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1914.

FINANCIAL
DEPT.MISCELLANEOUS.

MARCH.

Proceedings A, Nos. 1—3.

Fire Brigade Establishment for the Bihar and Orissa Government Press.

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग
(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)

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NOTES.

MISCELLANEOUS—A, MARCH 1914.

Nos. 1-3.

FIRE BRIGADE ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE BIHAR AND ORISSA GOVERN- File No. ^{Est.}
MENT PRESS. 4

of 1914.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS, BIHAR AND ORISSA, No. 791-ADM., DATED [No. 1.]
THE 27TH JANUARY 1914.

The notes and orders in Establishments 4 for B January 1914, Nos. 21-23, may be read. There is a difference of opinion between the Executive Engineer and the Superintendent on two points, viz:—

- (1) employment of 12 additional men, and
- (2) binding the men by agreement.

As to No. 2, it is noted that the coolies even if bound by agreement may absent themselves on various pleas and may leave the place during outbreaks of epidemics—plague, cholera and pox. At the time of danger they may take to their heels. Then what is the use of taking bonds from such persons. They are merely day-labourers and have no homes of their own. It may be considered desirable to depend upon their good-will and honesty. The Superintendent's opinion on the point may be accepted.

As to (1) the expert opinion of the Public Works Department may be obtained.

2. Mr. Campbell may be granted an allowance for supervising the establishment. The amount proposed is not unreasonable.

3. The Superintendent's contract grant may be raised by the amount needed to cover the cost of the establishment.

K. D. B.,—30-1-1914.

U. M. S.,—2-2-1914.

1. Mr. Hill is now offering the terms wanted by the original firemen.

2. Does the grant of Rs. 20 allowance to Mr. Campbell involve the abolition of the temporary post on Rs. 30?

P. C. TALLENTS,—2-2-1914.

1. Yes. It is presumed that the Executive Engineer, who was consulted by the Superintendent under orders of Government, is of opinion that 6 annas including 1 anna for sleeping on the Press premises is reasonable.

2. The allowance will be in addition to the pay of Rs. 30, as Mr. Campbell will continue to do the work of Store-keeper in addition to his duties as Fire Brigade Assistant and Care-taker.

K. D. B.,—3-2-1914.

It seems, however, objectionable that we shall be giving a local allowance for an appointment (Store-keeper) which we proposed to abolish in the reorganization scheme which is now before India.

U. M. S.,—3-2-1914.

Secretary—

Mr. Hill now proposes that 24 coolies should be employed in the fire-brigade on 6 annas a day, it being a condition of their employment that they should sleep on the premises. These appear to be the terms for which the original members of the brigade were agitating. If, therefore, these terms are approved, Mr. Hill may be directed to enrol as many of the original men as he can procure.

Office doubts whether it would be worth while to make these men execute agreements to sleep on the premises at night and give a month's notice if they wished to leave. I venture to suggest that it would give a certain hold over the men.

If these 24 men are appointed, it would not seem necessary to train 12 others as a reserve, as suggested by the Executive Engineer.

2. With regard to Mr. Campbell, Mr. Hill's proposal appears to be that he should be shown in the temporary appointment of Fire Brigade Assistant and Care-taker, and that he should still perform certain duties in connection with the stores for which he should

draw a local allowance of Rs. 20 a month, *i.e.*, as office points out, in respect of the duties of a post which it is proposed to abolish. If the proposed new scale of establishment which is at present before India is adequate—and it is to be presumed that it is—it would appear unnecessary to give this allowance just to find work for Mr. Campbell's spare time. He is already a pensioner, who would be drawing in addition Rs. 30 a month as Fire Brigade Assistant and Care-taker. That appears to be the meaning of Mr. Hill's letter.

P. C. TALLENT,—4-2-1914.

Hon'ble Mr. Gait—

This file deals with the question of a Fire Brigade establishment for the Government Press at Gulzarbagh. Apart from the Press there are or will be other offices, namely, Survey and Drawing Office, Postmaster-General, Sanitary Engineer, and the Sanitary School which is close to the Press. In addition there is the Legislative Council building with the Library which will be kept under the charge of the Press Superintendent. I think, therefore, it is necessary to have a Fire Brigade till such time as Patna has a proper water-supply. The arrangements for a Fire Brigade and the necessary apparatus can be the same as those adopted by the Opium Department at their Saw Mills. The staff consisted of one engine-driver, one mate and 24 firemen. As wages have gone up in Patna the latter are unwilling to work on their old pay of 5 annas a day if they also have to sleep on the premises. In his first letter Mr. Hill suggested that we should give a Fire Brigade allowance of Rs. 2 a month to 12 selected menials on the understanding that they would sleep on the premises and attend fire drill on Sundays or whenever required. In his second letter he contemplates an entirely separate establishment, but he gives no reason for this alteration in his proposals. I think what is really necessary is an allowance of Rs. 2 a month to 12 men already working in the Press and 12 extra employes should also be engaged whose primary duty would be that of the Fire Brigade.

The engine-driver and mate must remain on the same pay 8 and 7 annas a day, respectively. Mr. Campbell may be appointed Fire Brigade Assistant and Care-taker on Rs. 30 per mensem. I do not think we can give him a local allowance of Rs. 20 in addition. The monthly cost would therefore be—

	Rs.	As.
Fire Brigade Assistant	...	30 0
Engine-driver	...	15 0
Mate	...	13 4
12 Coolies at Rs. 2	...	24 0
12 „ „ 6 annas a day	...	125 0
Total	...	217 4

or say Rs. 218 a month as against Rs. 322 proposed by Mr. Hill.

I do not think that the whole of this cost should be debited to Press contingencies. I think that if the Press bears the cost of Fire Brigade Assistant, the engine-driver, the mate and allowances to the 12 coolies employed in the Press, the cost of the other 12 might well be distributed between the Postmaster-General (8), the Sanitary School (2) and the Legislative Council (2). When the Survey and Drawing Office take their establishment there this contribution statement should be revised.

Before issuing orders perhaps the matter should be referred again to the Superintendent of Press in order that we may ascertain definitely whether he has, in fact, 12 employes in the Press who would, in return for Rs. 2 allowance, agree to sleep on the premises and do the work of firemen.

E. L. L. HAMMOND,—4-2-1914.

I agree. But is it worth while distributing the charges as at A?

E. A. G[AIT],—4-2-1914.

To Superintendent, Press, for favour of answering Secretary's query in last paragraph of his note above.

K. D. B.,—6-2-1914.

U. M. S.,—6-2-1914.

Twelve men already working in the Press could be procured for the Fire Brigade and sleep on the premises at night for an allowance of Rs. 2 per mensem. In looking into the arrangement again and after consulting with Executive Engineer, I do not think it will work satisfactorily and it would be preferable to have 24 outsiders. The men who will be recruited from the Press are those who are working as inkers, fly-boys and forme carriers who are working from early morning to 7 and 8 p. m. and longer and would hardly be fit for work on the Fire Brigade at night in case of a fire. Besides the 24 men will have to be divided at night between the Factory and Saw Mills and by 9 p. m. all the men must be present. They will go in batches for meals after 5 p. m. and this will not be possible for the men recruited from the Press.

The additional expenditure will be Rs. 185-10 for a 30 day month. As at present there are 12 coolies in the Press at 5 annas a day and these men will work on the Fire Brigade for 1 anna a day, extra—

Engine-driver	...	...	...	...	Rs.	A.	
Mate	...	...	...	...	15	0	(8 annas a day).
12 coolies at 6 annas	...	...	...	...	13	2	(7 annas a day).
12 „ at 1 anna	...	...	...	...	135	0	
	...	...	...	...	22	8	
Total					185	10	

E. HILL,—19-2-1914.

Orders may issue as now proposed by the Superintendent.

K. D. B.,—21-2-1914.

Secretary—

It is a little difficult to follow Superintendent's note as he devotes the first part of it to advancing arguments against the system which he recommends in the second part.

The difference between the system recommended by Secretary and that recommended by the Superintendent seems to be that whereas Secretary refers to "Press employes," Superintendent refers to "Press coolies," and whereas Secretary proposes to give them an allowance of Rs. 2 a month, Superintendent prefers to give them 1 anna a day.

I think the draft meets the case and may be submitted to Hon'ble Member.

P. C. TALLENTS,—22-2-1914.

Hon'ble Mr. Gait.

E. L. L. HAMMOND,—25-2-1914.

E. A. G[AIT],—26-2-1914.

TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS, BIHAR AND ORISSA. No. 2581-F., DATED THE 28TH JANUARY 1914. [No. 2.]

TO THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA, No. 2582-F., DATED THE 28TH FEBRUARY 1914. [No. 3.]

बिहार सरकार

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग

(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)

FIRE BRIGADE ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE BIHAR AND ORISSA GOVERNMENT PRESS. File No. ^{Est.}₄

of 1913.

[No. 1.]

No. 791-Adm., dated Gulzarbagh P. O., the 27th January 1914.

From—E. HILL, Esq., Superintendent Government Press, Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Under-Secretary to Government of Bihar and Orissa, Financial Department, Ranchi Secretariat P. O.

With reference to your letter No. 53-F, dated 2nd instant, regarding the Fire Brigade establishment, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of letter No. 381, dated 23rd instant, from the Executive Engineer, Patna Division, and to state that I agree with him that the most suitable arrangement would be to engage 24 coolies at 5 annas per day *plus* 1 anna per day for sleeping on the premises I do not, however, consider that it will be necessary to have 12 additional men to take the places of the absentees, nor do I think that the men engaged will bind themselves by an agreement, but they could be made to give a month's notice before leaving. In addition to the 24 coolies at 6 annas per day it would be necessary to have an engineman at 9 annas per day and a mate at 8 annas who would also sleep on the premises and would be employed in the Press during their spare time. As regards an allowance to Mr. Campbell, who is at present in charge of the Fire Brigade, I have the honour to say that in the proposition statement submitted to Government the appointment of Assistant Store-keeper in the permanent establishment in which Mr. Campbell is at present shown was abolished and in its place an appointment of Fire Brigade Assistant and Care-taker created in the temporary establishment. Mr. Campbell is at present also in charge of the Fire Brigade as he had many years' experience of the Fire Brigade in the Opium Factory for which he received an allowance of Rs. 30. Under the circumstances the Fire Brigade allowance cannot be granted as he would hold the appointment of Fire Brigade Assistant, but I would recommend a local allowance of Rs. 20. The work in connection with the Fire Brigade will not be sufficient for a whole-time assistant, so Mr. Campbell will continue to keep up the Store Registers as he does at present. I may add that Mr. Campbell was obliged to take his pension when the Opium Factory was abolished and draws only Rs. 97.

The annual expenditure for the Fire Brigade establishment will amount to Rs. 3,864 as shown below taking 30 days as the monthly average and including the allowance of Rs. 20 for the Fire Brigade Assistant. Expenditure on the coolies, engineman and mate will be met from the contingent grant, but the grant of Rs. 25,000 now sanctioned will not suffice :—

			Rs.	A.	P.
24 coolies	at 6 annas a day	...	270	0	0
1 engineman	at 9 " "	...	17	0	0
1 mate	at 8 " "	...	15	0	0
Allowance to Fire Brigade Assistant		...	20	0	0
			322	0	0
Annual cost			3,864	0	0

I beg to request that early orders may be passed as it is necessary to have a fully equipped Fire Brigade establishment as soon as possible.

No. 381, dated the 23rd January 1914.

[A.—Enclo.
to No. 1.]

From—Mr. BISHN SWARUP, B. A., Executive Engineer, Patna Division, Bankipore,

To—The Superintendent, Government Press, Bihar and Orissa, Gulzarbagh.

With reference to your No. 762-Adm., dated 14th instant, I have the honour to say that I agree with you that it is desirable to have all the 24
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men receiving the fire drill sleeping within the premises at night, and for this, they may be allowed an anna a day extra. But being on daily wages they may stay away any day, either falling ill or for some other cause, and to meet such emergencies I would suggest that another batch of 12 men may be given the drill every Sunday, so as to be able to act for the absentees. These men need not sleep at nights unless required in which case they should get night allowance. It would be better if the Fire Brigade men could be made to bind themselves by an agreement to attend the call and to give, say, a month's notice when they wish to leave. This will, I think, be necessary, as the men will be merely ordinary coolies working at so much per day.

The engine-driver and mate are also required to sleep in the night within the premises and may be given night allowance.

This staff will, I understand, have regular drill every week, under Mr. Campbell.

The allowance to be paid to him should also I think be taken into account while estimating the cost.

[No. 2.]

No. 2581-F., dated Ranchi, the 28th February 1914.

From—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa, Financial Department,

To—The Superintendent, Government Press, Bihar and Orissa.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 791 Adm., dated the 27th January 1914, regarding the employment of a Fire Brigade establishment for the Government Press at Gulzarbagh, I am directed to say that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the employment as a temporary measure for three years of the establishment noted in the margin. Besides this, 12 coolies employed in the Press may be allowed an allowance of one anna per diem for sleeping on the premises, for attending fire drills on Sunday or whenever required and for working as firemen.

	Rs. A.
1 Engine driver on	15 0 per mensem.
1 Mate on	13 0 " "
12 Coolies at	0 6 a day.

2. The Fire Brigade Assistant whose appointment has been included in the proposition statement submitted to the Government of India in connection with the proposals for the revision of the Press establishment, cannot be granted any further allowance.

3. The extra charges should be met from your contract contingent grant.

4. The Accountant-General, Bihar and Orissa, has been informed.

[No. 3.]

No. 2582-F., dated Ranchi, the 28th February 1914.

Memo.—By the Under-Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa, Financial Department.

Copy forwarded to the Accountant-General, Bihar and Orissa.

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REFERENCE TO FORMER CASES.

बिहार सरकार

REFERENCE TO LATER CASES.

(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)

KEEP-WITH :

Office notes 1—(printed).