



S U P P L E M E N T  
TO  
G E N E R A L O R D E R S



SEPARATE No. 13 of 1842.



BY THE HON'BLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

BOMBAY CASTLE, 6th APRIL 1842.

The Hon'ble the Governor in Council is pleased to publish the following Compilation of all existing orders under the head "Canteens."

*By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,*

M. P. MELVILL, Lieut. Colonel,

*Secy. to Govt.*

## CANTEENS.

I. (G. O. G. I. C. dated the 5th March 1835.)—The result of the multiplied enquiries on the subject of Canteens, instituted by His Excellency the Commander in Chief, has satisfied the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, that the Canteen system has been productive of much good, and may be made still more beneficial.

G. O. 3rd  
April 1835.

II. The reports of the Commanding Officers of Her Majesty's Regiments, and of the Company's European Troops, are almost universally in its favour, but a want is much felt of some uniform system calculated to ensure a constant and scrupulous appropriation of the surplus money arising from the profits of the Canteen, to purposes tending to increase the happiness and comfort of the Men and their families.

III. The Canteen Fund arises from the difference between the price at which the Government issue the Liquor, and price at which it is retailed to the Soldiers. In Bengal the Government issue Rum at the rate of 2 Rs. per gallon, and it is retailed at 1 anna per dram, or 40 annas per gallon. The settlement of the rates of issue at Madras and Bombay, belongs to those Governments respectively.

NOTE.—\* The above rate ordered to be adopted in the Field as well as in Garrison. G. L. 8th March 1842.

IV. In the Presidency of Madras the Canteen Fund has, at times, been allowed to accumulate to such a degree, that Her Majesty's 46th Regiment carried to England nearly 40,000 Rupees of Canteen savings. The 300 Men who volunteered further service in India, received no part of this money, which, had it been employed in India, for the benefit of the Soldier, would have essentially contributed to the increase of his comforts, while its distribution would have been just and equal.

V. The management also has been in many instances unnecessarily expensive, giving to individuals extravagant Salaries, and undue profits, to the prejudice of the Fund, and of those interested in its prosperity.

VI. To correct, therefore, these defects, and to introduce such improvements as subsequent experience has suggested, the Governor General of India in Council is pleased to substitute for the Rules now in Force, the following Regulations applicable to all the Presidencies for the government of Canteens, and the management of their Funds.

### *Regulations for Regimental Canteens.*

VII. In every Regiment the Canteen Fund shall be managed by a Standing Quarterly Committee, composed of a Captain, and 2 Subalterns of not less than 5 years standing under the direction and control of the Commanding Officer. The Books of the Committee to be kept with the greatest regularity, and be open to public inspection.

VIII. This Standing Quarterly Committee is to superintend the whole business of the Canteen, and a steady Non-Commissioned Officer, to be selected by the Commanding Officer, is to be placed under their orders as Canteen Serjeant.

IX. The Commanding Officer is at liberty, if he shall deem it expedient, to appoint a Subordinate Committee of Non-Commissioned Officers, to act under the orders of the Standing Quarterly Committee, for the purpose of a more immediate Superintendence of the general management of the Canteen; but to have no concern in any money payments or contracts.

X. The Canteen establishment in each Regiment to be as follows:—

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 1 Canteen Serjeant.....   | 50 Rupees. |
| 1 European Assistant..... | 10 "       |
| 1 Native Writer.....      | 12 "       |

XI. The number of Native Servants required, to be determined by the Standing Quarterly Committee, with the sanction of the Commanding Officer, and specified in each Quarterly Return.

XII. No Surplus Fund from the savings of the Canteen shall be permitted to accrue beyond the sum of 3,000 Rupees.

XIII. The residue shall be employed, under the discretion of the Commanding Officer, for the benefit of the Regimental School, the Soldier's Library, their Mess Necessaries, their amusements, in charity to their Widows and Orphans, and to their Old and Discharged Comrades; in aid and assistance of the Women and Children on their removal from one station to another, and the payment of the Canteen establishment.

XIV. As it is much to be desired that every means should be employed to induce the Soldier to give the preference to Malt Liquor, rather than to Spirits, the attention of Commanding Officers, and Committees, is particularly called to this important point, and to the expediency of adopting every practicable means of reducing the price of Beer, without sacrificing the goodness of its quality—whatever sum can be spared from the savings of the Canteen, without interfering with the distribution already detailed, is to be employed to that effect, but to no other purpose without a special sanction from Herd Quarters.

XV. A report of the Proceedings and management of the Canteen of each Regiment is to be submitted quarterly through the General Officer Commanding the Division, from the Queen's Corps to the Adjutants General of Queen's Troops, or his Deputies, and from the Company's to the Adjutants General of the Army, for submission to their respective Commanders in Chief, who will transmit them to the Commander in Chief in India.

*The following Rules are laid down for the Government of Canteens.*

XVI. No Arrack or Country made Spirits, except that furnished by the Commissariat, will be allowed in the Canteen.

XVII. The Canteen Serjeant, who is to perform the Office of Steward in the Canteen, and not of Contractor, will provide Bread, Butter, Cheese, Sugar, Limes, Lime Juice, coffee, Tea, Tobacco, and Cigars, to be paid for, in the first instance, out of the Canteen Fund, and retailed at prices to be fixed by the Standing Quarterly Committee, with the sanction of the Commanding Officer.

XVIII. The Canteen is to be provided out of the Fund with convenient Tables and Forms, and with Tumblers, Glasses, and Spoons, also with Skettles, Quoits, Draftboards, &c. but neither Cards nor Dice are to be allowed, and Gambling of every description is positively forbidden.

XIX. There is to be a separate room in the Canteen for the Non-Commissioned Officers, distinct from that occupied by the Privates,

XX. The Canteen is to be opened in the hot season, or from 1st April to 1st November, from gun fire until 10 A. M. and again from 5 P. M. until watch setting; during the cold season, or from 1st November to 1st April, from gun fire until 12 o'clock, and again from 4 P. M. until watch setting.

XXI. After the Canteen shall have been closed for the Night, no person is to be admitted until the following morning at the fixed time of opening.

XXII. No person who may appear intoxicated is to be permitted to enter the Canteen, nor is any Man to be permitted to remain there in a state of intoxication.

XXIII. No man who is under punishment is to be allowed to enter the Canteen. The names of the Men under punishment will be furnished by the Serjeant Major and placed on a Board, that they may be known and prevented from entering.

XXIV. The Captain of the day, and Orderly Officer, will visit the Canteen within the hours of its being open, specifying their having done so in their Reports.

XXV. An Orderly Serjeant, to be relieved daily, will attend constantly at the Canteen, when open, for the purpose of assisting the Canteen Serjeant in preserving order and regularity, and he will report on the instant to the Officer on duty, any irregularity he is unable to repress. A small Guard will also be attached to the Canteen, unless there be a Guard near it.

XXVI. The Standing Quarterly Committee for the management of the Canteen will, with the sanction of the Commanding Officer, give orders for such supplies of Wine, Beer, Spruce, Ginger Beer, and Spirits, as may from time to time be judged necessary; and under his direction fix, in addition to the prime cost of Liquor such a rate of profit as will be sufficient to indemnify the Fund for Contingent Loss and Charges, including Carriage and Insurance, and to contribute to the furtherance of the general objects of the Canteen Fund. The Committee will also give its particular attention to the quality of the supplies, and to the delivery to the Relieving Committee of a correct Statement of Stock in hand, and orders given.

XXVII. No Spirituous Liquor, Wine, or Beer, shall on any account, be sold or issued from the Canteen, directly or indirectly, to any Native whatsoever, whether a Follower of the Regiment, or otherwise, nor shall any of these articles be allowed to be taken or sent away from the Canteen, except on special occasions, when the Soldier requiring them, for himself or his family, must produce an order, signed by the Officer Commanding his Company, who will report his having granted it, to the Commanding Officer, as well as the quantity permitted to be taken away.

XXVIII. Any person who may break or destroy a part of the Furniture, or of the articles belonging to the Canteen, is to be at the expence of repairing or replacing the same, and if necessary he is to be put under Stoppages for this purpose, by his own consent, unless he prefer appealing to a Court Martial. If the Canteen Serjeant neglect to enforce this Rule, he will make good the loss himself.

XXIX. The Canteen Serjeant will be held responsible that it be always kept clean and properly ventilated, and that it be regularly lighted, from dark until closed for the night.

XXX. The prices of all articles supplied by the Canteen, and the Rules for its guidance, are to be copied in a legible hand and to be hung up in a conspicuous part of the Canteen.

XXXI. The Men are expected to attend the Canteen either in their Regimental, or in a clean and neat fatigue dress.

XXXII. Returns of each day's consumption of Liquor are to be furnished daily by the Canteen Serjeant, and submitted by the Standing Quarterly Committee to the Commanding Officer, every Monday.

XXXIII. The Committee, with the approbation of the Commanding Officer, are to fix upon the Form of a plain and distinct set of Books, which are to be kept by the Canteen Serjeant, shewing the quantities of Wine, Beer, Spirits, &c. that are expended, and the profit to the Fund upon each article, these Books, as well as the General Account Books of the Standing Quarterly Committee, are to be produced at every half yearly inspection.

XXXIV. All the minor rules for the government of the Canteen, are left to the judgment and discretion of Commanding Officers, with the proviso, that Tea and Coffee are always to be ready at the Canteen at day break, for such Men as chuse to pay for them and that no Man is to be allowed more than one Dram before 10 o'clock A. M.

XXXV. This General Order is to supersede all former orders upon the subject of Canteens, or the employment of their Funds.

XXXVI. The price at which Spirits shall be issued from the Commissariat Stores, is changed from Rs 1-2 66 per Gallon to 2 Rupees, at 24 degrees below London Proof. The retail price in the Regimental Canteens, is one Anna per dram.

XXXVII. (G. G. O. 19th Novr. 1840.) In cases where Detachments moving or Stationary may be without a Canteen establishment, and it may become necessary in consequence, for the Commissariat to issue Rum or Arrack to the Men, the rate of payment is to be Ten Pie for each Dram, to be recovered by Bills drawn by the Departments on the Pay Master of Regiments, or Officers drawing the pay of the Men thus supplied with Liquor.

XXXVIII. No Warrant Officer, nor any Staff Serjeant of any description (not with European Regiments) shall be entitled to draw Arrack from the Public Stores, except when on actual Field Service, it being considered their superior pay and allowances are sufficient to enable these Classes to provide themselves with Wine or other Liquor, as they may require.

XXXIX. The above Order is to apply to all European Soldiers employed otherwise than Regimentally.

XI. The Hon'ble the Governor in Council is pleased to direct, that the General Order of the 2d of December 1829, granting an allowance for wastage on Liquor drawn for Canteens, be rescinded.

XLI. (H. C. L. 7th Decr. 1836.) We attach great importance to the measures recommended by the Medical Board for preserving the health of the European Troops under our Government, namely, the substitution, as far as practicable of Tea, Coffee &c. for ardent spirits and the establishment of Temperance Societies.

G. G. O. 19th  
March 1835.

G. G. O. 3rd  
Nov. 1829.

G. G. O. 16th  
Jan. 1830.

G. G. O. 21st  
April 1841.

G. G. O. 7th  
May 1837.