

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

1909.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 4, 5th January 1909.

Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam.

Approving the proposal to abolish the Executive Committee of the — and to vest the management of the hostel in the General Committee as reconstituted.

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1909.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 4, 5th January 1909.

Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam.

Approving the proposal to abolish the Executive Committee of the — and to vest the management of the hostel in the General Committee as reconstituted.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O., No. 304, Educational, dated 30th May 1899.

ABSTRACT.—Approving the draft notification vesting the Tanjore Jubilee Fund in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments as modified by G.O., No. 122, Educational, dated 28th February 1899, and directing its publication in the *Port St. George Gazette*.

II

G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908.

ABSTRACT.—Considering that the scheme for the administration of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, proposed by the Collector of Tanjore is complicated, and requesting the General Committee of the hostel to submit an application under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, if they approve of the scheme sketched out by Government.

III

Letter—from J. P. BEDFORD, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 25th August 1908.
No.—R. Dis. 983-Rev.

With reference to G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908, I have the honour to enclose copies of (1) the proceedings of a meeting of the Hostel Committee held on 7th August 1908, (2) all correspondence which has taken place on the subject since receipt of the Government Order, including opinions expressed by the various members of the Committee, (3) two draft applications, (4) a list of enclosures to this letter.

2. It is agreed on all hands that the Executive Committee is superfluous, that the accounts may with advantage be simplified in the manner indicated by Government and that the Collector may cease to be a member of the General Committee. I need not therefore enlarge on these points—*vide* Resolution (2) of the meeting held on 7th August 1908.

3. Resolutions (3) and (4) call for no special comment. If the General Committee is to continue to exist, they are, I think, appropriate and may be accepted.

4. The first resolution of all (to which Mr. Moscardi has given no number), namely, that the wardenship of the hostel be given to a Senior Lecturer, is one on which the meeting was equally divided. I am strongly opposed to it. I consider the personal supervision and responsibility of the Principal to be an absolute essential.

5. I now come to Resolution (1), namely, that both committees be abolished and replaced by a body of visitors. The meeting was equally divided on this point also. Had all the committee been present, the result would have been the same, as I should have been for the proposition and Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar would have been against it. If a requisition were called for in this matter, it would be signed by three members (1) myself, (2) the Principal and (3) Mr. Moscardi signing in two capacities (a) as Sub-Collector, (b) as Chairman of the Municipality. The other three members would certainly refuse to sign such a requisition.

6. This is not a mere accident. The committee, as at present constituted, is equally adjusted, Europeans and Executive officers on the one side, Indians and Judicial officers on the other side. It is, I think, to be expected that the ideal of the one should be an "one-man show" and that of the other control by a committee.

7. Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar has given two able expositions of the views of his party, whilst Mr. Moscardi has also given two expositions of his views, one in a document addressed to the other members, and again in a report addressed to me. All four documents merit perusal.

8. With one point raised by the opponents of the proposal I am somewhat inclined to agree. A doubt has been expressed as to whether the General Committee can, by its own resolution, deprive itself of existence. I myself apprehend that a resolution of the committee on such a subject is ineffective. If the committee can be dissolved, I submit that it is Government alone which is competent to effect its dissolution. Looked at from this point of view, a resolution of the committee itself (whether in favour of its own continuance or of its own extinction) is merely a circumstance to be taken into account, but not conclusive nor even essential.

9. The opponents of the scheme dwell on the fact that the hostel is, by virtue of its history, a trust and should therefore be controlled by representation. This is a purely legal matter to my apprehension. If the circumstances of the case render the existence of a committee legally necessary, there is of course nothing more to be said; on the legal point, I would not venture to express an opinion.

10. Beyond this, I can find no argument of a positive description against the proposal included in the written minutes of the dissentients. When the adherents of the committee come to the merits, their attitude is apologetic. It is a very significant fact that not a single instance has been quoted in which the committee, as a committee, is asserted to have effected the smallest improvement in the hostel administration. I may add that this barrenness of result is precisely the feature of the committee which has struck me during the last eighteen months. Within my experience, the functions of the committee have been almost exclusively confined to registering the suggestions of the Principal and confirming (sometimes not with the best grace) arrangements made by that officer "in anticipation of sanction". The few matters of real importance which have come up for decision have been initiated either by Government or by the Principal or Superintendent. If the committee had ever exercised more vital functions than those of a drag, I cannot but think that its upholders would have taken this opportunity of submitting instances in point for our consideration.

11. Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar claims, however, that the committee has not interfered. A committee, which has no more to say for itself than this, has no particular claim for survival, unless it be granted (1) that it is a passive check on aberrations which might otherwise take place, (2) that no other equally efficient check would be available, if this check were removed. I demur to both propositions. Let me consider the first point first.

12. In the written statements submitted herewith it is admitted that the committee has not interfered and should not interfere with the inner working of the hostel. I agree, because I think that its interference would do more harm than good, but its admitted powerlessness in this direction seems to show that it is a radically defective means of control. In any case, it will be granted on all hands that, in matters financial, it has a legitimate sphere of action. What the committee has effected in this direction, is described in my letter of 19th December 1907, quoted in the Government Order under reference. A committee, which has dragged on for eight years without having acquired the smallest knowledge of its financial position, of its prospects, of what it is spending, of what it is receiving, a committee which, for purposes of receipts and expenditure, has split itself into two parts and then made an ill-timed application of the precept of not letting its right-hand know what its left-hand is doing, has dragged itself down to a level of financial imbecility to which no single manager of the smallest intelligence and self-respect could ever have condescended. If it be asked how financial disaster has been averted, I would unhesitatingly assign as a reason the fact that the larger part of the receipts and expenditure has all along been kept in the hands of the Principal and has never come under the purview of the committee at all; in other words, the situation has been maintainable, because the scope of the committee's interference has been comparatively limited.

13. Coming to the other point, I would observe that the kind of control which the hostel accounts really require (and which they have never got and, I venture to affirm, never will get at the hands of the committee) could easily and mechanically be supplied by a trained auditor. I have suggested before and would now venture to suggest again that the book-keeping of the hostel needs periodical inspection from the Accountant-General's office, if it is to be brought into order and kept up to the mark. As to administrative supervision, by far the most effective agency would be that of the inspecting officers of the Educational Department, supplemented by a similar system of visiting to that now applied to our District and Central Jails.

14. Lastly, I must be ungenerous enough to demur even to Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar's modest claim on behalf of the committee, that it has done no harm. If the committee does no good, its mere existence is an evil in itself. An inefficient institution tends to waste time, to try the temper (of this I have had personal experience in regard to this institution, though all its members are my friends) and to encourage cynical and unworthy ideas in regard to public institutions and public life generally. Further I would respectfully solicit attention to Mr. Mosecardi's forcible protest, on the score of the necessarily prejudicial effect on discipline of an irresponsible and unprofessional agency controlling the details of college administration. Paragraph 7 of his report to me is, in this connection, very significant, as showing the view taken by the upholders of the present system as to one function which it may and should perform, namely, that of providing discontented students with an *appeal* against their headmaster's orders. I may be permitted, in this connection, to point out that, if I cease to have any connection with the committee and if a non-official Chairman be eventually appointed or if the proposal to appoint another non-official member be approved, the Hostel Committee may become (what it is not now) a really efficient agency for interference on these lines; we may then see students, who have been punished by the Principal or Superintendent, putting in appeal petitions to the committee and vakils moving the committee members to order stay of executions pending their final decision. Thus the non-official members, while seeking to secure a majority on the committee, have given a hint as to the use which they propose to make of it when they get it.

15. As the upholders of the committee have not been able to show any single achievement to boast of in the past; as my report of 19th December 1907 seems to sufficiently demonstrate that the existence of a committee is compatible with a degree of inefficiency and confusion which could not possibly have existed in its absence and as the future possibilities relied on by its supporters (and adverted to in the last paragraph) seem based on mistaken conceptions of education and discipline, I venture to think that there is a good case for the enforcement of the proposal discussed in Resolution No. (1), namely, the substitution for the committee of a number of visitors. Should action on these lines be found impracticable or inexpedient, I would recommend that Resolutions Nos. (2), (3) and (4) be given effect to.

16. I would respectfully suggest that, whichever view be accepted, the relevant draft application (two alternative applications are enclosed) be subjected to the scrutiny of some law officer before it is returned for subscription. A precedent for this course is to be found in the papers printed in G.O., No. 304, Educational, dated 30th May 1899.

ENCLOSURES.

Minutes of the meeting of the General Committee, Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, dated 7th August 1908.

PRESENT:

1. The Revenue Divisional Officer.
2. The Principal of the Kumbakonam College.
3. The Sub-Judge, Kumbakonam.
4. M.R.Ry. K. Ranganatha Rao.

Read G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908, regarding the dispensing with of the Executive Committee and entrusting the direct management of the hostel to the Principal of the College.

The committee accepts all the proposals made by Government in G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908, except as regards the Principal being warden. Proposed by the Sub-Judge and seconded by Mr. K. Ranganatha Rao that the Senior Lecturer be warden, and one of the Assistant Lecturers be Superintendent, the Principal continuing to be a member of the General Committee.

The voting was even, two on each side—

For
The Sub-Judge.
Mr. K. Ranganatha Rao.

Against
The Principal.
The Revenue Divisional officer.

The committee then proceeded to vote on the following proposals:—

1. That both committees be abolished and replaced by a body of visitors, full control and management of the hostel being vested in the Principal.

For
The Principal.
The Revenue Divisional officer.

Against
The Sub-Judge,
Mr. K. Ranganatha Rao.

2. That the Collector on vacating his seat, on the single committee, be accorded the position of a visitor.

Carried unanimously.

3. That to fill the seat vacated by the Collector on the single committee, the members of the Municipal Council shall elect one of themselves.

Proposed by the Sub-Judge that when the Revenue Divisional officer and the Municipal Chairman are the same person, the Municipality shall elect one of themselves as a member of the single committee, but that when the Municipal Chairman is a non-official the vacancy shall be filled by Government by nomination.

Carried unanimously.

4. Proposed by Mr. Ranganatha Rao that the single committee shall meet twice a year at least.

For
The Revenue Divisional officer.
The Sub-Judge.
Mr. Ranganatha Rao.

Against
The Principal of the College.

No. 432 B. and G., dated 9th April 1908.

1. Principal, Kumbakonam College.
2. Chairman, Municipal Council, Kumbakonam.
3. Divisional officer, Kumbakonam.
4. Sub-Judge, Kumbakonam.
5. M.R.Ry. K. Ranganatha Rao Avargal, B.A.
6. " N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar Avargal, B.A., B.L.

Copy of the Government Order regarding scheme of management of the Kumbakonam Hostel forwarded to the members of the General Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, for an expression of an opinion as to whether they approve of the scheme sketched out by Government.

The President of the Executive Committee is requested to arrange, if possible, to have this subject brought before the next meeting of the General Committee, which should be fixed for as early a date as possible.

J. P. BEDFORD,
Collector.

Letter—from K. RANGANATHA RAO, B.A., Member, Victoria Jubilee Hostel Committee, Kumbakonam.
To—the Collector and President, Victoria Jubilee Hostel General Committee, Tanjore.
Dated—the 14th April 1908.

With reference to G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908, in regard to the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, forwarded to me for my opinion, I have the honour to state my views as follows:—

As the hostel is now in working order, I agree with the Government in thinking that there is no further necessity for the existence of two different committees for its management. Only one committee will be sufficient and the Executive Committee may be abolished. But it is essential that in that case, the General Committee should meet more frequently than at present to conduct the affairs of the institution. It must meet at least once in three months. Its strength may remain the same as before, i.e., seven; but I would suggest a slight alteration in its constitution. I consider it is desirable to have three nominated non-official members with experience of local matters instead of two as at present thereon. To provide a seat for the third non-official member, the Collector may cease his connection with the committee, the Divisional officer taking his place as its President. As the institution is purely local in its

character, it will not suffer by such an arrangement. As the Collector generally stays at Tanjore, he will thus be saved the trouble of frequently coming down to Kumbakónam, to attend the meetings of the committee. His control over the institution need not be diminished on this account. He may have the power to visit the hostel whenever he comes to Kumbakónam to examine its accounts and to inquire into its affairs.

If this is not practicable, I would suggest that the name of the Sub-Judge may be omitted from the list of *ex-officio* members. He is a Judicial officer scarcely having any time at his disposal to devote his attention to the matters of this institution.

The accounts may be simplified as suggested and the Superintendent may continue as the committee's Secretary. Its proceedings may be published in the District Gazette as it is done in the case of Municipalities and District and Taluk Boards.

Letter—from A. F. G. MOSCARDI, Esq., I.C.S., Divisional Officer and Member of General Committee, Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam.

To—the Collector and President of the General Committee, Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam.

Dated—the 15th April 1908.

No.—Ref. on R.H. 2.

In reply to your reference R.C. No. 432/G. and B., dated 10th April 1908, on the management of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, I have the honour to state that the scheme proposed by Government appears to me to exactly meet the case. I have no personal experience of the present arrangement; but it seems to me that the existence of an Executive Committee besides the General Committee on one side, and the Principal on the other, might result in a splitting up of responsibility in the course of which some sense of responsibility might be lost. With the General Committee as administrative and the Principal as executive authority, there seems to be no need for any further committee.

Letter—from M.R.Ry. T. T. RANGACHARIAR AVARGAL, B.A., B.L., Subordinate Judge, Kumbakónam.

To—the Collector of Tanjore.

Dated—the 28th April 1908.

No.—1809.

With reference to your R.C., No. 432/B. and G. of 1908, dated the 9th instant, I have the honour to state as follows.

I saw notice of a meeting of the General Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam, to be held on the 1st May and if I remember aright, the G.O., No. 241 of the Government is one of the subjects to be considered at the meeting.

Therefore I have not hitherto forwarded my opinion about the scheme sketched out by Government.

The scheme appears to me to be workable and simple and may be approved. But I have no experience in the management of hostels and I desire to understand the views of the other members of the committee, before finally stating my opinion. As a meeting of members is to take place within three days, I request that the statement of my final opinion may be postponed till then.

Letter—from T. O. HODGES, Esq., Principal, Government College, Kumbakónam.

To—the Collector of Tanjore.

Dated—the 29th April 1908.

No.—R.C. 76.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your R.C. No. 432/B. and G., dated 9th April 1908, together with the Government Order respecting the Victoria Jubilee Hostel. I consider the scheme outlined therein to be a very good one and have no criticisms or suggestions to make.

Letter—from M.R.Ry. N. KRISHNASWAMI AIYANGAR AVARGAL, B.A., B.L., Member of the General and Executive Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam.

To—the Collector of Tanjore and President of the General Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam.

Dated—the 1st May 1908.

With reference to your endorsement No. 432, dated 9th April 1908, on G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908, I have the honour to state as follows.

2. I agree in the opinion that there is little necessity for two committees at present and the Executive Committee may be dispensed with. But it seems to me that the constitution of the General Committee should be so modified as to give a greater non-official representation in the direct management of the hostel. The Executive Committee in which the direct management of the hostel is now vested consists of the Revenue Divisional officer and the two non-official members and the abolition of the committee would bring non-official representation to a minimum. If I understand rightly, the two non-official members on the committee represent the general body of the subscribers of the Jubilee fund, while the *ex-officio* members represent the Government who contributed about one-third of the cost of the construction of the hostel. Greater non-official representation was apparently thought unnecessary at the time the scheme now in force was settled, because the direct management of the hostel was under the Executive Committee.

3. It is quite necessary that the management of the hostel and accounts relating to it should go before the General Committee once a month as it now does before the Executive Committee and it is a question for consideration whether the Collector who is now the President of the committee could, without considerable public inconvenience, find time to attend such meetings. The committee may be made purely local, giving the Collector *ex-officio* a right to intervene as in the case of the District Municipalities and to take part in the meetings of the committee with full rights of voting whenever he should consider it necessary or expedient to do so; and when he does attend he shall have the right to preside. This arrangement if approved will make one seat on the committee available for a non-official. The Municipal Chairman and the Divisional officer being one and the same person now, I would suggest the expediency of the Municipal Council being represented, separately, by a Councillor to whom the Chairman may be authorised to delegate so long as the Chairman for the time being holds a seat on the committee in any other capacity. The necessary authority for such delegation may be provided for in the articles of the revised constitution.

4. In my opinion the office of the committee should be entirely under the control of the Divisional officer, who may be the President of the committee. The accounts of each month should be sent to him by the warden and audited in his office and placed before the committee with his remarks. This was the practice that was being followed for a considerable time after the hostel was started and the change recently made, in leaving the office under the Principal of the College, has been found to be not only inconvenient to the members, but does not appear to have been satisfactory.

5. While as a matter of abstract principle I agree that the Principal of the College may be the warden of the hostel, I would on practical grounds strongly advocate that the warden should be one who can without difficulty or objection see directly for himself the inner life of the hostel. It is not necessary that he should have a seat on the committee so long as the Principal of the College has one and it is even desirable that he should not have. I am to some extent strengthened in this opinion by the refusal of the Government on a former occasion to give the warden a seat on the Executive Committee and the reasons which then existed have not now ceased to exist. The incidents of the Victoria Hostel, Madras, which came prominently before the public some months ago, may be borne in mind now, when the constitution is proposed to be revised, so that the proposed scheme may not be open to the remark of making the Principal a little too autocratic. I am here only giving expression to what is being freely said outside the committee and I hope my views will not be misunderstood.

6. In any case, the control of the committee should be not only financial, but must be sufficiently large and effective so as to prevent abuses and to correct and rectify them if they should unfortunately occur. In plain language the committee's powers should not merely be the formal passing of accounts and balance sheets, but should be such as to secure the efficient conditions of the inner life and administration of the hostel.

Proceedings of the General Committee, Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam, dated 1st May 1908.

PRESENT:

A. F. G. Moscardi, Esq., I.C.S., President.

T. O. Hodges, Esq.

M.R.Ry. K. Ranganatha Rao Avargal.

„ N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar Avargal.

Sub-Judge, Kumbakónam.

Read—

1. Proposed drains for the kitchen and bath shed.
2. Passing of the Budget Estimate for the first term, 1st September 1908.
3. Filling up of the ditch to the east of Smartha kitchen.
4. Famine allowance to menial servants.
5. Consideration of G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908, about the hostel constitution and accounts.

6. Certain improvements to Superintendent's quarters.
7. Certain modifications in the collection of room-rent.
8. Proposals regarding change in the system of levying boarding fees.

Resolution—

1. To lie over for the disposal of the third subject.
2. Passed.
3. Resolved to get the opinion of the Executive Engineer on the question of the drainage of the compound.
4. Sanctioned at Re. 1 per month to the peon, watchman, gardener with effect from 1st March till further orders.
5. Resolved to request the Collector to favour the committee with his views on the subject.
6. Resolved to proceed at once with the following items of work:—
(1) Platform round the well, (2) drain from the house, (3) latrine, and to ask the President to get the estimates checked.
7. Resolved to make no change from the present system.
8. Resolved to adopt the warden's second proposal provisionally for the next term.

*Letter—*from A. F. G. MOSCARDI, Esq., I.C.S., Chairman, Municipal Council, Kumbakonam.
*To—*the Collector of Tanjore.
*Dated—*the 5th May 1908.
*No.—*D. Dis. 264.

With reference to your R. C. No. 432/B. & G., dated 9th April 1908, I have the honour to state that, as the Chairman and the Revenue Divisional officer happen to be one and the same for the time being, I agree in the opinion expressed by the Divisional officer, Kumbakonam.

*Letter—*from J. P. BEDFORD, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.
*To—*the Sub-Judge, Kumbakonam.
*Dated—*the 11th May 1908.
*No.—*C. 432-B. & G.

With reference to your letter, No. 1809, dated 28th April 1908, I have the honour to request you to be good enough to favour me with your final opinion on the scheme relating to the management of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel at Kumbakonam.

*Letter—*from T. T. RANGACHARIAR Avargal, Subordinate Judge, Kumbakonam.
*To—*the Collector of Tanjore.
*Dated—*Tirunallur, the 22nd May 1908.

With reference to your letter C. No. 432/B. & G. of 1908, dated the 11th instant, I have the honour to state that I approve of the scheme proposed by the Government, with a slight modification. As the Principal of the College is a member of the General Committee, it appears to me to be desirable that the chief executive authority as regards the management of the hostel may be vested in the Senior Hindu Lecturer of the College who may be expected to understand the needs of the students, who are mostly Hindus, better than the Principal.

*Letter—*from J. P. BEDFORD, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.
*To—*the Divisional Officer and President of the Executive Committee, Kumbakonam.
*Dated—*the 7th June 1908.

From the proceedings of the last meeting of the Hostel Committee, I learn that that body has asked for my views in regard to G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908. While thanking the committee for their courtesy, I must point out that it is no part of my functions as Collector to advise the General Committee and that the only advice in any case which I can give them with propriety is that they should accept the suggestion of Government, unless they see very strong reason against such a course.

2. I may however allude to a supplemental suggestion on the part of one member to the effect that I should cease to be a member of the committee, thereby making it possible to fill the vacancy by another non-official member. On this I would remark that, so far as my own personal convenience is concerned, I should welcome such a suggestion. I cannot well keep the minutes of the committee myself and arrange for meetings, having my head-quarters at Tanjore. On the other hand, the uncertainty on the part of local members of the General Committee as to their position and responsibilities seems to hamper them considerably in arranging for meetings and in dealing with the proceedings of such meetings as they succeed in holding.

3. It has taken me five weeks to get an informal copy (through the kindness of Mr. Hodges) of the last meeting held, though Resolution 4 consisted of a special request to me for an expression of my opinion.

4. The last meeting which I attended was a fiasco, no papers being ready and no information available as to the subjects to be discussed.

5. As matters stand, my connection with the hostel means a waste of time to myself, with no corresponding advantage to anybody else.

6. The committee at their last meeting have taken what seems to me to be the unnecessary step of adjourning the consideration of this important Government order, in order to get an expression of my opinion. Having said all that I feel called upon to say on this subject in paragraph 1 of this letter, I have the honour to request you to take steps for calling a meeting of the committee at the earliest possible date and for submitting the views of the committee to me at your earliest convenience. I should especially wish to know in this connection (1) whether the committee agree with Mr. Ranganatha Rao's suggestion alluded to in paragraph 2 above, (2) how the committee propose to convene meetings and arrange for the disposal of agenda papers in future.

*Letter—*A. F. G. MOSCARDI, Esq., I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Kumbakonam.
*To—*the Collector of Tanjore.
*Dated—*the 30th June 1908.
*No.—*Ref. on C.R. 2/C.H.

In reply to your letter, dated 7th instant, to the President of the Executive Committee of the College Hostel, regarding the constitution of the hostel management as proposed in G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908, I have the honour to report that the opinion of the members of the committee have already been obtained in writing and forwarded to you from the hostel office. The resolution of the committee, to which your letter was a reply, was passed in order that your opinion should also be put on record, along with those of the other members of the committee.

2. The delay in replying to your letter is due to the difficulty which I constantly experience in finding out where the hostel papers are. Some are in the Superintendent's office and some in mine; and as the Superintendent is now absent on vacation, I have not been able to use his help in tracing the papers.

Circular.

The Collector wishes to know what the General committee of the College Hostel think of the following suggestions:—

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | (1) The Collector wishes to vacate his seat on the committee. It is suggested that he should be accorded the position of "Visitor" and that a book should be kept for him to record his impressions and opinions. |
| B | (2) It is suggested that the seat vacated by the Collector should be filled by the Municipal Council electing one of themselves. |
| | (3) As an alternative to the proposed single committee, it is suggested that both committees should be abolished and replaced by a body of "Visitors". |

The members of the General Committee are requested to state if they agree or disagree with any of these suggestions.

A. F. G. MOSCARDI.

Opinions.

My own opinion is that if the "single committee" proposal is to be given effect, the first two suggestions may be adopted. But I would prefer to see both the committees abolished, and the hostel placed under the direct management of the Principal. My reason for this is that the hostel ought to be part of the College and I object on principle to an integral part of the College being managed (even nominally) by a body of outsiders. This gives the body no chance of acquiring a proper feeling towards their school as a school. If the College is a cramming establishment, of course this argument is of no value; but it is an educational institution, it is a vital necessity that the boys should be under the headmaster, and that none of his authority should be frittered away. This is a more important point than the people of this country generally think. The sense of discipline, or the law-abiding sense, or the sense of citizenship (or anything else one may like to call it) is the one thing necessary for a people to

become a civilized nation. This sense is acquired at school; but it is certainly not acquired at a school where this detail is managed by one committee from outside, and that by another, while the headmaster and other masters are there simply to thrust some facts on to the boys.

A. F. G. MOSCARDI.

1. I am in entire accord with proposal A (1) and (2) and would even allow the Collector powers of being present at meetings if he should be so inclined. Indeed I have suggested this already in my reply, dated 1st May 1908. It should be obligatory upon the management, whether it is a single person or a committee to give effect to the Collector's suggestions as far as practicable.

2. As regards the alternative proposal, though abstractedly considered, the principle formulated by Mr. Moscardi is ideal and open to no objection, I am obliged to dissent from the proposal, as the circumstances of the case do not, in my opinion, warrant any such drastic change. I find it difficult to subscribe to the inference that suggests itself from Mr. Moscardi's remarks that the College has hitherto failed in its object. I would not pursue the matter further were it not that as an *alumnus* of the College and as one of a large body of students who have occupied and are now occupying various responsible offices under Government and in the learned professions, it seems to me to be an unmerited reflection that the College has not helped either in the formation of character or in the development of the various qualities of citizenship. Whatever it may have been in comparatively recent times, the Kumbakonam College was looked upon with reverence and profound submission by the whole of India so much so that it was familiarly known as "The Cambridge of Southern India"; of the causes that have contributed to its present decadence it is not for me to say anything; but as an old *alumnus* and as a citizen having vested permanent interests I conceive it to be my duty to do everything that may lie in my way to raise the College once more to the position it occupied for an unbroken period of over thirty years. This is perhaps a digression, but was necessitated by some of the remarks in the proposal under reference.

3. It must be remembered that the "Hostel" which the committee is now administering is a trust. The bulk of the funds was contributed by the people of the district on the occasion of the First Jubilee of the Great Queen. It is essentially a "people's institution" and the people should therefore have a voice in it as far as is compatible with efficiency of administration. To make it the concern of a single individual, however talented he may be, is to ignore the foundation and would imply that the management hitherto left everything to be desired, or had been too often interfering in matters internal or affecting the discipline.

4. Under the present constitution, the General Committee is only an administrative body, the direct financial control of the institution being vested in the Executive Committee and so far as I know, the members of the Executive Committee, or at all events, the non-official members, have never in any single instance done anything which might have even the semblance of interference in the internal autonomy of the institution; nor am I aware of any case in which the existence of the Executive Committee had a deleterious effect upon the discipline of the College or the hostel. With the abolition of the Executive Committee, the powers of the General Committee will be purely administrative and financial, leaving altogether unaffected the powers of the warden in regard to discipline and internal management. Control of some sort is absolutely necessary and very often salutary and such a control is quite indispensable in the case of the hostel under reference which I have already stated is the "People's trust". Neither the past history of the hostel nor reasons based on expediency seem to justify a proposal to dispense with the committee and vest the whole concern in the Principal of the College. In my reply, dated 1st May 1908, I have stated the undesirability of the Principal being the warden and to that opinion I still adhere and I am happy to find that it has the concurrence of such an experienced gentleman as the Sub-Judge of Kumbakonam.

5. It may be worth while here to remark that the Victoria Hostel at Madras takes into it students from various colleges and is not exclusively a department of one of them. So far as I know, it is managed by a committee very similar to ours. Forces which act against the formation of character and distract the students from their legitimate aims and duties are many times greater at Madras than in a comparatively small place like Kumbakonam. If it has not till now been considered necessary to interfere in the constitution of the Victoria Hostel at Madras, a very strong case should be made out before any interference is attempted with the existing constitution which has been the result of long consideration and correspondence after ascertaining the wishes of the donors of the Jubilee fund, to which the hostel owes its existence, and in my opinion neither on facts nor in theory has any such case been put forth.

6. Lastly, if the proposal to make the members of the present committee visitors with no obligation on the warden to carry out any suggestions they might record in the visitor's book is intended to be a *solatium* for the members that may vacate their seats in consequence of the

acceptance of the proposal, I for one, would rather be without it. If, on the other hand, there is to be an obligation on the part of the warden to carry out the visitors' suggestions, then I fail to see how it is a better state of affairs than the control by a committee.

4th August 1908.

N. KRISHNASWAMI AIYANGAR,
Member.

The suggestion in paragraph A (1) of the circular accords with my own view expressed in one of my former letters to the President of the Hostel General Committee, and I heartily approve of it.

I do not see any necessity for the suggestion in paragraph A (2) inasmuch as the Municipal Council is already represented on the Hostel Committee by the Municipal Chairman as one of its *ex-officio* members. The seat vacated by the Collector may be filled up by Government nominating another respectable native resident having experience of this locality as a third non-official member. If the Government is so disposed, it may limit the term of service of all the three non-official members to a certain number of years, renewing their appointment or making new appointments at the end of each term.

I am not in favour of the proposal contained in paragraph B (3). The hostel has been mainly constructed with trust money—the Government having liberally contributed towards it—and it has already been constituted into a trust. Therefore, I think it must continue to be managed by a number of trustees as it has been hitherto. There is no objection to its internal management being left entirely in the hands of the warden; but, it is desirable that the general administration of the institution should be vested in a single managing committee, of which, as I have already proposed, the Revenue officer in charge of this division may be the *ex-officio* President. It is also desirable that the powers of the warden and of the managing committee should be well defined so that there may be no conflict between the two at any time.

5th August 1908.

K. RANGANATHA RAO,
Member.

The General Committee was apparently formed to represent the people who contributed largely towards the construction and maintenance of the "Hostel" and also the Government whose contribution was equally liberal. I am doubtful about its powers to dissolve itself and transfer its functions to the Principal of the College.

As observed by Mr. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, the powers of the General Committee will be, more or less, administrative and financial, and it is not likely that the committee will materially interfere with the powers of the warden as regards discipline and the internal management of the "Hostel".

The existing management has, I believe, satisfied the requirements of the "Hostel".

I approve of the suggestion contained in paragraph A (1) of the circular. As regards paragraph (2) the Municipal Council may elect one of their members to fill up the seat vacated by the Collector, while the Revenue Divisional officer happens to be the Chairman of the Council. When the Council is presided over by another Chairman, who must be an *ex-officio* member of the committee, a respectable resident of Kumbakonam may be appointed for the seat.

The suggestion contained in paragraph B (3) does not for the reasons aforementioned meet with my approval.

5th August 1908.

T. T. RANGA CHARIAR,
Subordinate Judge.

Letter—from A. F. G. MOSCARDI, Esq., I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Kumbakonam.
To—the Collector of Tanjore.
Dated—the 13th August 1908.
No.—D. Dis. 16-C.H.

I have the honour to forward herewith the minutes of a meeting of the General Committee of the College Hostel, which was specially convened to vote upon certain points in connection with the revision of the management of the hostel. Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar was absent owing to injuries received in a carriage accident; and as the Collector was also absent, there were only four members at the meeting. The minutes will show that on all controversial points the votes were equally divided. Before the meeting, however, I have circulated the proposals to the members, and their written opinions (including my own) are also forwarded with this letter.

2. I am unwilling to leave the subject without a few further remarks. My written opinion will show why I object to a committee; and as Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar has taken exception to my remarks, I take this opportunity of repeating and emphasising them.

3. The "decadence" of the College lamented by Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar is no doubt the result of similar institutions having arisen at other places. This College cannot be expected to sweep the board at the University examinations now, as it did formerly when it had no rivals. Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar speaks of a time when the College occupied a higher position than it does now, and turned out a number of men who have since become distinguished in various ways. I might add that in those days there was no Hostel Committee; *i.e.*, no such interference from outside as I object to now.

4. But these points are irrelevant, and I have no wish to score off Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar in debating society fashion. My object now is to draw attention to the fact that the committee system is a dangerous one for the boys, as any system must be which does or can suggest to the boys that there is more than one authority over them. I submit that no boy can possibly learn the habit of discipline at a school where there are two distinct controlling authorities. It is besides the point to say that the committee does not interfere with the internal management (whatever this may mean) of the school; my point is that the very existence of a committee is an object-lesson to the boys of a most pernicious kind, making them live in daily familiarity with the idea of split authority, and responsibility frittered away by division. A boy who passes the most impressionable part of his life with such an object-lesson before his eyes, cannot be educated.

5. I am not an authority on educational matters, but I gather from the newspapers that the state of education is not giving satisfaction to those who have a right to an opinion on the subject. It is commonly said, so commonly that it has become a platitude, that the schools do too much in the way of examining and too little for the formation of character. I would say that the habit of "by-hearting" pieces from text-books for examinations is not by a long way the worst thing that a boy learns at school in this country. The most dangerous habit that he can pick up is that of looking past authority to something beyond and above it. The existence of a committee to "control" the headmaster of a school is an almost ideal means of inculcating this habit, and therefore I object to the existence of such a committee, no matter what its powers may be, or how moderate it may be in their exercise.

6. So much for my objections to the committee; I will now examine the reasons for which the other members desire its continuance. The chief reason in each case is that the hostel was built out of public subscriptions and is therefore "the People's trust" and must be managed by the representatives of the people. The fact is that the public fund, collected in 1887, lay idle for about fifteen years because the people could not make up their minds what to do with it. By the time a decision had been arrived at, the accumulated interest had raised the fund from about Rs. 30,000 to about Rs. 43,000. For the building of the hostel, a subscription from Government was necessary, and Government subscribed Rs. 25,000. A small balance remains out of the capital, but it is impossible to say whether this remains over from the Jubilee fund or from the Government grant. The necessity for a committee to control these funds does not appear to me to be very great. A portion of them is invested in Government securities, and the Accountant-General is responsible for the safe custody of these; the rest is in deposit in the Taluk Treasury, and is payable on cheque signed by the Principal. The committee does not exercise any control over such expenditure, which is constantly going on for the purchase of food for the boarders. The question naturally arises, what is it that the committee does, or ought to do?

7. At the meeting now under report, the Sub-Judge and Mr. K. Ranganatha Rao were of opinion that the committee ought to be an appellate authority to which the boys could appeal if they were dissatisfied with the Principal in matters connected with the management of the hostel. It is fifteen years and more since I was at school; but I was terribly shocked when I heard it enunciated as a principle that there ought to be an appellate authority over the headmaster. It may be that the most recent educational theories demand such an authority; I have not followed the course of educational speculations but I know that many of the old ideas have become obsolete. But if the educational department approves of an appellate authority over the headmaster, it is all the more necessary for me to record my protest, and to request the Collector to save the unfortunate boys of this College from such a danger to their whole future lives.

8. Finally, there is the opinion of Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, which appears to be the most reasonable and simple of all, that membership of the committee is a sort of distinction or prerogative, for the abolition of which the mere position of "visitor" would be no adequate *solatium*. The single committee, however, would meet about twice a year; while the visitors might be in almost constant communication with the Principal, who would naturally find their informal advice and approval most useful to him. The visitors, who would of course keep themselves in the backyard for the sake of the boys, would thus have far more to say to the management of the hostel than the members of the committee do now, or would in future under the single committee system.

Draft Application I.

We, the undersigned members of the General Committee of the Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, beg to submit this application under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 to modify the scheme of management of the hostel settled in 1899.

2. We propose that both the General and Executive Committees now existing be abolished and be replaced by a body of visitors, the full control and management of the hostel being left to the Principal.

3. A copy of the proceedings of our meeting held on 7th August 1908 is submitted herewith.

Draft Application II.

We, the undersigned members of the General Committee of the Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, beg to submit this application under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 to modify the scheme of management of the hostel settled in 1899.

2. We accept the proposal of Government communicated in G.O., No. 241, dated 27th March 1908, to dispense with the existing Executive Committee and to entrust the management of the hostel to the Principal of the College who should also be the warden of the hostel and be directly responsible to the General Committee for the administration and discipline of the hostel.

3. We further consider that the Divisional officer may with advantage be made the President of the General Committee instead of the Collector as the latter officer is not at present able to devote as much attention as he would wish to the affairs of the hostel, his head-quarters being at Tanjore. He will be accorded the position of a visitor and a book will be kept for him to record his impressions and opinions. We propose that the seat vacated by him be filled up by a member of the Municipal Council selected by that body in case the Divisional officer is also the Chairman of the Municipality and by nomination by Government in case the Chairman be a non-official. The General Committee so constituted should meet at least twice a year.

4. A copy of the proceedings of our meeting held on 7th August 1908 is submitted herewith.

Order—No. 4, Educational, dated 5th January 1909.

The Government approve the proposal to abolish the Executive Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, and to vest the management of the hostel in the General Committee. They also accept the recommendation of the Committee that the Collector shall cease to be a member of the Committee, and that on his vacating his seat on the Committee, he shall become an official "Visitor" of the hostel.

2. The Government understand that the Committee's further proposals are as follows:—

(a) if the Chairman is also the Revenue Divisional Officer, then the Municipal Council shall elect two of their members, one to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of the Collector and the other to represent the Council in place of the Chairman;

(b) if the Chairman is not the Revenue Divisional Officer, then the Municipal Council shall elect one of their members to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of the Collector.

If this is the intention of the Committee, the Government doubt whether the proposals should be accepted, for they make the constitution of the Committee depend upon a casual event, namely, on the person who happens to be Chairman of the Municipal Council at the time the appointment of the Committee is made. The Chairmanship of the Municipal Council may be held from time to time either by an "official" or a "non-official", and it does not appear to be desirable to change the constitution of the Committee with every such change. It seems better to provide that, whenever the Chairman of the Municipal Council happens to be also the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality shall have a seat on the

Committee *ex-officio*, and to fill by nomination by Government the vacancy caused by the removal of the Collector, subject to the proviso that of the three nominees of Government two, at least, shall be non-officials.

3. According to the proposals of Government the reconstituted Committee would thus consist of—

- (1) the Principal for the time being of the College;
- (2) the Revenue Divisional Officer for the time being of Kumbakónam;
- (3) the Chairman for the time being of the Municipal Council of Kumbakónam or when the office of Chairman is held by the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Vice-Chairman;
- (4) the Subordinate Judge for the time being of Kumbakónam;
- (5), (6) and (7) three persons, of whom at least two shall be non-officials, to be nominated by Government.

4. The Government are unable to accept the proposal of the Committee that the senior Lecturer of the College shall be the Warden of the hostel and that one of the Assistant Lecturers shall be Superintendent, the Principal continuing to be a member of the General Committee. The Governor in Council considers that the Principal should be responsible for the inner working of the hostel as well as for its general control, and should be the Warden, being however assisted by a "Sub-Warden", who should be a Hindu member of the college staff. A similar arrangement is in force in the Victoria Students' Hostel at Madras.

5. The General Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam, will be requested to state whether they agree to the reconstitution of the Committee as above indicated and, if they do, to submit an application under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, to modify accordingly the scheme for the administration of the hostel settled in 1899. The application should be accompanied by a draft of the modified scheme for the administration of the hostel.

(True Extract.)

A. BUTTERWORTH,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Tanjore.
" Director of Public Instruction.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 4, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 5TH JANUARY 1909.

[SUBJECT.—*Revised scheme for the management of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam.*]

Demi-official from J. P. Bedford, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated 4th July 1908.

[G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908.]

"From the enclosed papers you will see that all the members of the General Committee accept the proposal contained in the Government Order. One meeting held to discuss the matter proved a *fiasco*. To convene another meeting will take up a good deal of time. May I send my report on the basis of the opinion of the individual members?"

"Some of the members suggest the appointment of another non-official member and my exclusion from the Committee. I consider this a sound suggestion. I could be given a position as visitor, and undoubtedly the other existing members would be able to call meetings with far greater facility and frequency, if it were not for arranging to suit my convenience, as they all live at Kumbakónam. Unless advised to the contrary, I shall make the suggestion in my official report.

"Personally, I venture to doubt the necessity for any Committee at all. A person who can be trusted to run a Government College can, I would suggest, be trusted to run a hostel, and the control of the General Committee is much circumscribed by the fact that it is, after all, the Principal and a Superintendent who have, from time to time, to shape their policy to suit the exigencies of the moment. It seems to me that a scheme of *visitors* would supply all the check that is wanted. I shall *not*, however, propose this, unless Government consider that the idea is worth consideration.

"I write demi-officially, because, as I am up here, I think it will save delay and elaborate official correspondence, if I can get your advice on the three points raised above.

"Would you kindly let me have the papers back with your reply?"

Please see G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908, regarding the scheme for the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakónam, and the revision of the rules connected therewith.

The Government Order deals with two points—

I notice apparently a mistake in the notes in G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908. I do not understand Dr. Bourne as objecting to the warden being responsible for the discipline of the place. What he objects to, as I understand his notes, is the warden as regards disciplinary powers being responsible to the Committee. Dr. Bourne would apparently like to see the Principal as warden independent of the Committee as regards his disciplinary powers. This, I take it, is his view.

M. H[AMMICK].

Yes. I misinterpreted the Director of Public Instruction's u.o. note.

H. D. TAYLOR—8-7-08.

(a) the substitution of a single Committee of management for the two existing Committees, general and executive;

(b) the management of the hostel, it being suggested that the Principal should be the warden.

2. Mr. Bedford in his demi-official of 4th July says that he has not been able to hold a meeting of the Committee as yet but that all members are generally agreed as to the desirability of substituting a single General Committee for the existing two Committees.

He asks whether he may submit proposals at once on this basis. He may be told to do so, but the final proposals as submitted to Government should be

Yes. I agree.

M. H[AMMICK].

approved by the existing general Committee at a meeting to be convened for that purpose.

3. Mr. Bedford says that it is a generally expressed desire that he should vacate his seat on the Committee so as to make room for one more non-official member. The Collector, owing to the fact that he resides away from Kumbakonam, finds it difficult to attend meetings or to take any active part in the management of the

I agree. Let this be suggested.

M. H[AMMICK]—7-7-08.

hostel. I think that he might well vacate his post on the Committee and become merely a "visitor". The

Director of Public Instruction and Inspector of Schools of the Circle might also, I would suggest, be made "visitors" if the Committee agree.

It is suggested that the Revenue Divisional Officer (who is at present also the Chairman of the Municipality) should be the President, and that a non-official member should be appointed in the place of the Collector.

I agree.

M. H[AMMICK].

Page 9 of G.O., No. 241, dated 27th July 1908.

While the Revenue Divisional Officer is also Chairman of the Municipality, the latter body might elect a temporary member of the Committee. There would then be four non-officials as against three officials on the Committee.

4. I think Mr. Bedford's suggestion that he should retire from the Committee may be accepted, and the suggestion at "A" also put forward. At a remote distance the Collector could exercise but little personal control over the hostel, and would, in any case, act through the Revenue Divisional Officer, who will be the Chairman of the Committee.

5. Mr. Bedford doubts very much whether a Committee is necessary at all and whether a Board of Visitors would not suffice, the hostel being left under the executive management of the Principal; he does not propose to raise this question unless advised that he should do so. I

I do not think we can suggest the total abolition of the Committee. The Committee certainly won't agree and it will only produce friction to suggest it.

M. H[AMMICK]—7-7-08.

suggestion, if it is likely to be received with disfavour. It must be remembered that a large proportion of the funds for the hostel was raised by public subscription.

6. There is another point to which Mr. Bedford does not refer but which is touched on in the replies of his Committee members—see paragraph 5 of Mr. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar's letter in the file of replies forwarded by Mr. Bedford. It is to the effect that the warden of the hostel should be *not the Principal*, but a Hindu lecturer of the College, who can see the inner life of the hostel.

Certainly. The Principal must be warden. But there might be a sub-warden to be one of the lecturers to be appointed by the Principal. This might be suggested.

M. H[AMMICK]—7-7-08.

On this point it seems essential that power of discipline should rest with the Principal and Mr. Bedford may be told confidentially that the Government would not be prepared to accede to such a proposal. If necessary, a sub-warden might be appointed.

H. D. TAYLOR—6-7-08.

* Printed as demi-official No. 1500-1, dated 11th July 1908, on page 3 of the notes.

The following * demi-official (confidential) may issue to Mr. Bedford.

H. D. TAYLOR—6-7-08.

I agree with the Honourable Member as far as he goes, but I think that it is well worth while (and can do no harm) to let Bedford see if he can lead the Committee to adopt his suggestion that the system of two Committees should give place to a system of one Board of Visitors, the Principal of the College being *ex-officio* warden of the hostel with a lecturer of the College as sub-warden, the warden being solely responsible for the control and discipline of the hostel.

I agree. Let the suggestion be made.

M. H[AMMICK]—11-7-08.

A. L[AWLEY]—9-7-08.

Circulated.

Before taking this file to His Excellency I had seen Dr. Bourne, who considered that, if any possibility of it existed, the two Committees should be replaced by a Board of Visitors, full control being left with the warden, both as to discipline and management.

He also thought that it might be undesirable that the Revenue Divisional Officer, who might be a very junior Civilian, should be Chairman of the single Committee.

The difficulty is that the hostel funds are trust funds and administered by a scheme notified under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, for the *administration of the trust*. It is doubtful whether a Principal in complete control, with a mere body of visitors, would be regarded as a scheme so as to satisfy the conditions of the Act.

H. D. TAYLOR—10-7-08.

Demi-official from H. D. Taylor, Esq., Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to J. P. Bedford, Esq., I.C.S., dated 11th July 1908, No. 1500-1.

"In reply to your demi-official of 4th instant on the subject of the rules relating to the management of the hostel attached to the Kumbakonam College, I am to say that, as all members of the General Committee appear to be agreed on the point, you may submit proposals for the substitution of a single Committee of Management for the existing two Committees—General and Executive. The rules may be revised on this basis, but the final proposals, as submitted to Government, should be approved by the existing General Committee at a meeting to be convened for the purpose.

"2. The Government will have no objection to accepting the suggestion which has been put forward by some of the members of the General Committee, that the Collector should vacate his seat on the single Committee as proposed to be reconstituted, his place being taken by another non-official member to be nominated by the Committee. As the Collector does not reside on the spot, it would be difficult for him to arrange to attend meetings of the Committee if held at frequent intervals, and he can always act through the Revenue Divisional Officer, who, it is proposed, should be Chairman of the new Committee.

"It might be suggested to the Committee that the Collector should be accorded the position of visitor to the hostel and be given an opportunity of recording his observation and impressions in a book to be kept for that purpose.

"3. I am also to suggest that, so long as the Revenue Divisional Officer continues also to hold office as Chairman of the Municipality, the Municipal Council might be allowed to elect one of their number as a temporary member of the Committee.

"4. In regard to your suggestion that both Committees should be abolished and replaced by a body of visitors, full control and management of the hostel being vested in the Principal, I am to say that the Government consider that it would be worth while to make the suggestion, as an alternative to the proposed single Committee and that you might sound the members of the Committee on the subject. If the members of the Committee would be prepared to accept such a proposal it would be acceptable to Government. It is understood that the funds raised for the construction of the hostel have been fully utilised and that practically no balance now remains for the Committee to deal with. In that case the entire hostel might be made over to Government.

"5. As regards Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar's suggestion that the warden should be, not the Principal of the College, but some Indian gentleman who would be able to see more of the inner life of the College, the Government would not be prepared to accede to any such proposal. While responsible to the Committee in all other matters relating to the conduct of the hostel, it is considered essential that the warden who should be the Principal, should be absolutely independent and have full control in all matters relating to the discipline of the hostel.

"The Government would however have no objection to the appointment, by the Principal, of an Indian sub-warden, from among the lecturers on the College staff.

"The enclosures to your letter are herewith returned."

From the Collector of Tanjore, No. 983, Revenue, dated 25th August 1908.

According to the rules for the management of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel (originally called Students' hostel), Kumbakonam, approved in G.O., No. 304, Educational, dated 30th May 1899, the management of the hostel is entrusted to a Committee of seven persons subject to the general supervision and orders of the Government of Madras.

The Committee now consists of—

- (1) the Collector for the time being of the district of Tanjore,
- (2) the Principal for the time being of the Kumbakonam College,
- (3) the Chairman for the time being of the Kumbakonam Municipal Council,
- (4) the Sub-Collector for the time being of the district of Tanjore,
- (5) the Subordinate Judge for the time being of Kumbakonam,
- (6) M.R.Ry. K. Ranganatha Rao Avargal, B.A., of Kumbakonam, and
- (7) M.R.Ry. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar Avargal, B.A., B.L.

2. Under rule 3 of these rules an Executive Committee of three members, namely the Revenue Divisional Officer, K. Ranganatha Rao, and S. A. Swaminatha Aiyar (since deceased and succeeded by N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar) was formed "for the erection, construction and carrying on of the work of the hostel on the lines laid down from time to time by the 'General Committee' and also to exercise local supervision over the establishment and to pass the accounts of the hostel.

3. In his letter No. 1394, Revenue, dated 19th December 1907, the Collector of Tanjore (Mr. Bedford) submitted for the approval of Government a revised set of rules for the management of the hostel, the main objects of the proposed revision being—

- (1) the reconstitution of the Executive Committee,
- (2) the defining clearly of the powers of the Executive Committee and of its relation to the General Committee, and
- (3) the simplification of the system of accounts.

Mr. Bedford pointed out that the General Committee was of opinion that inasmuch as a trust "cannot be devolved," the subordination of the Executive Committee to the General Committee should be expressed in more definite language than the words "on the lines laid down from time to time," occurring in the above rule, and that as the financial responsibility in connection with the administration of the hostel must rest with the General Committee, it was desirable to frame distinct rules which would ensure all financial matters coming regularly to its notice.

4. Mr. Bedford further recommended that it would be more practical and more conducive to efficient and harmonious administration to appoint the Warden and the Superintendent as members of the Executive Committee and stated that the General

Committee had resolved to raise the number of members of the Executive Committee from three to five and to raise the quorum from two to three. In support of this proposal Mr. Bedford urged—

(1) that the Executive Committee had found in actual practice that, for the proper administration of the hostel, the presence as well as the active co-operation of the Warden and the Superintendent was indispensable, as the practical control of the working of the hostel was and must necessarily always be very largely in their hands;

(2) that the control exercised by the Committee over the Superintendent and the Warden was inadequate and that such control as was exercised led to friction and unpleasantness; and

(3) that the Warden and the Superintendent being Educational officers and not men of business, they seemed to want far more intimate guidance than they were then getting.

5. In G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908, the Government considered that the scheme proposed by the Collector of Tanjore was unnecessarily complicated. As the hostel had been constructed and was in working order, it was thought that there was little need for the retention both of a General Committee and of an Executive Committee, and the Government therefore expressed the opinion that they would dispense with the Executive Committee, and entrust the direct management of the hostel to the Principal of the College who should also be warden of the hostel and should be directly responsible to the General Committee for its administration and discipline. It was also observed that the Superintendent of the hostel, who should also be a member of the College staff, be subject to the direct control of the warden and be responsible to the latter and to none else. The General Committee of the hostel were accordingly requested to state whether they approved generally the scheme suggested by the Government, and, if they approved it, to submit an application under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowment Act, 1890, to modify the scheme settled in 1899.

6. In his demi-official, dated 4th July 1908, Mr. Bedford reported that all the members of the General Committee accepted the proposal of Government, but as he considered that it would take a good deal of time to convene a meeting of the Committee to discuss the matter, he wanted to know whether he could submit a report on the basis of the opinion of the individual members. He further enquired whether the suggestion which had been made that another non-official should be appointed on the General Committee in the place of the Collector, who would be given the position of visitor, met with the approval of Government and also whether both the General and Executive Committees might be abolished, the management of the hostel being entrusted to the Principal of the College, with a Committee of Visitors.

Page 1 of notes file.

7. In demi-official No. 1500-1, dated 11th July 1908, Mr. Bedford was informed—

- (1) that he might submit proposals for the substitution of a single Committee of management for the existing two Committees (General and Executive);
- (2) that Government would have no objection to accept the suggestion put forward by some of the members of the Committee that the Collector should vacate his seat on the single Committee, his place being taken by another non-official to be nominated by the Committee;
- (3) that it might be suggested to the Committee that the Collector should be accorded the position of "visitor" to the hostel;
- (4) that when the Revenue Divisional Officer was also Chairman of the Municipality, the Municipal Council might be allowed to elect one of their number as a temporary member of the Committee;

(5) that his suggestion that both the General and Executive Committees should be replaced by a body of visitors, full control and management of the hostel being vested in the Principal, was a good one, and that he might sound the members of the Committee on the subject;

(6) that the Government would not accept the proposal that the Principal should not be warden of the College, but would have no objection to the appointment by the Principal of an Indian sub-warden from among the lecturers of the College staff; and

(7) that the final proposals which might be submitted to Government should be approved by the existing General Committee at a meeting to be convened for the purpose.

8. In its resolution of the 7th August 1908, the Committee accepted all the proposals made by Government in G.O., No. 241, Educational, dated 27th March 1908, except as regards the Principal's being warden. It was resolved at the meeting (1) that the senior lecturer be warden, and that one of the assistant lecturers be Superintendent, the Principal continuing to be a member of the General Committee.

(2) that both Committees (the General Committee and the Executive Committee) be abolished and replaced by a body of visitors, full control and management of the hostel being vested in the Principal;

(3) that the Collector on vacating his seat on the single Committee be accorded the position of a visitor;

(4) that to fill the seat vacated by the Collector on the single Committee, the members of the Municipal Council shall elect one of themselves, that when the Revenue Divisional Officer and the Municipal Chairman are the same person, the Municipality shall elect one of themselves as a member of the single Committee, but that when the Municipal Chairman is a non-official, the vacancy shall be filled by Government by nomination; and

(5) that the single Committee shall meet at least twice a year.

9. At the meeting held for the purpose, the following members were present:—

(1) The Revenue Divisional Officer (who is also Chairman of the Municipality).

(2) The Sub-Judge.

(3) The Principal of the College.

(4) M.R.Ry. K. Ranganatha Rao.

The Collector and Mr. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar were not present.

10. *First Resolution—Senior Lecturer to be warden.*—With regard to the first of the above resolutions, namely, that the wardenship of the hostel be given to a senior lecturer, the meeting was equally divided. The Collector is strongly

opposed to it and considers "the personal supervision and responsibility of the Principal to be an absolute essential."

Paragraph 4 of Collector's letter.

Paragraph 5 *ibid.* 11. *Second Resolution—Abolition of both the Committees.*—As regards also the second resolution, namely, that both the General and Executive Committees be abolished and replaced by a body of visitors, the Committee was equally divided. Mr. Bedford observes that even if all the members of the Committee had been present, the result would have been the same as he should have been for the proposition and Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar would have been against it.

Paragraph 5 *ibid.*

12. Mr. Bedford points out that "if a requisition were called for in this matter," it would be signed by three members, that is, (1) himself, (2) the Principal and (3) Mr. Moscardi signing in two capacities, as Sub-Collector and as Chairman of the Municipality, and that the other three members would certainly refuse to sign such a requisition. He further observes:—

"This is not a mere accident. The Committee, as at present constituted, is Paragraph 6 of Collector's letter. "equally adjusted, Europeans and Executive officers on one side, Indians and

Judicial officers on the other side. It is, I think, to be expected that the ideal of "the one should be an 'one-man show' and that of the other 'control by a Committee'".

Paragraph 7 *ibid.*

Mr. Bedford invites attention to the views expressed on this point by Mr. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar and by Mr. Moscardi.

13. As regards the dissolution of the General Committee, Mr. Bedford Paragraph 8 *ibid.* notes that a doubt has been expressed as to whether the Committee can by its own

resolution deprive itself of its existence. He apprehends that a resolution of the Committee on such a subject is ineffective and considers that if the Committee can be dissolved, it is Government alone which is competent to effect its dissolution. Looked at from this point of view Mr. Bedford says that a resolution of the Committee itself is merely a circumstance to be taken into account but not conclusive, nor even essential. The opponents of the scheme dwell on the fact that the hostel is,

The Act provides for changes in constitution.

H. D. TAYLOR.

by virtue of its history, a trust and should therefore be controlled by representation. Mr. Bedford says that it seems purely a legal matter, that if the circumstances of the case render the existence of a Committee legally necessary, there is of course nothing more to be said and that he would not venture to express an opinion on the legal point. Barring this, Mr. Bedford finds no justification for the continuance

Paragraph 10 of Collector's letter. of the Committee and he advances the following arguments to show the needlessness of a Committee:—

(1) It is a significant fact that not a single instance has been quoted in which the Committee as a Committee is asserted to have effected the smallest improvement in the hostel administration.

(2) This barrenness of result is precisely the feature of the Committee which has struck him during the last 18 months.

(3) The functions of the Committee have within his experience been almost exclusively confined to registering the suggestions of the Principal and confirming (sometimes not with grace) arrangements made by that officer "in anticipation of sanction."

(4) The few matters of real importance which have come up for decision have been initiated either by Government or by the Principal or Superintendent.

14. Mr. Bedford says that a Committee which has no more to say for itself than Paragraph 11 *ibid.* that it has not interfered with the management of the hostel, has no

particular claim for survival unless it be granted (a) that it is a passive check on aberrations which might otherwise take place and (b) that no other equally efficient check can be available if this check were removed.

Mr. Bedford demurs to both the propositions. He observes that the interference Paragraphs 12 to 14 *ibid.* of the Committee in matters relating to the inner working of the hostel would be

productive of more harm than good, that the kind of control which the hostel accounts really require could easily and mechanically be supplied by a trained auditor and that as to administrative supervision, by far the most effective agency would be that of the Inspecting officers of the Educational Department, supplemented by a similar system of visiting to that now applied to District and Central Jails. Mr. Bedford also points out the positive harm that results from the mere existence

Paragraphs 14 and 15 *ibid.*

of the Committee itself. He considers that there is a good case for the enforcement of the proposal discussed in resolution (1) mentioned above, namely, the substitution for the Committee of a number of visitors.

15. He adds that if action on the above lines be found impracticable he would recommend that the other resolutions be given effect to.

16. He has accordingly submitted two alternative draft applications and suggests that whichever view may be accepted the relevant draft application be subjected to the scrutiny of some law officer before it is returned for subscription. A precedent for this course will be found in G.O., No. 304, Educational, dated 30th May 1899.

17. As already noted the Committee is equally divided on the proposal that both Paragraph 11 of the notes on page 6 *supra*. the General and Executive Committees should be abolished and replaced by a body of visitors. The members who are against the proposal are (1) N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, (2) K. Ranganatha Rao and (3) T. T. Rangachariyar, Sub-Judge.

18. M.R.Ry. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar urges—

"It must be remembered that the 'Hostel' which the Committee is now administering is a trust. The bulk of the funds was contributed by the people of the district on the occasion of the First Jubilee of the Great Queen. It is essentially a 'people's institution' and the people should therefore have a voice in

This is the crux.

G. S. F[ORBES].

"it as far as is compatible with efficiency of administration. To make it the concern of a single individual, however talented he may be, is to ignore the foundation and would imply that the management hitherto left everything to be desired, or had been too often interfering in matters internal or affecting the discipline.

"Under the present constitution, the General Committee is only an administrative body, the direct financial control of the institution being vested in the Executive Committee and so far as I know, the members of the Executive Committee, or at all events, the non-official members, have never in any single instance done anything which might have even the semblance of interference in the internal autonomy of the institution; nor am I aware of any case in which the existence of the Executive Committee had a deleterious effect upon the discipline of the College or the hostel. With the abolition of the Executive Committee, the powers of the General Committee will be purely administrative and financial, leaving altogether unaffected the powers of the warden in regard to discipline and internal management. Control of some sort is absolutely necessary and very often salutary and such a control is quite indispensable in the case of the hostel under reference which I have already stated is the 'People's trust'. Neither the past history of the hostel nor reasons based on expediency seem to justify a proposal to dispense with the Committee and vest the whole concern in the Principal of the College. . . .

"It may be worth while here to remark that the Victoria Hostel at Madras takes into it students from various colleges and is not exclusively a department of one of them. So far as I know, it is managed by a Committee very similar to ours. Forces which act against the formation of character and distract the students from their legitimate aims and duties are many times greater at Madras than in a comparatively small place like Kumbakonam. If it has not till now been considered necessary to interfere in the constitution of the Victoria Hostel at Madras, a very strong case should be made out before any interference is attempted with the existing constitution which has been the result of long consideration and correspondence after ascertaining the wishes of the donors of the Jubilee fund, to which the hostel owes its existence, and in my opinion neither on facts nor in theory has any such case been put forth.

"Lastly, if the proposal to make the members of the present Committee visitors with no obligation on the warden to carry out any suggestions they might record in the visitor's book is intended to be a *solatium* for the members that may vacate their seats in consequence of the acceptance of the proposal, I, for one, would rather be without it. If, on the other hand, there is to be an obligation on the part of the warden to carry out the visitors' suggestions, then I fail to see how it is a better state of affairs than the control by a Committee."

19. M.R.Ry. K. Ranganatha Rao notes:—

"I am not in favour of the proposal contained in paragraph B (3). The hostel has been mainly constructed with trust money—the Government having liberally contributed towards it—and it has already been constituted into a trust. Therefore, I think it must continue to be managed by a number of trustees as it has been hitherto. There is no objection to its internal management being left entirely in the hands of the warden; but, it is desirable that the general administration of the institution should be vested in a single managing Committee, of which, as I have already proposed, the Revenue Officer in charge of this division may be the *ex-officio* President. It is also desirable that the powers of the warden and of the managing Committee should be well defined so that there may be no conflict between the two at any time.

20. The Sub-Judge of Kumbakonam, M.R.Ry. T. T. Rangachariyar, writes:—

"The General Committee was apparently formed to represent the people who contributed largely towards the construction and maintenance of the 'Hostel' and also the Government whose contribution was equally liberal. I am doubtful about its powers to dissolve itself and transfer its functions to the Principal of the College."

"As observed by Mr. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, the powers of the General Committee will be, more or less, administrative and financial, and it is not likely that the Committee will materially interfere with the powers of the warden as regards discipline and the internal management of the 'Hostel'.

"The existing management has, I believe, satisfied the requirements of the 'Hostel'."

21. With regard to the doubt expressed as to whether the General Committee

can, by its own resolution, dissolve itself, Paragraph 8 of Collector's letter. the Collector, Mr. Bedford, considers that a resolution of the Committee on such a subject would be ineffective and that it is the Government which is competent to effect the dissolution of the Committee.

22. It is, however, observed that the Committee in question is a body constituted by the scheme settled under section 5 (1) of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 for the management of the Kumbakonam Hostel. The Committee cannot be dissolved without altering the scheme of management. For altering the scheme, the Committee or a majority of the members of the Committee must, under section 6 (1) (a) of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890, make an application to the Local Government who can thereupon with the concurrence of the Committee making the application modify the scheme under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowments Act. The Government cannot of their own motion modify the scheme nor can they modify it without the concurrence of the Committee now administering the trust.

23. In paragraph 5 of his letter Mr. Bedford expresses the apprehension that if a requisition were made to the Committee for an application under the Charitable Endowments Act to alter the scheme of management of the hostel by replacing the Committees by a body of visitors, such requisition would only be signed by himself, by the Revenue Divisional Officer and the Principal of the College. It is, therefore, for consideration whether Government may insist on the replacement of the two Committees (General and Executive) by a body of visitors; or whether the General Committee may be retained subject to the modifications proposed. It is admitted on all hands that the Executive Committee is superfluous and may be abolished.

24. As regards the appointment of Principal as Warden, it is submitted that the objections raised by the General Committee to this proposal do not appear to be entitled to much weight. In the Victoria Students' Hostel, Madras, the Warden is the Principal of the Presidency College and he is assisted by an Indian Deputy Warden, who is a member of the staff of the College. There seems to be no reason why a similar arrangement will not hold in the case of the Kumbakonam College also.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—11-11-08.

Mr. Bedford admits that, so far, the General Committee has interfered very little with the Principal's action. It is being so, and because the hostel is in the nature of a trust, it seems perhaps unwise to insist on this Committee being replaced by a body of visitors. If past experience is to count for anything, the Committee will do no harm and it seems the best policy to accede to the wishes of the native members. It is better to have them friendly than perhaps covertly hostile. I submit therefore that the General Committee should be retained.

2. The Executive Committee has no adherents and may be abolished.

3. The Principal should be warden. This seems essential for the Principal should be responsible for the inner working of the hostel as well as for its general control. He may be assisted by a Hindu sub-warden; in fact, this seems necessary if events like those which happened recently in the Victoria Hostel in Madras are to be avoided.

4. The Collector need not be a member of the General Committee. He should visit the Hostel periodically and make suggestions as a visitor. His suggestions must necessarily carry weight.

C. A. SOUTER—12-11-08.

The position appears to be correctly stated in paragraph 22 of the office-note. In the circumstances the proposal to abolish the General Committee, which was only tentative, may be dropped.

2. The views expressed in Mr. Moscardi's letter appear to be very sound but the Committee should be merely a Committee of Management and not in any way an appellate authority over the Headmaster in disciplinary matters. The Warden will "be directly responsible to the Committee" but that will not necessarily involve the exercise of appellate powers.

3. The notification in the current file may be approved and the rules modified accordingly.

H. D. TAYLOR—13-11-08.

If the Principal is warden, I think the General Committee may be continued modified as proposed. I imagine Government could alter the trust only by going to the High Court with the Advocate-General's *fiat*: but that is a legal point which we need not go into now.

I also approve the proposal to have a native sub-warden; as well as the modification of the rules.

As Hon'ble Mr. Hammick dealt with the case, he should see.

G. S. F[ORBES]—14-11-08.

I saw that any suggestion to abolish the Committee would meet with strong resistance. If the Committee could be trusted to act as a body of school governors does in England it would be well enough, but I am afraid when a crisis comes, supporting authority will be of small weight with them, and some of them will be anxious to make favour with the boys by opposing the warden. However we shall only make matters worse now if we try and get rid of the Committee, in fact it seems doubtful if we could do so. So we must make the best conditions we can, that is the Executive Committee should be abolished and the Principal made the warden, the sub-warden or Superintendent being under him. As regards the constitution of the Committee, if the resolutions 2, 3 and 4, are carried out the Collector will no longer be on the Committee, the Municipal Council will elect one of themselves and when the Sub-Collector and Chairman of the Municipality are the same man the Municipality shall elect another officer, but if the Sub-Collector and the Municipal Chairman are different persons and the Municipal Chairman is a non-official the Government shall nominate.

The Committee will then consist of—

1. Principal.
2. Chairman of the Council.
3. Sub-Collector.
4. Sub-Judge.

5 & 6. Two non-officials nominated by Government.

7. An elected member from the Council or a nominated member if No. 2 is a non-official.

I think the arrangement may be accepted though the Government position is not as strong as it should be. However if the Principal is the warden and the Committee keep to financial control no harm will result.

A | The rules will I suppose be re-drafted by the new Committee.

M. H[AMMICK]—16-11-08.

Draft please for approval.

H. D. TAYLOR—17-11-08.

A draft order is submitted below for approval.

2. In paragraph 5 of the draft, the General Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, is requested to submit a draft application under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, and a draft of the modified scheme for the administration of the hostel.

3. With reference to the observation of the Hon'ble Mr. Hammick at A above, it is submitted that the new Committee can come into existence only when it has been finally approved by Government.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—2-12-08.

The draft seems correct. It follows in the main Hon'ble Mr. Hammick's note.

C. A. SOUTER—3-12-08.

H. D. TAYLOR—4-12-08.

Please see paragraph 3 (7) of draft; is it meant that Government shall nominate a Municipal Chairman in the event stated?

G. S. F[ORBES]—5-12-08.

There is no intention that the Council should at any time be doubly represented as such on the Committee. It is only when the Chairman is also Revenue Divisional Officer that the Council will elect a member. If the Chairman is a non-official the vacancy will be filled by Government by nomination—not necessarily from among the Municipal Councillors.

2. The original suggestion referred to by Mr. Bedford was that the Collector should be replaced by a non-official to be nominated by the Committee—*vide* pages 2, 3 and 5 of the notes *supra*.

The Committee has however decided to leave the nomination to Government.

I am not raising any fresh question.

G. S. F[ORBES].

This is perhaps better as the Committee of six might be equally divided in opinion as to the seventh member.

3. Paragraph 3 (7) of the draft may run as follows: "Where the office of Chairman of the Municipal Council for the time being is filled by ^{an official} ~~the Revenue Divisional Officer~~ a person to be elected by the Municipal Council from amongst its own number or if the Chairman of the Municipality is ^{a non-official,} ~~not the Revenue Divisional Officer,~~ a person to be nominated by Government.

4. There is a further difficulty. The Committee's resolution does not commit to the nomination by Government of a *non-official* while it also contemplates the contingency of some non-official other than the Revenue Divisional Officer holding the office of Chairman. It might be better to restrict the rule in both cases either to an official or to the Revenue Divisional Officer.

H. D. TAYLOR—7-12-08.

I see there are difficulties beyond mere interpretation.

The rule now suggested would make the appointment under 3 (7) depend upon a casual event, that is, who happened to be Chairman at the moment the appointment of a Committee was held. The chairmanship may often vary from "official" to "non-official"? If we are to change the Committee member with every such change in the chairmanship, this must be made clear in the rule by some addition to the amended rule proposed by the Secretary.

Perhaps it would be better to cut out 3 (7) altogether and leave the Municipality to be represented by the Chairman who will ordinarily be a non-official. The two non-officials nominated by Government need not be assumed to be persons who will support "the Government"—probably often the other way.

G. S. F[ORBES]—7-12-08.

If the Committee will accept this well and good. At all events we may try. The Committee will then consist of either five or more generally six—in the latter case the Chairman will have the casting vote.

I agree; but I am doubtful if the General Committee will accept the proposal. The difficulties of the other arrangement can be pointed out.

M. H[AMMICK]—9-12-08.

The original suggestion that the Council should appoint a member of the Committee in certain contingencies was made with special reference to the fact that *at present* the post of Chairman is held by the Revenue Divisional Officer.

2. I suggest, before drafting, as a possible solution of the difficulty that *when the Chairman is Revenue Divisional Officer, the Vice-Chairman might hold a seat on the Committee ex-officio*, which would do away with frequent elections.

But to this again there are possible objections. The *present* Vice-Chairman is M.R.Ry. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, who is also a nominated member of the Committee, so that the Committee would still be short of its full number, though the Council would be represented. It seems impossible to provide for every contingency, and I think perhaps that the appointment of the Vice-Chairman would be the best solution of the difficulty.

3. Sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 3 would then run as follows:—

"The Chairman for the time being of the Municipal Council or, when the office of Chairman is held by the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Vice-Chairman.

Sub-paragraphs (5), (6) and (7) might then run:—

"Three persons, of whom at least two shall be non-officials, to be nominated by Government."

H. D. TAYLOR—10-12-08.

It will not be often that the Revenue Divisional Officer is Chairman, so that the proposal that in such event the Vice-Chairman should be *ex-officio* a member of the Committee is as good a way out of the difficulty as we are likely to hit upon. I would not make any further provision for the case where the Vice-Chairman is already a member of the Committee.

Then (5), (6) and (7) might be modified as suggested by Mr. Taylor.

G. S. F[ORBES]—18-12-08.

Very well. I accept this proposal.

M. H[AMMICK]—20-12-08.

Please revise.

H. D. TAYLOR—21-12-08.

Revised draft submitted.

T.K.—23-12-08.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—24-12-08.

C. A. SOUTER—27-12-08.

Does Secretary intend this to go to Honourable Member, or may the draft issue?

C. A. SOUTER—4-1-09.

Issue.

A. BUTTERWORTH—5-1-09.

[G.O., No. 4, Educational, dated 5th January 1909.]

READ AGAIN G.O, No. 364, Ed.,, dated 30th May 1908.

" " " " 241, Ed., " 27th March 1908.

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1962..... From the Collr. of Tanjore,, No. 983....., dated 25 - 8 - 190 8.

[illegible]

” ” 1 ” ” ” ” 190 .

ORDER.

P.S.

No. 4, dated 5-1- 1909.

The Government approve the proposal to abolish the Executive Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, and to vest the management of the hostel in the General Committee.

They also accept the recommendation of the Committee that the Collector shall cease to be a member of the Committee, and that on his vacating his seat on the Committee, he shall become an official 'Visitor' of the Hostel, ~~but they are unable to~~

~~SECRET~~

2. The Govt. understand that the Committee's further proposals are as follows:-

- (a) if the Chairman is also the Rev. Dist. Officer, then the Municipal Council shall elect two of its members, one to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of the Collector & the other to represent the Council in place of the Chairman; ~~where~~
- (b) if the Chairman is not the Rev. Dist. Officer, then the Municipal Council shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of the Collector.

If this is the intention of the Committee, the Govt. doubt whether the proposal should be accepted, for they

~~accept the Committee's proposal that~~ to fill the seat vacated by the Collector on the Committee, the Municipal Council shall elect one of themselves, or that when the office of Revenue Divisional Officer and Chairman of the Municipal Council, Kumbakonam, are combined in the same person, the Municipal Council shall elect one of themselves as a member of the Committee. The adoption of these suggestions ~~will~~ make the constitution of the Committee depend upon a casual event, namely, on the person who happens to be Chairman of the Municipal Council at the time the appointment of the Committee is made. The chairmanship of the Municipal Council may be held from time to time either by an "official" or a "non-official", and it does not appear to be desirable to change the constitution of the Committee with every such change.

3. ~~The suggestions of the Committee that the Municipal Council should elect one of themselves to fill the seat vacated by the Collector has apparently been made with special reference to the fact that at present the post of chairman is held by the Revenue Divisional Officer, but as it is not probable that the Revenue Divisional officer~~

~~After the~~
officer will ~~also~~ be the Chairman of
the Municipal Council. It seems ~~to be~~
better
~~sufficient~~ to provide that, whenever
the Chairman of the Municipal Council
happens to be also the Revenue Divi-
sional Officer, the Vice-Chairman of
the Municipality shall have a seat on
the Committee ex-officio, and ~~that~~ to fill by
nomination by
the three members whom the Government
must the vacancy caused by the
removal of the Collector subject to the
be non-officials

~~4. As thus reconstituted the~~
~~Committee will~~ consist of

- (1) The Principal for the time
being of the College;
- (2) The Revenue Divisional Officer
for the time being of Kumbakonam;
- (3) The Chairman for the time
being of the Municipal Council of
Kumbakonam or when the office of Chair-
man is held by the Revenue Divisional
Officer, the Vice-Chairman;
- (4) The Subordinate Judge for the
time being of Kumbakonam;
- (5), (6) & (7). Three persons, of
whom at least two shall be non-officials,
to be nominated by Government.

4 b. The Government are unable to
accept the proposal of the Committee
that the senior Lecturer of the College
shall be the Warden of the hostel and
that one of the Assistant lecturers
shall

provide that of the
three nominees of
Govt. two, at least,
shall be non-officials.
3. According to the
proposals of Govt. the
reconstituted Committee
would thus

4

15P 19

shall be Superintendent, the Principal continuing to be a member of the General Committee. The Governor in Council considers that the Principal should be responsible for the inner working of the hostel as well as for its general control, and should be the Warden, being however assisted by a 'Sub-Warden', who should be a Hindu Member of the college staff. A similar arrangement is in force in the Victoria Students' Hostel at Madras.

5. The General Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam, will be requested to state ^{whether} they agree to the re-constitution of the Committee as above indicated and, if they do, to submit an application under section 5 (2) of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, to modify ^{accordingly} the scheme for the administration of the Hostel settled in 1899, ~~in accordance with the decision now arrived at,~~ The application should be accompanied by a draft of the modified scheme for the administration of the hostel.

7H
23-206 80
24/12-08

27.12.08 4/1

To The Collector of Tirupur.
D.P.O.

25/1/19

ORDINARY.

PREFERENCE.

URGENT (a).

EDUCATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Current No., dated 190

G.O., No. 4, dated 5-1-1909

Number of MS. pages sent { Correspondence including order or orders
(b)
Notes (b¹)

Docket: *Victoria Public Hotel, Kumbakonam.*
Upcoming the proposal to which the Sec.
of the Board of the Hotel is to be sent to the
managing committee and
referred to the Committee. A.S. recommended

Number (c) of copies required when struck off (not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press).

FOR RECORD.*			Complete Correspondence and orders.	Notes
Madras Records	...	...	30	15
Ooty Records	...	...	3	
For filing with original	...	...	1	
Total			24	15

FOR ISSUE.†

	Letter only.	Complete G.O.	Special issue copies (d) of G.O.		Notes.
			No.	Papers.	
Signature copies.....					
India Office.....					
Govt. of India.....Dept.					
Public Department.....					
Judicial Department.....					
Financial Department.....					
Revenue Department.....					
Public Works Department.....					
Local and Municipal Department.....					
..... Dept.					
Total					
Spare copies.					
Total					

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT.

(a) If a paper is marked to be printed urgently, the Superintendent of the section concerned should sign the Press slip. The Superintendent should exercise a careful discretion in the matter.

(b) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item has been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(b¹) For rules regarding printing of notes, see the rules in G.O., No. 1220, Public, dated 30th November 1900.

(c) The number of copies and the details of distribution should be filled in by the Superintendent or Referencer concerned.

(d) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for one week, and larger papers for two weeks only. The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.

(e) This slip, properly and completely filled in, should accompany every paper sent to Press; it will be returned by the Press when proofs are furnished; it should be sent to the Press when a call is made for revised proofs or when a corrected proof is sent for striking. When finally returned by Press it should be filed with the original order or letter.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESS.

(a) If, in the opinion of the Superintendent of the Press, a paper has been marked urgent unnecessarily, he should send the Press slip to the Deputy Registrar with a remark to that effect.

(b) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Deputy Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

(c) Signature copies of letters to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India should be printed on hand-made paper.

(d) This slip should be returned by the Press to the Secretariat when proofs are furnished; it will be sent back to the Press when proofs are returned corrected and should be finally returned to the Secretariat when struck-off copies are supplied.

(e) The names of the Secretary and Members should be printed in full when they occur on the right hand side, but only the first time when they appear on the left side, the initials alone being printed later.

* Copies distributed on.....*(Press Clerk.)
† Copies distributed on.....*(Despatcher.)

* To be initialed and dated.

A	B	C
Please send proof in triplicate. The papers have been carefully edited.	Proof returned corrected. Please strike off and send number of copies as indicated.	As the matter is clear manuscript and has been carefully edited, (b) proof need not be sent. Please print and supply number of copies as indicated.
	Type may be released <u>after usual interval</u> at once.	Type may be released after usual interval.
.....Clerk.	Clerk.	Clerk.
.....Supdt.	Supdt.	Supdt.

(b) Three copies of proof of all notes should be sent for approval, except when instructions are given to the contrary.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Please send proof of
G.O. very urgently—

Q
5-109

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PRESS.

Diary.	Initials of Press official.
Received in Press on.....	6/1/09 J.B.
First proof furnished on.....	11/1/09 J.B.
Call for revised proof received on.....	
Revised proof furnished on.....	
Corrected proof received for striking on.....	20/1/09 J.B.
Final copies supplied on.....	23/1/09 J.B.

Account of copies.	Complete copies.	Notes.	Issue copies.
Supplied to Secretariat for Record.....	34	15	
" " " Issue.....	12		
For Volumes.....	16		
For E. T.....			
Total	62	15	