

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DECENTRALIZATION COMMITTEE

FOR THE

ROYAL COMMISSION

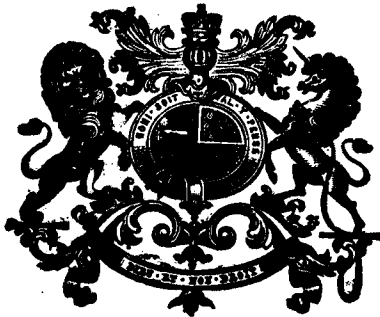
ON

DECENTRALIZATION.

MEMORANDUM ON THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT AND THE PROPOSALS FOR DECENTRALIZATION MADE BY THE TELEGRAPH COMMITTEE OF 1906

BY

G. RAINY, I.C.S.



SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1907.

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Memorandum on the Telegraph Department.

Beginnings of Telegraphy in India.

1. The establishment of telegraphy in India dates from 1851. Dr. W. Bright O'Shaughnessy, Professor of Chemistry in the Medical College at Calcutta, conducted the first experiments, and four offices with about 82 miles of line were constructed in that year between Calcutta and Diamond Harbour. Dr. O'Shaughnessy was the first head of the department, (he was appointed Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs about 1852), and it was largely due to his energy and ability that the construction of Telegraph lines was rapidly pushed on, so that by 1855 there was telegraphic communication between Calcutta and Peshawar, and between Bombay and Agra on the one side and Madras on the other. It is well known how useful these telegraph lines proved in the Mutiny of 1857, and although much damage was done to the lines in that year, it was speedily repaired.

The Telegraph law.

Imperial Gazetteer, Volume III, page 438.

2. From the first the telegraphs were a Government monopoly, and the department has always been under the direct control of the Government of India. "The first Telegraph Act for India was Act XXXIV of 1854. The Acts which have since been passed, each repealing its predecessor, are VIII of 1860, I of 1876, and XIII of 1885. These Acts deal with the privileges and powers of Government in respect to telegraphs and other cognate matters."

Organization of the department.

3. The work of the department is at present administered by a Director General assisted by several senior officers at headquarters, by twenty Superintendents of divisions, and by seventy-three sub-divisional officers, who may be either Assistant Superintendents (*i.e.*, junior officers of the superior staff) or Sub-Assistant Superintendents who are promoted subordinates. The main outlines of this organization were already in existence by 1866,* though of course many modifications in the numbers of the staff have been subsequently made. At the outset Dr. O'Shaughnessy was himself the only officer of the department, but by 1857 four deputy superintendents had been appointed, one for each Presidency and one for the North-Western Provinces, while the head of the department received the title of Chief Superintendent.† In 1859 the organization was changed; and the country was divided into three great divisions

* Most of the information regarding the early organization of the department has been supplied by the Director General of Telegraphs.

† He was not styled Director General till 1860.

(Eastern, Western and Southern), each in charge of a Superintendent. Below the three divisions came nine circles, each in charge of a Deputy Superintendent who was assisted by five Assistant Deputy Superintendents. In 1862 the three Superintendents of divisions were styled Directors, and the title of Superintendent descended to the circle officers who had now risen to fifteen in number. The officers of the lowest grade were thenceforward styled Assistant Superintendents. Finally, in 1866, the three great divisions were abolished and replaced by a Deputy Director Generalship at headquarters; and the Superintendent's charge was called a division, the name which it still bears. Sub-divisions appear to have been created in 1857, and were then in charge of first class Inspectors. The rank of Sub-Assistant Superintendent is not, apparently, of older date than 1866.

4. It is interesting to notice (in view of recent proposals for decentralization) that the early organization of the department recognised the advisability of establishing a grade of officers, each in charge of a large tract of country, intermediate between the Director General and the officers who are now styled Superintendents. But this policy was abandoned in 1866, and from that date the administration of the department has remained highly centralized. As work increased new officers were from time to time added to the head-quarters staff, but no effective measure was taken to relieve the Director General's office by delegating large powers to subordinate authorities. In 1868 a Director of Construction and Director of Traffic, were appointed,* while in 1894 Superintendents were added to the Traffic and Construction branches to assist the Directors. Finally, in 1902, a Deputy Director was appointed in each branch, the Superintendent of Traffic being still retained. The Telegraph department was formerly under the Public Works Department of the Government of India. Since 1905 it has been under the Commerce and Industry Department.

5. The superior staff of the department are trained engineers. As in the Public Works department, while a proportion of the staff is recruited in India and known as the Provincial Service, the majority are obtained from England. The latter were until recently brought out from the Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill, but owing to the closing of the college they are now nominated by the Secretary of State in the same manner as officers of the Public Works department.

Centralisation of the department.

The Superior Staff.

*A Personal Assistant had been appointed in 1860

See paragraph 38 of the Report of the Telegraph Committee of 1906.

The Subordinate Establishment.

Ibid, paragraphs 43 and 44.

Ibid, paragraphs 48 and 58.

Ibid, paragraph 159.

Combined Offices.

Imperial Gazetteer, Volume III, page 433.

but with special reference to the qualifications required for telegraph work. Members of the Provincial service are recruited from the Indian engineering colleges, and undergo a special course of training at Roorkee. As in the Public Works Department, their pay is lower than that of the 'Imperial' officers, except in the highest appointments.

6. The Sub-Assistant Superintendents form part of the upper subordinate establishment of the department. They are promoted from signallers and Telegraph masters, and receive a practical course of training in construction work before appointment. They assist the gazetted officers of the department and hold charge of the larger offices and the less important sub-divisions.*

Telegraph masters, are promoted from the signalling establishment, which is divided into two portions, the General Scale, members of which are liable to service anywhere in India, and the Local Scale who serve only in the Province in which they are recruited.

The actual work of construction and maintenance is carried out by the lower subordinate establishment, consisting of the linemen, who belong to the labouring classes, and the sub-inspectors who are promoted linemen.

7. A few words must be said regarding combined offices, *i.e.*, post offices in which the employes of that department also carry on telegraph work. These offices now number 2,158, and in 1906-07 they dealt with 5.3 million paid telegrams out of a total of 11.4 million.

This system dates from 1883. In that year "it was decided to use the agency of the post office in order to extend the operations of the Telegraph department without the cost of separate telegraph offices. The main features of the scheme were:—

- (1) to authorize a large number of post offices off the telegraph line to receive inland telegrams from the public, and to send them free by post to the nearest telegraph office; and
- (2) to convert a large number of post offices into combined post and telegraph offices, with the telegraph branches worked by the postmasters or post office clerks."

The scheme developed rapidly and has proved a great success.

* The four large offices, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Agra are in charge of gazetted officers. The Sub-Assistants in charge of offices are known as Traffic Sub-Assistants, and are distinct from the general Sub-Assistant class.

8. The total number of telegraph offices open on the 31st March 1907 was 6,994, of which 280 were departmental, 2,158 combined, 4,545 railway and 11 canal offices. The total number of paid messages dealt with was 11,385,166 and their value 95 lakhs. The number of miles of line was 67,585.

9. A brief reference may be made to the Indo-European Telegraph department which "has charge of that portion of the system of telegraphs between England and Karachi which is owned by the Government of India.

It includes: (i) the Persian Gulf section, which runs from Karachi to the head of the Persian Gulf, and connects the Indian telegraph lines, which terminate at Karachi with the Persian section at Bushire and the Turkish telegraphs at Fao. The system consists of one cable and one overhead line from Karachi to Jask, about 660 miles west of Karachi, and of cables thence to the head of the Persian Gulf. There is also a cable from Maskat which connects with the system at Jask. (ii) The Persian section, which runs from Bushire, through Shiraz and Ispahan, to Teheran, consists of an overhead line worked under a concession from the Persian Government. The duties of the Persian section include the maintenance of the Persian Government line from Teheran to Meshed, and of the line now being constructed from Kashan to the Baluchistan frontier, *via* Yezd and Kerman.

The Indo-European Telegraph department is under the direct control of the Secretary of State for India, and is administered by a Director-in-Chief who has head-quarters in London. The Persian Gulf and the Persian sections are each under a Director, with head-quarters at Karachi and Teheran respectively."

So far as the Indian Telegraph department is concerned, the Indo-European Telegraph department is a Foreign system financially independent (though its transactions are embodied in the Indian Budget), and with an entirely separate organization.

10. In 1904 the attention of the Government of India was drawn to the undue centralization of the Indian Telegraph department by an application from the Director-General for increase to his office establishment. Lieutenant-Colonel Waller, of the Public Works Accounts department, was thereupon deputed to inspect the office of the Director-General. In his report he drew attention to the following facts:—

- (1) There were as many as twenty-eight subordinate officers in direct correspondence with the Director General.

Operations of the department.

Imperial Gazetteer, Volume IV, page 444.

Undue centralisation of the Indian Telegraph department.

Report of the Telegraph Committee, paragraph 5.

- (2) The powers of these officers were very limited, and consequently the Director General was overwhelmed with a mass of unimportant references.
- (3) The five officers of the department next in seniority to the Director-General were all stationed at head quarters, and two other officers, namely, the Superintendent of Traffic and the Personal Assistant, also worked in the Director-General's Office.

Proposed Decentralization. Appointment of the Telegraph Committee.

11. To remedy this state of affairs it was proposed that the country should be divided into telegraph controlling—circles, in charge of officers intermediate between the Director General and Superintendents of divisions. A scheme of decentralization was drawn up by a departmental committee in the same year, but for various reasons was not proceeded with, and it was eventually referred, with other questions, to the Telegraph Committee which was appointed in 1906, under the Presidency of Sir Lewis Tupper, to make proposals for the reform of the department.

The Circle Scheme.

Ibid, paragraphs 5 to 8.

12. The scheme of decentralization as modified by the Telegraph Committee provides for the formation of eight telegraph circles coterminous with the then existing and proposed major postal circles, each of the eight major Provinces being included within the bounds of one telegraph circle. In order to obtain some of the officers required to man the circles, the staff of the Director General's Office was to be diminished by four, the existing grades of Chief Superintendents* supplying the remaining four.

Position of Divisional Superintendents.
Report of the Telegraph Committee, paragraph 10.

13. Another change proposed by the Committee, although not in itself a measure of decentralization, is yet so intimately connected with the scheme that it must be mentioned here. Under the system which has grown up in the Telegraph department, the executive officer is not the Superintendent of a division but the sub-divisional officer. The Superintendent is regarded rather as a controlling officer than as an executive one, but the sub-divisional officers, owing to lack of experience in the case of Assistant Superintendents, and a low standard of ability and training in the case of Sub-Assistants, cannot be entrusted with powers of any magnitude, while the powers of the Superintendent, though

*A Chief Superintendent's duties are the same as those of a Superintendent. The distinction is only one of rank and pay.

possibly sufficient for an executive officer pure and simple, are far too limited for a controlling officer.

Briefly, therefore, the existing system includes:—

- (1) an executive officer with almost no powers,
- (2) a local controlling officer with powers of the most limited description, and
- (3) a central office in which nearly all the powers of the department are centralized.

14. The Committee felt very strongly that, if circle officers were created without any further modification of the system, another link would be added to the chain of correspondence, and no very great benefit would be derived from the reforms contemplated. They therefore proposed the abolition, except in a few special cases, of the sub-divisions, and the bringing together at the headquarters of each division of the subordinates of the Superintendent.* The Superintendent was to be made the executive officer responsible for all the work within his own division, and the Assistant and Sub-Assistant Superintendents were to be his assistants, employed on such work as he might assign to them. No official correspondence was to be permitted between the Superintendent and his assistants, his orders being obtained when necessary on unofficial notes. This change of system necessitated an increase in the number, and a decrease in the size, of telegraph divisions. The extra officers required were obtained by treating the grade of Assistant Superintendents on Rs. 700,† as eligible for the charge of a division.

Proposed abolition of Sub-divisions.

15. The system proposed by the Committee therefore includes:—

- (1) an executive officer in charge of a division, assisted by two or more subordinate officers, and vested with definite, though necessarily limited, powers ;
- (2) a controlling officer in charge of a tract of country in no case smaller in area than a major Province, and vested with considerable powers, and

Summary of the Committee's proposals for reorganisation.

* It is not, of course, intended that the assistants of the Superintendent should remain at headquarters: on the contrary they should be constantly on tour.

† Rs. 700 is the pay of Executive Engineers of the

General principles of delegation.

Report of the Telegraph Committee, paragraph 19.

(3) a central directing office to which only the most important questions would be referred.

16. The general outlines of the scheme having been laid down, it was necessary for the Committee to make detailed proposals as to the powers which should be delegated to each class of authority, keeping in mind the principles :—

- (1) that the Directors of Circles should be given as much authority as was compatible with the control of the Director-General over the Department ; and
- (2) that the Director-General and the Directors of Circles should be freed from the necessity of dealing with a multitude of petty details that are now referred to head-quarters.

Substantial additions to the powers exercised by Superintendents have been proposed, but it will not be necessary to examine these. Something must, however, be said regarding the powers proposed to be granted to Directors, and also as to the additional powers which it is proposed should be granted to the Director-General by the Government of India. This subject is dealt with by the Committee in paragraphs 16 to 19 of their Report.

Financial control of the Government of India.

17. The Committee began by making certain proposals by which the financial control of the Government of India over the administration of the department might be made more effective. This they regarded as an essential preliminary to the delegation of larger powers. It was proposed that the annual grant for telegraph expenditure should no longer be fixed in a lump sum, and the Director-General left to divide this subsequently between capital and revenue, and to subdivide the 'revenue' outlay over the revenue heads. On the contrary, the capital and revenue expenditure should be quite distinct, and should be separately fixed by the Government of India, which should also fix the distribution of the revenue grant over each of certain subordinate heads which were specified. The most important of these were :—

- A. Maintenance of lines, etc.
- B. Fixed establishment and rent.
- C. Temporary establishment, and
- D. Working charges of combined offices.*

Powers to be exercised by the Director-General.

18. If the above proposals were accepted, the Committee considered that the Director-General of Telegraphs might

* i.e., offices in which the telegraph work is done by post office employés.

safely be entrusted with the following powers:—

I—The grants having once been fixed he should have full power to make all reappropriations except in the following cases:—

- (a) From expenditure in England to expenditure in India or *vice versa*.
- (b) From Capital to Revenue or *vice versa*, except between the portion of the grants for fixed establishment allocated to Capital and Revenue. The whole of the charges on fixed establishment should be shown under Revenue, with a deduction entry of the portion debitable to Capital on account of capital expenditure. As this share will vary with the actual capital outlay, the Director-General should be authorised to correct the division, so long as the total grant for fixed establishment is not exceeded.
- (c) From the grant for any 'capital' work sanctioned by the Government of India.
- (d) Any re-appropriations which will increase the grants for fixed or temporary establishment, or the grant for special rewards.
- (e) Any reappropriation from or to the grant for working charges of combined offices.

The powers of the Director General to make re-appropriations are at present subject to certain restrictions which need not be enumerated.

II—That in the case of new capital works the limit of the Director-General's power should be raised from Rs. 20,000 for each work to Rs. 50,000. It was calculated that this amount would enable the Director-General to sanction extensions of lines of about seventy miles in length. The limit proposed is the same as that existing in the case of the Director-General of Military Works.

III—The Director-General of Telegraphs should have full powers to sanction all classes of establishment, with the following exceptions:—

- (1) He may not create or abolish any appointment on a salary exceeding Rs. 250 a month, or modify the salary of such an appointment, or raise the salary of any appointment above this amount.
- (2) He may not modify the rates of pay of any graded service when

Reappropriations.

Capital Works.

Permanent Establishment.

these have been fixed by the Government of India.

- (3) He may not change the proportions in the different grades of such a service, except where (a) the proportions have not been fixed by Government, and (b) no addition is made to the number in a grade or grades on pay exceeding Rs. 250 a month.
- (4) He may not create a new grade of officers on a salary exceeding Rs. 100 a month.

In the case of the signalling establishment the powers of the Director-General are subject to the further restrictions enumerated in paragraph 20.

Temporary establishment.

Temporary Establishment.

IV.—He should have full powers with the following restrictions:—

- (1) He may not create any appointment on a salary exceeding Rs. 250 a month, or raise the salary of an existing appointment above this amount.
- (2) He may not sanction establishment temporarily to avoid increasing the charges for fixed establishment, but must appoint an establishment permanently, where it is clear from the first that it will be permanently required.
- (3) He may not continue establishment sanctioned temporarily as such for more than two years, by the end of which time it must either be abolished or made permanent.



These proposals will have the effect of substantially increasing the powers of the Director-General and simplifying the existing system. The orders now in force are somewhat complicated, but generally it may be said that in the case of petty and menial establishments the Director-General exercises the powers of a Local Government under Article 278 of the Civil Account Code, *i.e.*, he cannot make new appointments or increase pay beyond Rs. 50 a month, while, in the case of the lower subordinate and clerical establishments, the total expenditure is limited to a grant fixed by the Government of India, and no appointment may be created with a salary of more than Rs. 100 a month. In the case of the signalling department he has at present no powers at all.

Limit of annual increase in expenditure on establishment.

19. As regards fixed establishment, it was clearly necessary that there should be some limit to the amount of additional expenditure on this account which the Director-General might incur in any one year. The

Committee therefore proposed, on the analogy of a system already in force in the case of the Post Office, that the Director-General of Telegraphs should, subject to the conditions above laid down as regards the sanction of the Government of India in specific cases, be authorised to incur each year extra expenditure on fixed establishment, up to a maximum of Rs. 1,80,000 (to be provided in the budget) in that year, and on condition that the total sanctions given in any one year did not increase the expenditure, to be included in the budget estimates of the following year, by a larger sum than Rs. 3,60,000. This amount was intended to cover all new or additional appointments that might be made, including those of signallers, and the revisions of existing scales recommended in the report except that of the signalling establishment. In the case of the Post Office, the grant covers all additional expenditure on establishments, whether sanctioned by the Secretary of State, the Government of India, or the Director-General, and no doubt the same practice will be followed in the case of the Telegraph Department.

20. The suggested limitations on the power of the Director-General to make new appointments in the case of the signalling establishment are the following. It is proposed that he should be empowered—

Special limitations in the case of the signalling establishment.

(1) To make new appointments of signallers on the scale of one new appointment for every increase of not less than 25,000 signalling operations per annum.* It was considered that, as traffic increased and better arrangements were introduced, the figure of 25,000 could be steadily raised ;

Report of the Telegraph Committee, paragraphs 84 and 85.

(2) To make new appointments of Telegraph masters, in the case of new offices only in accordance with the following scale:—

1st class offices, 3;
2nd class offices, 2,
3rd class offices, 1 ;

(3) To sanction additional temporary appointments of Telegraph masters for purely temporary offices for a period not exceeding 6 months.

21. The more important of the remaining powers proposed to be delegated to the Director General of Telegraphs are enumerated in the Appendix to this note, as also the most important powers proposed to be delegated to Directors of Circles.

22. Much trouble and correspondence had been occasioned in the past by the fact

Delegation of powers to the Director General of the Post Office in the case of combined offices.

* The existing staff disposes of traffic at the rate of about 15,000 signalling operations per man.

that the working charges of combined offices had to be fixed with the concurrence of both the Postal and Telegraph departments. Recently an arrangement has been made by which all 3rd class offices are worked by the Post Office on a contract system based on a fixed charge for each office, all details of the establishment required in an individual office being left to the Director-General of the Post Office. This procedure has been successful in saving a great deal of correspondence regarding petty details. It has not been found possible to apply this system to 1st and 2nd class offices, because in their case the charges vary greatly, but the Committee have made a proposal for attaining the same end in another way. It is proposed that a lump grant should be placed annually at the disposal of the Director General of the Post Office for the working charges of combined offices, that this grant should be limited to 35 per cent. of the estimated gross receipts for such offices, and that within the limits of such grant the Director-General of the Post Office should have power to sanction all establishment required, provided that no appointment is created with a salary of more than Rs. 100 a month.

23. The proposals of the Telegraph Committee in the above respects are still under the consideration of the Government of India in the Commerce and Industry Department. It will be seen that they involve a large measure of decentralization.

G. RAINY, —24-10-07.



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APPENDIX.

A.—Powers proposed by the Telegraph Committee of 1906 to be delegated to the Director-General of Telegraphs.

Present limit Rs. 20,000

I. Reconstruction of telegraph lines chargeable wholly or partly to Capital.

Full powers, provided the amount chargeable to Capital does not exceed Rs. 50,000.

Present limit Rs. 1,000.

II. Sale or dismantlement of buildings.

Full powers in the case of temporary buildings erected by the Telegraph Department. In the case of permanent buildings not on the books of the Public Works Department, full powers where the buildings cost Rs. 2,500 or less.

At present he may promote except to or above the rank of Superintendent.

III. Promotions, Postings and Transfers.

May promote all subordinate officers; may promote Assistant Superintendents within that rank; may transfer and post all officers below the rank of Director.

At present limited to establishment appointed by himself.

IV. Suspensions.

May suspend any officer below the rank of a Director.

No powers at present.

V. Grant of rewards for especially courageous and meritorious services of officers of the department other than gazetted officers.

Full powers up to a maximum of Rs. 50 in each case, subject to a total limit of Rs. 1,000 per annum.

Present limit Rs. 1,000

VI. Writing off losses of stores by robbery, fire, storms, flood or any other extraordinary occurrences.

May write off up to Rs. 5,000.

The other powers which it is proposed that the Director-General should exercise are contained in Appendix E of the Report of the Telegraph Committee.

B.—Powers proposed to be delegated to Directors of Circles.

I. Passing of estimates and completion reports for new works and for reconstruction wholly debited to Capital.

Up to Rs. 5,000, which may be increased to Rs. 10,000 in the case of specially selected officers.

II. Estimates and completion reports for mixed works, chargeable partly to Capital and partly to Revenue.

Full powers so long as the portion debitable to Capital does not exceed the amount up to which they may sanction new capital works.

III. Supplementary or revised estimates for construction, reconstruction and mixed works.

May pass excesses on estimates sanctioned by himself, so long as the total of the revised estimate does not exceed the amount up to which he may sanction new works. On estimates sanctioned by higher authority, may pass excesses not exceeding 10 per cent. of the original sanctioned amount, provided such excess does not exceed the amount up to which he may sanction new works.

IV. Construction of and additions to buildings to be executed by the Public Works department.

May grant administrative approval up to a limit of Rs. 2,500 for each building, provided that the minor works grant allotted to the Circle is not exceeded.

V. Estimates for the construction of additions to and repairs of buildings borne on the books of the Telegraph department.

Up to Rs. 1,000 for each building.

VI. Sale or dismantlement of permanent buildings erected by the Telegraph department and on their books.

Full powers, provided the original cost of the buildings did not exceed Rs. 1,000.*

VII. Sale or dismantlement of temporary buildings erected by the Telegraph department and on their books.

Full powers.

VIII. Estimates, revised estimates, and completion reports for repairs to existing lines, or for reconstruction wholly chargeable to Revenue.

Full powers.

IX. Sale of unserviceable and obsolete stores.

Up to Rs. 5,000.

X. Appointment and promotion of all petty and subordinate line establishments.

Full powers within the scale sanctioned for the Circle, provided the allotment for the purpose is not exceeded.

*N. B.—Before any permanent building is sold or dismantled the local Public Works authorities should be referred to.

XI. Appointment and promotion of all clerical establishments of offices including signal room clerks.

Full powers within scales fixed for the Circle.

XII. Temporary establishment.

May sanction within the limits of the grant fixed for the Circle, provided the pay of any one appointment does not exceed Rs. 100.

XIII. Postings and transfers.

Full powers with respect to establishment subordinate to him, except the gazetted officers in charge of the four Telegraph Offices (at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay and Agra) referred to in the footnote to paragraph 5.

XIV. Appointment of signallers.

Full powers within the sanctioned scale for the Circle and according to Code rules.

XV. Travelling allowance.

Is controlling officer for himself and all establishment under him.

XVI. Grant of leave to signallers, and to line, petty and office establishments.

Full powers.

XVII. Execution of contracts on behalf of the Secretary of State.

Full powers up to Rs. 10,000.

XVIII. Installations of telephone and other lines for officials or the public generally, and all questions of rent charges for the same.

Full powers in respect of all such lines costing not more than Rs. 5,000. In the case of specially selected officers this limit may be raised to Rs. 10,000.

XIX. Opening combined offices.

Full powers, except where a line is only opened on a financial guarantee by some outside person or authorities, provided the line—

(1) does not cost more than Rs. 5,000, which limit may be raised to Rs. 10,000 in the case of specially selected officers;

(2) is not in a Native State ;

XX. Alteration in the class and working hours of combined offices.

Full powers to settle finally with the local Post Master General.

XXI. Fixing of head-quarters.

May fix the head-quarters of all subordinates below the rank of Sub-Assistant Superintendent.

A Circle Officer may station an Assistant Superintendent or Sub-Assistant Superintendent at a place other than the headquarters of the division for short periods not exceeding six months. If a longer halt than this is necessary, the sanction of the Director-General must be obtained.

XXII. Questions concerning delivery of messages by means of bicycles.

May decide when such delivery is desirable, and the number of bicycle peons to be employed.

May authorize the supply of bicycles.

XXIII. Furniture for all offices.

May sanction the supply of new articles, provided that the cost of any one article does not exceed Rs. 100.

The other powers proposed to be given to Directors of Circles are enumerated in Appendix F of the Committees' Report.

