Industrial.

In charge of Embroidery Dept.
Pension on account of the service of her husband late Mr. Stuckert.

With Rs. 200/- special allowance for supervising Coedacal and Calicut Tile Works.

L Dis. 197/19

F. B. EVANS Esq., I.C.S.,

TO

Basel Mission Industrials.

Sir,

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient servant,

for Collector.

24
Calicut, 8th August 1919

From

H. Eidenbenz Esq.,

General Agent,

Basel Mission Industrials,

Calicut.



J. F. Hall Esq., I. C. S.,

Ag. Collector of Malabar,

Calicut.

Dear Sir,

The managers of our B. M. Industrials in South Canara and Malabar having submitted a petition for additional payment of unpaid

p15 ante
p26 infra
salary Government has been pleased to call for a report regarding the statement made by the petitioners. While enclosing such a report as required I beg to enclose extracts of correspondence from the President of the Basel Mission Industrials at Basel suggesting our applying for salaries with retrospective effect from 1915 to compensate us for the loss of pension and other privileges which we would have received on our retirement from service had present circumstances not occurred.

Not put up
2. I further beg to point out there seemed to be no restriction with regards to payment of such a kind in the Trading License by which the whole management was left entrusted to me as the General Agent, nor could it be expected that we should work for the pittance we were drawing, seeing that all the connected concessions were to be denied us. We therefore resolved that for the current year we should draw salaries for our services as experts in Weaving, Tile making etc. and petition Government for a retrospective effect from the commencement of the war.

3. That in fairness to our services continued under complicated circumstances and adversities while being reduced to a small number from 26 persons as having formed the European staff before the war and considering that even now the burden of responsibility for the works still lies upon us while Government has taken over the Industrial property we ought not to be the worse for such

such steps with our economical circumstances and prospects of our future family life at home where living is now so extremely expensive.

4. Believing the consideration of our petition will be treated as a question of principle I may be permitted to say that any question of practical difficulty ought not to be a factor in restricting our claim

5. If for instance the state of finances which are providing the payments of profits to the National Missionary Council and of general taxes and making provisions for liabilities in Deposits (consisting of funds in India and of savings of persons in India and in Switzerland) the petitioners would be content with placing a n y compensation granted to the credit of their account into the Saving-Cash of the Industrials leaving it to certain rules or terms under which the Financial Supervisor would make it possible to release such deposits according to the state of finances and the margin of working capital in the future.

6. The Calculation of 5 years salary would admit deduction of allowances drawn during 4 years amounting to.....Rs.40,920-0-0 and full salary drawn since one year amounting to....." 58,000-0-0
Rs.98,920-0-0

7. Calculation per year of service would have to include the active service of Mrs. Eidenbenz who conducted the Embroidery Departments at Cannanore and Calicut during these 20 years without any remuneration whatever and the amount would total (125 years in all)
----- Rs. 125,000-0-0

After allowing for the above deductions the amount involved would be for 4 years retrospective salaries:-

5 years salary.....	Rs.2,40,000/-
Less allowance and salary paid.....	" 98,920/-
B a l a n c e for 4 years.....	Rs.151,000-

and for the alternative Viz. Rs.1,000/- salary of each year of service (total 125 years).....Rs.125,000

I have the honour to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

H. Eidenbenz
GENERAL AGENT
BASEL MISSION INDUSTRIALS.

Report

- (1) The European staff of the B. M. Industrials as lay-missionaries have not been paid on salary-but on the allowance system. This consisted of a small pay say Rs.200 per mensem for married men and Rs.100/- per single men and local allowances as free quarters, carriage-allowance, hill change, - medical treatment - & medicine-allowance, also Home-Passage and outfit allowance for Home-Passage.
- (2) Besides these local allowances the Home Committee would defray from their home - funds all the expenses connected with the living at home while on leave as well as a special allowance to our family members when separated from us.
- (3) Full subsistence allowance for the time of furlough for recovery at home.
- (4) Maintenance of family members depending on managers as their supporters.
- (5) Free education and boarding for their children at home up to the 14th year of age completed.
- (6) Long - service - invalid - or widow - pension.
- (7) Bonus or gratification to persons leaving the Mission after a shorter service than admissible to pension.

On the B. M. ceasing to exist we are no longer missionaries and on account of the precariousness regarding our future it was decided by us with the approval of the Home-Directors instead of drawing allowances that we would draw salaries for the future.

Calicut, 8. August 1919.

H. Hidenberg

GENERAL AGENT,
BASEL MISSION INDUSTRIALS.

Basel, 5th August 1918

..... Our Industrial Works in India as long as they are running have to afford all the salaries of the European Managers. We herein include; outfit allowance for the Home passage as soon as it becomes necessary for the time of recovery at home, reserve allowance for eventual pension as well as the expenses of eventual maintenance of family members depending these managers as their supporters. The old allowance system must cease and must be replaced by a salary system that provides for all above mentioned requirements in a suitable manner. We leave it to you to submit us your proposals regarding this.

Société Commerciale des Missions
(S/d) W. Preiswerk-Jmhoff.

Birmingen (Basel) 19th March 1919

.....I can well understand that under such circumstances the sorrow about your future occupies you much. It was therefore to be welcomed that the salary system now replaces the allowance system. It is regrettable that the rate of salary fixed by decision has not been made retrospective for the whole time of war. That you ought to retrieve if ever possible in arranging for the salary system being calculated from 1915 forward.....

(S/a) J. Sieber.

Binnigen (Basel) 29th March 1919

Reverting to the calculation of salaries according to the salary system for the whole time of war perhaps from 1915 forward, in case a retrospective settlement would be impossible you must strive to have a gratification or bonus awarded & paid to each manager to such an amount. This would entirely correspond with our usual practices. It is self evident that the Industrials have to bear the allowances for home passage and the stay for recovery at home.....

(S/d) J. Sieber.

London, 7th April 1919

Dear Mr. Eidenbenz,

I just got your post card a few days before I left for London and I wrote you these lines to tell you that I quite agree with the proposals made therein respecting the salary of the European staff. It will have to include as I told you all necessary items for sick leave for journey home-ward, for pension etc. You will have to take into account that for nearly four years the establishments over there should be debited for all this outlay.

Do your best in this direction please.

(S/a) W. Preiswerk-Johnoff.

Calicut 8. August 1919

For true copy

E. Eidenbenz

GENERAL AGENT.
BASEL MISSION INDUSTRIALS.

29

Recd spl) Dept

Letter No. 2386 N-4 7 23.5.19
Ref.

To

Captain John Dowe
Representative of the
Commonwealth Trust
Care of Home Dept
Govt of India

108710
Dy
23.8.19

Sir,

I am directed to
enquire when a reply may
be expected to my letter
N 2386 W-23 15.7.19 forwarding
a copy of a memorial from the
European Employees of the
Basel mission Industrial Dept 6.19
praying for a bonus of 5 years
salary.

HP 13-14 CF

See
21.8.19
CRS
21.8.19

See
23.8.19

Government House
Ootacamund

24-9-19

S.

pp 13-14 anti

In answer to your letter No 2386 W. 2 of
the 18th July 1919 & No 2386 W. 4 of
the 23 August 1919 my remarks with
regard to the petition of the European
employees of the Basel Mission Industries
dated the 28 June 1919 are as follows

In my opinion their request should not be granted.

Any such bonus would ^{as they ask} pro tanto reduce funds which otherwise would be available for the philanthropic objects approved by the Authorities in India and at Whitehall. The burden would moreover presumably in the end fall upon the Indian Business.

It unfitness ~~for~~ to bear such a charge has

bp9-10 anti already been pointed out by Mrs Days Dale
and a rough statement showing the financial
bp38- position at this moment is attached

bp38- portion at this moment is attached
40 mfr Apart from this any proposal to divert
trust funds would require unusually strong
reasons + in these cases they do not appear
to be present.

4.) In the first place the claims of the petitioners rest on no written Contract. They simply ^{allege} the existence of a custom which there are no means here of proving a disproving.

He could not, however, I imagine, he
contended that the Basel Organization would

have supported retiring employees unless the latter were physically incapacitated by age or infirmity from further work. I will deal with this point again a little later.

2.) In support of their appeal to the Government they mention the energy & enterprise which have resulted in a considerable industry being established in the Coast and refer to the way in which it was continued during the war. I have no wish to detract from the value of the achievement of the Basel organization. Still industry in itself is no reason for paying to the remaining employees of that organization the considerable sum that is asked for. During the war they did their duty in keeping the undertaking going. During most of that period the business was carried on under a licence from Government, but doubtless the Swiss would retain some hopes that the Basel Control would be resumed after peace was restored. In any case if their work was made harder by war conditions they were certainly far better off than millions of people whose duties lay actually in a manner to the scene of hostilities. They have, moreover, since July 1918 been drawing salaries on a commercial scale and out of all proportion larger than the allowances to which they came out without losing the privilege of free furnished quarters. The cost of passage home has moreover been paid not only in the case of the employees themselves but also as I understand of their families.

32
3) The question arises to what extent if at all the employees are worse off as a result of the action of Government. In this connection it is, it is submitted, necessary to distinguish between the effects of that action and the effects of the war itself. If the employees of the Basel Mission Industrials are worse off because of the war, it is a misfortune which they will share with millions not only in the countries which have lost but also in those which have won the war, at all events until normal conditions of trade & industry can be reestablished in the world. It would certainly be unreasonable to expect compensation from Government for the effect of the war because it has led to the exclusion of the organization which they served under the Enemy Trading Acts. Further has the Government's action put the employees in a position of hardship? The petitioners state that they came out to India to work for the Industrials on a subsistence basis i.e. 100 rupees a month for bachelors & 200 rupees for married employees, with certain privileges. The spirit which led them to serve as missionaries is much to their credit, but if their old engagement with the Basel Organization on those lines has come to an end, they are now presumably free to accept employment from others on commercial terms. In that respect from the material standpoint their position is certainly not changed for the worse. As above stated they have since July 1918 been in point of fact working on

a Commercial basis for the Industrials.
p37 A statement is appended showing their present
salaries and the chief terms of their temporary
engagements with the Commonwealth Trust.
It is not clear even that they could not
at the present time find remunerative employment
in Europe. I had difficulty in engaging a
Swiss employee to remain temporarily because,
he said, he had heard that the chances for
Craftsmen like himself were now good at
home.

But if they are not good, the reason is
the effects of the war which affects everyone alike.
Nor are the European employees of the
Industrials in at all a bad position for finding
fresh work under the new conditions as
compared with other people.
Unlike demobilized soldiers & others who are
thrown on to the employment market in
masses, they will, unless the Government
should insist on their repatriation at an
early date, thank to their contracts with
the Commonwealth Trust, have a safe
vantage ground for the next cold season,
from which they can at leisure look out
for advantageous opportunities & make their
own arrangements. During this period they
will continue to draw considerable salaries
& to have free ^{provided} quarters. At the end of it
the Commonwealth Trust has agreed to pay
the cost of their journey & that of their families
from their place of employment here to Switzerland
& also to pay the transport there of their belongings.
That particular part of their petition is therefore
already granted. In some cases, e.g. in that

34
of Mr Glattfelder, an additional sum will
be payable over & above his salary when he
leaves for Europe. (see the appendix) — p 37

In the spring or summer the weather in
Europe will be in their favour and living
conditions should have improved.

The employees should undoubtedly find their
experience in managing important factories
& the technical training & ^{the} education which
in some cases, ^{I understand that} they owe to Basel, of
great use in finding suitable posts.

Further if as no doubt will be the case
if they owe the Commonwealth Trust
faithfully during the ensuing months,
they will take away with them a
certificate of character which coming from
a British Company will probably assist
them in parts of the world where
they might otherwise be looked upon
with disfavour.

One or two of the employees are no doubt
older than the rest. I should however be
sorry to think that they have not, especially
in a European climate, many years of
work to look forward to.

Mr Stokes is a British subject & seems to
me to be in the prime of life. If ~~he~~
he stays in India he should have no
difficulty in getting work ^{& remuneration} proportionate
to his merit. I have indeed recommended
the Commonwealth Trust to keep him
on at the end of the year for which
he has been ^{on terms to be arranged later} engaged. Their decision will
no doubt be guided by the advice of the new General
Manager who as an Engineer will be better able

35

to judge of his technical ~~merits~~ capacity than I am. Of Mr. Seymour I do not feel it necessary to say anything as he is no longer in India.

4.) Any decision to grant bonus of the kind suggested in the petition would be likely to have far-reaching effects. The same thing would no doubt at once be asked not only by old employees who have already gone home but also by all the former Indian employees of the Gold Coast Business. Even the missionary employees proper of the Basel mission in Africa & India might put forward the same plea on the ground that they too came out on the same understanding as the Industrials' employees. It is indeed hard to see where the line would be drawn. Even the French in the Cameroons might find themselves also faced with petition. Basel worked also in that Colony.

5.) The grant of any bonus such as is demanded would no doubt directly arise to the German employees if the petitioners' contention is right that retiring employees must be provided for by Basel. It would leave so much more money at the disposal of the Basel Head Office to provide for the Germans.

36
• 6. Whatever Claims may be acknowledged by the Basel Organisation in Switzerland which, it is understood, still has resources of its own, no valid reason has, it is submitted, been shown for imposing on the Basilians so great a burden in order to grant such exceptional advantages to the European employees of the Basel Mission Industrials now that that undertaking has taken over under the Enemy Trading Acts

7. I have marked this letter 'private' because it contains matter of a Confidential kind. I must ask you to excuse my delay in finally dealing with the petition in detail. It was due to pressure of work & a wish to examine the grounds of the petition with care

I have, Sir,
the honour to be
Your Obedient Servant

John Dove

P.S. I will send the financial statement tomorrow or the next day. (not yet used)

38

23

RENT NO.

3837

Aug. 4. x. 19

Bank of Madras

Ostacumund

3. 10. 19

Sir

With reference to my letter of the
p30ante 24 Sept. 1899 I am enclosing the
report upon the financial position
of the Board Amisior Indusit
which I promised to send you
in that letter

I have, Sir

The honour to be

your obedient servant

John Dove.

The Secretary to the Government of Madras
Revenue Special Dep't
Ostacumund

Private

Note on Financial position Industrials.

The financial position of the Industrials at this moment is as follows :-

During the War and up to this moment ^{by} order of the Government all profits have been paid to the Mission without deduction. No building operations were permitted. No dividends were paid to the shareholders of the Basel Company and no reserve was made or is now being made to meet any ultimate claim on this account. There being no block figures available in India on which to base such an allowance no deduction has in past years been made on account of depreciation either from sum paid to Government by way of taxation or to the missions by way of profits. A valuation is however just on the point of completion by the Government which ~~XXXXXX~~ could be substituted for the missing block figures. This expression means figures showing the initial cost of machinery and other works less depreciation for past ^{years.} ~~XXXXXX~~. These figures if anywhere are no doubt at Basel. It will be understood that there is a great deal that must now be done at considerable expense if the undertaking is to be carried on with the efficiency required to meet modern conditions and growing competition, especially as even apart from the failure to make allowances and reserves during the war some badly wanted extensions and schemes which had already been begun before August 1914 could not in any case be undertaken or completed for want of the necessary materials etc. It is also essential for the tile industry to purchase large reserves of clay. The amount of capital that can be raised by means of shares is limited under the constitution of the Commonwealth Trust to £60000 - for the whole undertaking including the Gold Coast as well as the Indian Business. This figure could only be ^{increased} incurred with the special permission of the Secretaries of State concerned. The costs of administration have been largely increased. The white employees who used to be paid allowances on the usual Missionary subsistence basis of 100 rupees a month for bachelors and 200 rupees for married men with other privileges now draw considerable salaries on a commercial standard which will have to

be

be continued. Wages have risen and still show on upward tendency. Naturally there will be considerable expenses to meet during the current year in connection with the transfer and a transition period involving a change of staff must necessarily be expensive.

The following claims or liabilities exist at the present time :-

(i) The missions have not drawn the whole of the profits of the Industrials which otherwise would have been paid to them during the years of the war. Up to 1st January the Basel Mission received the profits. On that date the administration of the Mission was handed over to the National Missionary Council of India. A sum of Rs.185,625 represents back profits which have not thus been drawn. The Mission is at present drawing at the rate of Rs.30,000 a month. Rs.25,000 was mentioned to me as a rough estimate of monthly profit for the coming year on the present basis; but this figure which was given to me by Mr. Drysdale the Government appointee posted to the Industrials since ~~xxxxxx~~ early in 1915, means profits from which no deduction has been made to meet dividends to our own shareholders interest or instalments of capital due to Basel shareholders or *as are mentioned in Clause 4 (A) of the Memorandum of Association of the Commonwealth Trust Ltd* reserves for depreciation and other such purposes. ^{*} The actual profit will therefore be a good deal smaller.

(ii) 269,875-14-5 rupees are due to depositors for deposits which the Industrials are liable to be called upon to pay at any moment. In the meantime interest is payable on this amount.

(iii) 45,000 rupees have just been demanded for Supertax for the year 1918-19 and notwithstanding the letter D.O.No.2038-F of the 11th August 1919 from the Finance Department of the Government of India, a sum of 25,962-4-0 rupees has also been demanded for income tax under law VII of 1918 Section 3(2)(1) for the same year. A copy of the order is attached. I am told

that taxes for the current year are also just about to be *N.B. Such purposes include reserves to provide for depreciation of the property and assets for equalization of dividends, for replacing capital not represented by available assets for extending and developing the Company. Business & other claimed matters & contingencies in connection with the Company's Business as may from time to time be determined as well as the 5% dividend & taxation fund.*

claimed and if a similar amount is asked under each head a total of about 141,000 rupees would be payable at once. It is confidently hoped that the claim for income-tax will not be enforced but the money has been demanded by the tax collector.

The reason which cannot be stated fully is such a report as the L. is believed to be that the Government has decided to take a report on the L. in relation to the industrial share and bond holders and to meet sundry liabilities. The Indian business has to meet its share of this amount.

(iv) According to the scheme under which the Industrials are to be taken over a sum of about £140,000 will be paid to the Basel share and bond holders and to meet sundry liabilities. The Indian business has to meet its share of this amount.

(v) A considerable sum, the amount of which cannot at present be estimated will have to be paid in the immediate future to cover expenses in connection with the transfer and the transition period. This will include among other things the cost of sending the Swiss employees their families and belongings home to Europe and some other extra-ordinary expenses.

(vi) 11,500 rupees is now payable as an insurance premium for the current year.

(vii) Mr. Drysdale considers that a lakh ought to be set aside out of profits to meet ordinary current working needs for the year such as the purchase of yarn and raw materials.

In future reserves will be essential for the various purposes mentioned in the foot-note on the preceding page. The foot-note to it.

The Cash in hand at the present moment consist of 417,450 rupees. There are 1 am told also outstanding credits amounting to about 95,426 rupees.

This figure includes the amount of 141,000 rupees claim for taxation which if payable at once must be deducted from it in order to arrive at the net cash figure ~~417,450~~.

2-18. C.P. 13.

NOTES.

S.

41

Please see the memorials in the C.F. We may get the opinions of the Custodian, the Trustees, and Capt Dove in the first instance. I think we have no information regarding the statement that the Home Board has recently raised the salaries of its employees nor regarding the previous practice of the Mission in the matter of bonuses and pensions. The statement that the Home Board is unable to finance these payments owing to its funds being tied up in London is interesting.

The office may while awaiting replies to the references below examine this statement with reference to the balance sheet for 1916 which is in our possession. It may also be verified whether there is no pension fund in the possession of the Swiss headquarters. Prima Facie one would think that the home board is well able to pension off its employees and seeing that Govt are buying out the shareholders it scarcely seems that the pensions of the Indian employees should be a charge either to Govt or to the Commonwealth Trust. Presumably passages home will be paid and possibly a bonus on work done since the Swiss company ceased to derive any income from India. But the whole request seems very much like the first of the series of attempts foreseen by Capt Dove to transfer as many as possible of the liabilities of the Swiss concern to India.

yes
all
17.7.19

phon A on p 8 CF

A

Recd after
issue at 4.45 PM
Su
23.7.19

/sme
all
17.7.19

lv.
17.7.19

(Encl N° 2386W - 1818-7-19)

(Letter N° 2386W - 2818-7-19)

42

Draft memo to the Collector of Malabar is subd.

2: With reference to portion A on the previous page, it will be seen from the balance sheet for 1916 (page 2 of the linked file) that out of a nearly 22 millions francs of ^{assets} ~~liabilities~~, the London branch has about 16 millions francs with it. The statement made by the memorialist that "the assets of the Head Office are mostly held up in London" seems correct.

p 8 C.F

vide liabilities statement on p 2 of the linked file.

From the balance sheet for 1916, it will be seen that there is no pension fund in the possession of the Swiss head quarters.

I don't understand the delay in the pension fund. Why was it?

25.7.19

18.7.19

(memo N° 2386W-8 B 29.7.19)

The audit and letters were sent to Madras for issue. and hence the delay for the return of the file.

From the Custodian of Incoming papers Madras N° P 1408 5.8.19

From the Res W. Weston B 12.8.19

(C. 3088) From the Collector of Malabar N° 8043 B 15.8.19

Please see letter N° 2386W-2 B 18.7.19. on pages 13-14 et. Submitted that as Captain Dore has not sent

43
in his reply, he may be asked when it
may be expected. Draft letter is subd.

See
21.8.49
CPS
21829

from
in 829

(Letter No 2386W-48 23-8-49)

P. T. 08

44

Revenue (Special) Department.

D. O. from Captain J. Dove, C/O Rev. D.G.M. Leith, Kellett Institute, Triplicane, Madras, to S. Wedsworth Esq. I.C.S., Under Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated 17th September 1919:-

x x x

5. I have just received your letter No. 2386 W-4 dated the 23rd August last. I am very sorry to have delayed so long answering your letter No. 2386 W .2 of the 18th July last. I have now almost completed my reply which I have delayed partly because of the pressure of other work and partly because I wished to submit at the same time the full particulars of the arrangements finally made by me with the petitioners. I am writing to express an opinion which is unfavourable to their claims.

x x x

The further communication promised by Captain Dove may be awaited
So 22.9.19
CRS
22.9.19.

(C.) From Captain Dove 8 26-9-19
 (C. 3837) " 8 3. 10-19.

It will be seen from Captain Dove's letter that he is not inclined to give anything to the employees as requested by them. For orders as to the reply that should be given

Cin. 15-10-19
Box. M.C. 50
H. 20-10-19

to the petitioners. Perhaps the older members of the staff such as Messrs Glattfeldt and Eidenburg may be granted some bonus so that they may have some thing to depend on in their old age.

Lu
11.10.19

I do not think that any bonuses should be given at all. Firstly, it is very doubtful if the financial position of the concern justifies such gratuities. Secondly, the home board of the mission in Switzerland possesses considerable funds & will almost certainly be able to prevent destitution in the case of their old employees. Thirdly, the B. M. Trading Co has been ruled to be an enemy concern & I doubt whether Govt would be justified in having its enemies to the extent of pensioning them off when their own country's action has caused their ruin.

Lu
13.10.19

H. (mission)

I think the answer may be simply that we regret we are unable to sanction their requests.

1. The committee has not yet decided
 whether or not to accept the offer
 of the Government to purchase the
 property. It is possible that the
 Government may be willing to
 purchase the property at a price
 which is not acceptable to the
 committee. It is also possible
 that the Government may be willing
 to purchase the property at a price
 which is acceptable to the committee.
 The committee will continue to
 study the matter and will report
 to the Board of Directors as soon
 as it has made a decision.

(The Board of Directors)
 1911

I think the committee will be satisfied
 with the report of the Board of Directors.

2. In effect we shall leave the matter
 to the Communalists Trust who will
 meet them over passages and other
 things. They probably know this and
 anyway it is better not to commit
 the Trust.

17.10.4

Draft
 21x4

Draft Submitted

2. It is presumed no semi-
 official Communication to Capt:
 Dove is necessary with reference
 to para: 2 of Hm's note above.

CRB
 21x4

from
 21x4

I

two others

End? by tow. of Melabar

No. 476, dated 21. 10. 1919.

mis

The Collector of
malabar is requested
to inform Mr. H. Eidenbenz
and ^{the} ^{Memorialists} others, that the
Govt. regret that they
are unable to sanction
their requests. Contained
in the petition read above

CRS
21.X.19

1. 2. 3.

To ✓
The Cou. of Malabar
17 I. 27 II + 0.

only to Chairman Board
of Trustees & Enemy ^{messes} - (50)
.. ✓ Capt! Dove. - (50)
.. ✓ Custodian Enemy Property
messes. (50)

Government House 48

Boys

25. 4. 19

My dear Wadsworth.

Would it be possible to let me have
2 copies of the enclosed letter. I should
be very much obliged if it would

I am

Yours sincerely

John Dove

Tyler
Capt Don
3 copies

Despatches

Please send
the 3 copies placed
below to Captain
Dove. O.O.S. Club.

29. 4. 19 Very urgent

See
29/4/19

10/11/1911

Copy of the letter to the
Hon. Secy of the War Office
dated 10/11/1911
is being sent to the
Hon. Secy of the War Office
for their consideration.

Yours faithfully
W. H. D. S.

LETTERS COPIED

TYPEWRITING

Received from the
Hon. Secy of the War Office
a copy of the letter to the
Hon. Secy of the War Office
dated 10/11/1911
for their consideration.

29/11/11

given for copying
copied
examined
signed

191

MAIN G.O. No.
191

DATED

CURRENT No.

CLOSURE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH LITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
C = Copy abstract only.
D = Copy heading only.

49