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Report of the chingleput
Reformatory School in the
Madras Presidency - 1902

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REPORT

OF THE

CHINGLEPUT REFORMATORY SCHOOL,

IN THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

FOR

1902.

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CHINGLEPUT REFORMATORY SCHOOL.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. STUART, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Educational department, dated 28th April 1903, Cur. No. 3211.

I have the honour to submit for the information of Government a copy of my proceedings, Dis. No. 2579, dated 23rd instant, reviewing the report on the working of the Reformatory school, Chingleput, for the year 1902.

ENCLOSURE.

PROCEEDINGS of the Director of Public Instruction, Dis. No. 2579, dated 23rd April 1903.

Read the following letter from Captain C. G. WEBSTER, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.F.P.S.G., I.M.S., Acting Superintendent, Reformatory School, Chingleput, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated 31st March 1903, No. 680 :—

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the Reformatory school during the calendar year 1902.

2. *Superintendence.*—There were some unavoidable changes in the office of the Superintendent during the year. Captain T. H. Foulkes, I.M.S., remained in charge of the school until 6th March 1902, on which date Captain T. S. Ross, I.M.S., relieved him and acted as Superintendent until 6th June, when Captain Foulkes resumed charge of the school once more and remained in charge until the close of the year.

3. *The teaching staff.*—The only important change in the teaching staff during the year was the appointment of Sergeant J. W. Moore, late of His Excellency the Governor's Band, as the Band Instructor for the school. Sergeant Moore was placed in charge of the band and bugle classes which were formed in January 1902. The numerical strength of the teaching staff was 18 against 17 in the previous year.

4. *Strength.*—On the 31st December last the school completed an existence of 15 years and 2½ months. The number of pupils admitted during this period was 571. Out of this number 12 were transferred to jails, 16 released by special orders of Government, two sent back to magistrates for re-trial, four died, and two escaped. The only change in the above figures since the previous year, is the increase in the number of deaths from 3 to 4. The death referred to was of pupil No. 474, who died from the effects of malarial fever on the 9th October 1902. There was no death previous to it for seven years. The total number of pupils discharged after completing their periods of detention rose from 337 to 374. The strength of the school at the close of the year was 161 against 163 at the close of the previous year, but the average strength rose from 158 to 161. The number of youthful offenders for whom admission was refused, owing to want of accommodation, fell to 14 from 38 in the previous year. This fall in juvenile criminality may be due to the return of prosperity in the districts which suffered from scarcity in the previous year.

5. *Admissions during the year.*—The number of admissions was 36. It would have been larger if more sleeping accommodation were available. The number of districts which contributed pupils was 17 against 13 in the previous year. It has been shown in previous reports that poverty and starvation were the prevailing causes for the presence of the youthful offenders in this school; and this view is borne out by the fact that prosperous districts like South Canara, Malabar, Tanjore, Madura,

செட்டிமென்ட் சாலைக்கு
கொள்ளப்பட்ட பணம்
மாற்றம் — மார்ச் 1903
செட்டிமென்ட் குடித்த
மாற்றம் மார்ச் 1903
ஆராய்ச்சி அதிகாரிகள்
கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்

Trichinopoly and South Arcot contributed only one pupil, or none, while on the other hand out of the total number of pupils at the close of the year, North Arcot and Chingleput districts affected by distress, claimed such large numbers as 20 and 16, respectively. Boys of not less than 22 castes were admitted during the year. Out of them nine belonged to the criminal classes, such as Odda, Dasiri, Telaga, and Korava. It is satisfactory to note that only three Mussalmans and three Panchamas were admitted during the year. A young Brahmin boy, aged 12, was admitted from Vizagapatam. With two exceptions, all the pupils admitted during the year committed offences against property. The only offence which calls for remark is one of "culpable homicide not amounting to murder" committed by pupil No. 569, a boy of 13 of the Reddi caste. Only eight boys were sent in after their first conviction, and 28 were habitual offenders against 22 in the previous year. Want of proper parental control combined with other causes seems to account for the presence of 16 or 44 per cent. of the pupils. Five of the boys admitted were orphans, and 14 had only one parent living. One boy, No. 567, came from the Sholapore district, Bombay Presidency, but he was convicted at Madura for the offence of "possessing and delivering counterfeit coins."

6. *Ages of pupils and periods of detention.*—It is satisfactory to note that 72 per cent. of the boys at the close of the year were 13 years of age and under.

7. *Nationality of boys classified by districts.*—The city of Madras, as usual, claimed 25 pupils, the largest number, or 15 per cent. of the total strength at the close of the year. There has been an appreciable decline year after year in the number of boys from Madras, for at one time that city was responsible for 50 per cent. of the school population. This satisfactory decline, I have no doubt, is due to the spread of education in the city, and to the demand for labour due to its increasing commercial prosperity. North Arcot and Chingleput, next to Madras, are represented by the largest number of pupils, 20 and 16 respectively. Pupils from Gódvári increased from 6 to 9, Vizagapatam from 1 to 4, and Ganjam from 1 to 2, while Kistna had 9 pupils as in the previous year. It is evident that the Northern Circars are beginning to realize the importance of sending youthful offenders to this school. The Ceded districts continue to be poorly represented, but when more sleeping accommodation becomes available, as I expect, before the close of the current year, the attention of the Magistrates of those districts will be invited to the importance of sending youthful offenders to this school. The number of Native Christians (Roman Catholic) was six as in the previous year. The Muhammadans declined from 17 to 15. Pupils of the criminal classes increased from eight to nine, while the Panchamas stood at 24 as in the previous year. Caste pupils continued to preponderate as in former years.

8. *Crimes committed prior to admission.*—The great majority of the offences committed by the boys were offences against property. Ninety-two per cent. of the offences were of that class with 112 cases of simple theft. The number of boys committed for murder continued to be four as in the previous year, and they have all been well behaved.

9. *Accommodation and equipment.*—The new buildings made over to me since the last report are the kitchen, carpenter's shed, the weaving shed and a latrine.

10. *Library and museum.*—The library received an addition of 38 vernacular and English books during the year. The total number of books now amounts to 296. Both the boys and masters continued to make a good use of the library books. As directed by you, I have already addressed you for the construction of a room for a museum. Models and objects are being collected for the museum.

11. *Sanitation and health.*—The Surgeon-General inspected the school on the 20th December 1902, and recorded amongst other remarks the following: "Three were in hospital, none seriously ill, all else looked well and happy. They were clean in person and clothing." The health of the school during the year was remarkably good. The number of cases treated in the hospital dropped to 58 from 115 in the previous year. The single case of death reported in paragraph 4 is to be regretted, but all other cases were trivial disorders, such as are to be expected in a school of this kind.

12. *Vaccination and weighing.*—The usual precautions in the way of vaccination and re-vaccination were regularly resorted to to ensure the boys a thorough protection against small-pox. Every pupil on admission is weighed and measured and

his weight and height recorded, and thereafter his weight is taken monthly and recorded. In the matter of the pupils' weight, the gain per head in pounds, calculated on the total number of pupils dieted, rose from 14.1 to 14.7.

13. *Conduct and discipline.*—The boys, viewed as a whole, continued to improve in their conduct, for the total number of punishments inflicted during the year show a further decline to 132 from 164 in the previous year. While the number of cases of birching rose to 32 from 22 in the previous year, the total number of punishments declined 20 per cent., proving that the severity of punishment tends to reduce the number of punishments. As to other kinds of punishment, the number of "caning on the hand" fell from 61 to 56, and there was a further reduction of punishment for "fibbing and using abusive language." There were only four cases of such offences during the year. Another important testimony to the improvement in the conduct of the boys is that 91 or 56 per cent. of them were not punished at all and 45 were punished only once. Thus 136 pupils out of an average strength of 161 or 81 per cent. behaved well. The fines realized (excluding those for wasting or damaging materials or for tearing cloths which were credited to the departments affected) amounted to Rs. 33-12-1 against Rs. 14-4-3 in the previous year. It was necessary during the course of the year to increase the amount of fines to make such punishment more effective. The fine fund amounted to Rs. 78-8-11. Out of this amount, 18 pupils who passed the Government Technical examinations and one, who passed the Lower Secondary examination in 1901, have had their fees (Rs. 31) refunded to them. No tools or appliances were supplied to ex-pupils during the year. The fine fund closed with a balance of Rs. 47-8-11.

14. *Monitors and assistant monitors.*—The number of pupils holding these appointments were five and ten, respectively, against five and nine in the previous year. An additional assistant monitor for the band and bugle classes had to be appointed, because when the band class is under the immediate instruction of the band instructor, an assistant monitor is needed to look after the bugle class. The best bugler boy has been selected for this appointment.

15. *Moral training.*—As in the previous years the moral training of the boys continued to receive special attention.

16. *The mark system.*—As already reported the new system of marking continued to have the general effect of increasing the earnings. The average earnings of the pupils per week, the total earnings for the year, and the average annual earning per pupil rose to Rs. 11-14-4, Rs. 695-0-3 and Rs. 3-11-1, respectively, against Rs. 11-2-11, Rs. 559-4-5, and Rs. 3-8-8 in the previous year. Under the mark system small money awards were given for good behaviour and industry. A running account is maintained for each pupil showing from time to time the amount earned by him, the amount spent on sweetmeats, etc., the amount banked, and the balance to his credit. A statement showing the balances is posted up once a quarter outside the office for the information of all boys. The pupils' money is deposited in the Savings Bank, and the amount to their credit at the close of the year was Rs. 666-7-6 against Rs. 720-5-3 in the previous year. The decrease is due to withdrawals during the year by discharged pupils.

17. *General education.*—The course taught embraced the compulsory subjects prescribed for standards, infant to the fourth, the optional subjects taught being English, geography, hygiene and drawing. Drawing and an industry are taken up as optional subjects for the Primary examination, geography or hygiene being the third optional subject. Hindustani has been taught to Mussalman boys over a year and a half. I have been waiting for the Sub-Assistant Inspector of Muhammadan Schools to examine and report on the Hindustani class since October 1902, but that officer has not yet visited the school notwithstanding a reminder sent to the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Presidency division. The confirmation of the present Hindustani teacher depends on the results of the above examination. The special class consisting of pupils who had passed the Primary examination continued to receive instruction in drawing preparatory for the Government Technical examinations in freehand outline, model and geometrical drawing. Special attention is paid to the teaching of geometrical drawing, drawing to scale and drawing objects of space. The special class was also taught English. The number of boys taught colloquial English was 58. As the teaching staff has been strengthened, systematic arrangements have been made to

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19. *Primary examination.*—Eighteen pupils went up for the examination and all passed as in the previous year. Nine passed in the first class against one in the previous year. These results are very creditable to S. G. Vedamanikkam, the second master, who is mainly responsible for the teaching of the fourth standard class. The total number of pupils who have secured Primary examination certificates and thus qualified themselves for inferior appointments in the public service has increased to 161.

21. *Technical education.*—The courses of instruction and standards prescribed for industrial schools have been followed in imparting instruction in technical subjects. The classes were worked up to the Intermediate Technical examination standard in cabinet-making, blacksmith's work, metal work, weaving, tailoring and drawing. In the last-named subject 74 pupils out of 161 received instruction. Among subsidiary industries, carpentry, sawing, tinning, tape-making and wood-carving were taught to a select few. All pupils as a rule are put to gardening work on admission and on passing the first standard, or earlier in the case of older pupils, they are allowed to choose a trade. The pupils in the industrial classes also take their turn at gardening in the way of recreation and exercise for about four hours per week.

23. *Band and bugle classes.*—The Band Instructor has not proved himself to be sufficiently competent to teach boys. A recommendation has been already submitted to replace him by a better qualified man. The Band class contained 15 boys and the Bugle class 13. Some of the Commandants of Madras Regiments have already expressed their willingness to enlist in their bands lads trained in this school. Four appointments as buglers in the Salt and Abkari Department, two in the Police and one in the Jail Department are kept open for pupils trained in this school.

25. *Accounts of the Industrial section.*—It is gratifying to note that each of the six industries worked during the year yielded a profit. All the industries taken together resulted in a net profit of Rs. 1,711-11-10 with a debit of Rs. 7,475-7-6 against a credit of Rs. 9,187-3-4. The blacksmith's department yielded the largest amount of profit, namely, Rs. 351-6-5. Aluminium, weaving, tailoring and gardening also yielded a fair amount of profit. The amount actually drawn from the treasury for materials was Rs. 2,577-11-9. Add to this Rs. 220-14-6 due to the School of Arts for aluminium metal and models purchased. Against these two debits, the amount actually paid into the treasury as sale-proceeds amounted to Rs. 3,311-12-1.

26. *Annual Sports*.—The annual sports and distribution of prizes were held on the 9th and 10th May. The sports were spread over both days, at which both the high schools in the town were invited to compete. The Reformatory pupils

27. *Discharged pupils.*—Thirty-seven pupils were discharged during the year against 24 in the previous year. The large number discharged increased the difficulty of providing them with employment immediately after discharge; hence only 23 of them or 62 per cent. obtained some employment or other against 79 per cent. of the previous year. Out of the remaining 14 to be accounted for, 8 are unemployed and await employment, for which steps are being taken, 4 have not been reported on and 2 cannot be traced at present. It is my pleasing duty to record that some Magistrates continue to take great interest in finding employment for ex-pupils, for without their sympathy and help it would have been impossible to give a fair start in life to a large number of ex-pupils. Of the 23 boys employed during the year, one was enlisted in the Railway Police, 10 or 27 per cent. took to the trades taught in the school against 25 per cent. in the previous year, four were employed as peons and process-servers and the rest took to other kinds of work such as bazaar assistants, domestic servants and the like. It is too soon to expect a large number of boys discharged during the year to follow the trades taught in the school, as they have to wait for opportunities and vacancies.

The statistics for three years as required by the Government of India are appended :—

FORM No. I.								1902.
Number of schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Pupils.</i>								
Number at the beginning of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	163
Do. admitted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Do. discharged during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Do. died during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Do. remaining at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
<i>Education on admission.</i>								
Able to read	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Illiterate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
<i>Religion.</i>								
Hindus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
<i>Instruction.</i>								
Number taught Agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. other industries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Not expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 21,099

FORM No. II.

After conduct of boys discharged during 1899, 1900 and 1901.

	Numbers.
(1) Total number discharged in the three years	91
(2) Number discharged who were taught Agriculture	...
(3) Do. in entry (2) occupied in Agriculture	...
(4) Do. who were taught other trades and handicrafts	88
(5) Do. in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts taught them	12
(6) Do. occupied in industries not { Agriculture	6
taught them at school { Other industries	44
(7) Unemployed or with friends	8
(8) Re-convicted	2
(9) Of bad character	5
(10) Died	1
(11) Not known or not reported on	10

Form No. I.—Systematic instruction in Agriculture was not possible owing to the want of a suitable instructor and suitable lands for the purpose. When the strength of the school is increased after the construction of the new dormitory, the question of teaching Agriculture will have to be considered.

Form No. II.—The number taught other trades and handicrafts excludes three pupils discharged under the orders of Government.

29. *Apprenticeship.*—Of the four boys licensed to Messrs. E. D. Smith & Co. in 1901, two, Nos. 277 and 389, were discharged and Nos. 391 and 406 were withdrawn as they were not favourably reported on by the firm. Three other boys, Nos. 417, 424 and 475, have since been licensed to them and these have been very favourably reported on.

30. *Enlistments in the Madras Army.*—No boy was enlisted during the year, the chief reason being the reconstruction of the Madras regiments. The Police and Salt Departments are now open to pupils of this school. One pupil, No. 421, has been already admitted in the Police training school at Vellore. Of him the principal has reported that he "is doing excellently and giving every satisfaction". I am endeavouring to get a few more ex-pupils enlisted in the Police.

31. *Finance.*—The total expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 21,411-1-0 against Rs. 21,729-14-11 of the previous year. Deducting receipts (sale-proceeds) which amounted to Rs. 3,311-12-1 against Rs. 2,907-2-10, the net expenditure for the year was Rs. 21,099-4-11 against Rs. 18,822-12-1, or Rs. 2,276-8-10 more than the previous year. The increased expenditure was mainly under establishment. Rs. 2,098-15-6 of the excess expenditure was due to the establishment salaries for December 1902 being drawn in that month as a special case, to the deputation allowance drawn by the headmaster when he acted for the Deputy Superintendent on privilege leave, to the increments and increased salaries drawn by members of the teaching staff, and to the appointment of the band instructor. There was also increased expenditure under purchase of materials, chiefly owing to the introduction of aluminium work, but this expenditure was more than covered by increased sale-proceeds. Expenditure under clothing, bedding and mark-money was also increased in proportion to the increased average number of pupils for the year which rose to 161 against 158 of the previous year. In view of the additional buildings brought into use, increased expenditure under furniture and apparatus was also necessary. But with the return of prosperity due to sufficiency of rain the expenditure under rations fell to Rs. 5,009-0-5 from Rs. 5,784-2-2 of the previous year. The average annual cost of dieting a pupil accordingly decreased from Rs. 36-9-8 to Rs. 31-1-9, and the cost per mensem from Rs. 3-0-9 to Rs. 2-9-5 during the year.

32. *Inspection of School.*—Mr. E. H. Elliot, B.A., Acting Inspector of Schools, Central Circle, visited and inspected the school on the 23rd December 1902. As his remarks on the general condition of the school are interesting, I append them *in extenso* :—

"Visited the reformatory in the afternoon, and was much interested in all that I saw. The boys were at work in their several departments and were all very busily employed. The skill shown in the various industries that are taught, and the

progress made by the boys were to me very surprising, considering their antecedents and the classes from which they have come. I was much struck with the specimens of their hand-writing shown me and with their drawings—free-hand, model and Geometrical, which are far superior to the drawings I have seen in any school yet visited by me. Drill and gymnastics, too, have received great attention. The boys went through their exercises in a most excellent manner, and were evidently anxious to make a display of their skill, strength and dexterity. Great credit is undoubtedly due to those who have had the management of this institution, and who in spite of all difficulties, have brought it to its present admirable condition. The boys appear to be well-fed and to be healthy and cheerful."

33. *Visiting committee.*—The Committee held 10 meetings in the year against 8 in the previous year. There is nothing special to record on the work of the Committee during the year. The special interest which Mr. G. Narayanaswami Chetti, official visitor, takes in this institution is noteworthy. He visited the school no less than eight times during the year. The silver medal and clasp which he has undertaken to present annually to the best behaved boy in the school will no doubt have a good effect on the conduct of the boys as observed by you. The Sanitary Commissioner, the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Surgeon-General and the District Magistrate also visited the school and inspected it during the year. Their remarks were duly communicated to you.

34. *Service books.*—These have been written up to date.

Proceedings, Dis. No. 2579, dated 23rd April 1903.

1. *Teaching staff and general establishment.*—Captain T. H. Foulkes, I.M.S., remained in charge of the institution throughout the year except for a period of three months. A band instructor was appointed and an additional assistant monitorship created in connection with the band and bugle class.

2. *Accommodation and equipment.*—It is understood that the extensions and additions to the buildings are being pushed on rapidly. The kitchen, carpenter's shed, and the weaving shed and a latrine were made over by the Public Works Department during the year.

3. *Library and museum.*—An addition of 38 books was made to the library during the year, the total number of volumes at its close being 296. The construction of a separate room for the museum must lie over until all the additional buildings already sanctioned have been constructed.

4. *Health and physical education.*—In October last a pupil died of malarial fever. The general health of the inmates of the school was however satisfactory, and the physical development of the pupils continued to receive careful attention. It is gratifying to observe that at the annual sports in which the high schools of the town took part, 37 of the 38 prizes were gained by the pupils of this institution.

5. *Strength and attendance.*—During the year 36 new pupils were admitted against 28 in the previous year, but the strength fell from 163 to 161 owing to the death of one pupil and the discharge of 37. The average strength, however, rose from 158 to 161. Owing to want of accommodation admission had to be refused to fourteen boys as against 38 in the previous year. The fall in the number for whom admission was sought may be partly due, as suggested by the Superintendent, to the return of prosperity in districts affected by famine in the previous year. It is stated that the pupils newly admitted came from seventeen districts and belonged to twenty-two castes. Brahmans, Muhammadans and Panchamas were represented by 1, 3 and 3, respectively. Nine of the pupils admitted in the year belonged to the criminal classes against one in the previous year. With the exception of two cases, one of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and the other of possessing and delivering counterfeit coins, all the pupils admitted were committed for offences against property.

6. *Moral training and discipline.*—Due attention was paid to moral training. The statistics relating to the number of offences and punishments speak well for the general conduct of the pupils and the tone of the institution, though they are not as favourable as they were in the previous year.

7. *Mark and work money.*—The average annual earnings of the pupils rose to Rs. 3-11-1 from Rs. 3-8-8, and the fall in the amount in the savings bank to their credit has been explained.

8. *Public and standard examinations.*—The results of the Primary examination were again very creditable to the teachers concerned, all the eighteen pupils presented having passed with nine in the first class. The report of the Sub-Assistant Inspector of Muhammadan schools on the Hindustani class will be awaited. The teaching of colloquial English should receive special attention.

9. *Technical Education classes.*—Instruction continued to be given in drawing and in five main and five subsidiary industrial subjects. A band class was in addition opened during the year. The results obtained at the Government Technical examinations can hardly be considered satisfactory when only 11 passed out of 25, but the school did well at the examinations in industrial subjects held by Mr. Chatterton and in tailoring conducted, after the close of the year under report, by Mr. E. D. Smith. The Superintendent will be requested to report on the desirability of a specialist being deputed to examine the band and bugle class. It is satisfactory to note that every industry was worked at a profit.

10. *History and employment of discharged pupils.*—Twenty-three of the 37 pupils discharged are reported to have obtained employment; eight are still unemployed, and no report has been received of the remaining six. It is noted that ten of those who found employment or 27 per cent. took to the trades they were taught in the school. It is satisfactory to observe that the majority of those who have passed through the school are employed, while the successful working of the institution as a reformatory is sufficiently indicated by the fact that only 40 or 11 per cent. of the discharged pupils have failed to be benefited by its discipline. The statistics required by the Government of India in its letter communicated with G.O., No. 143, Educational, dated 27th March 1903 are given in paragraph 28 of the report.

11. *Finance.*—The total net expenditure on the institution was Rs. 21,099-4-11 against Rs. 18,822-12-1 in the previous year, and the increase is accounted for in the report. The decrease in the cost of dieting each pupil is a satisfactory feature.

12. *General.*—The committee of visitors held ten meetings against eight in the previous year. The interest evinced in the institution by M.R.Ry. G. Narayanaswami Chetti is noted with pleasure. The school continued to be efficiently managed.

(A true Extract.)

G. H. STUART,
Director of Public Instruction.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

ORDER—No. 241, Educational, dated 22nd May 1903.

The Governor in Council has read the report with much interest.

2. The management of the school continued to be efficient. Its strength remained almost the same as in the previous year, but when the extensions and additions to the buildings, which are now under construction, are completed, a larger number of pupils will be admitted.

3. The increase in the net expenditure of the institution was only nominal being due to the inclusion in the year's accounts of the salaries of the establishment for December 1902.

1. The interest evinced in the school by M.R.Ry. G. Narayanaswami Chetti, one of the non-official visitors is noted with satisfaction.

(True Extract.)

A. G. CARDEW,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

