Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

G.O., No. 551, 7th October 1909.

552

Inspection of Engineering Institutions.

Addressing the Government of India in reply to the suggestion made by the Government of the United Provinces that the engineering expert whom they propose to appoint as a member of the Board of Inspection to be constituted for the Thomason College, Roorkee, should also be employed to inspect engineering institutions in this Presidency.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read. — *Enclosures*

Read. — 1909. — *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 551, 7th October 1909.

Inspection of Engineering Institutions.

Addressing the Government of India in reply to the suggestion made by the Government of the United Provinces that the engineering expert whom they propose to appoint as a member of the Board of Inspection to be constituted for the Thomason College, Roorkee, should also be employed to inspect engineering institutions in this Presidency.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Letter—from G. B. H. Fell, Esq., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Education).
To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department.
Dated—Simla, the 11th June 1909.
No.—515.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of a letter * from the Government of the United Provinces regarding a proposal to constitute a Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee, in order to ensure that the organization and management of the institution are efficiently conducted. It is proposed that the Board, which would be convened once in three years, should consist of the Secretary to the Local Government in the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, the Provincial Director of Public Instruction, and an outside expert of high standing either connected with, or familiar with the working of, some well-known technical college or institute in the United Kingdom.

* No. 602, dated the 20th March 1909.

2. In order that the services of this expert may be fully utilized, Sir John Hewett suggests that he should also be employed to inspect other engineering institutions in India. The Government of India would be glad to be favoured with the views of the Governor in Council and of the Madras University upon this suggestion.

Enclosure.

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. R. W. Gillan, I.C.S., Secretary to Government, United Provinces, Industries Department.
To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.
Dated—Allahabad, the 20th March 1909.
No.—602.

I am directed to invite the attention of the Government of India to the question of constituting a Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee. The college has already a Committee of Management, consisting at present of the Chief Engineer to this Government, Buildings and Roads Branch, the Director of Public Instruction, the Hon'ble Mr. McRobert, Cawnpore Woollen Mills Company, the Manager and Locomotive Superintendent, Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway, but this body is not qualified to serve the object in view, which is the periodical examination of the quality of the work done, of the discipline maintained and the suitability of the organization of the college, such as is performed for arts and other colleges affiliated to the Universities by bodies of Inspectors appointed from time to time by the Syndicates. The matter therefore has engaged His Honour's attention and he has recently had an opportunity of discussing it with the members of the Committee of Management. Their recommendation is that the proposed Board should consist of the Secretary to Government, Buildings and Roads Branch, the Director of Public Instruction, and of an outside expert of high standing either connected with, or familiar with the working of some well-known technical college or institute in the United Kingdom. With this recommendation the Lieutenant-Governor thoroughly agrees. The organization of an institute like the Thomason College is a highly technical matter, in which the advice of an expert in touch with the most modern methods at home would be of the greatest value, while the association with him of two officers serving the Local Government would secure the full consideration of local conditions. The constitution, therefore, of the Board appears to the Lieutenant-Governor to be suitable. The Committee of Management observe further that inspections need not and in fact ought not to be more frequent than once in three years. It occurs to the Lieutenant-Governor that the scheme is one which might well be adopted so as to secure during the same season the inspection of similar institutions in the whole of India. There appears to him to be clear advantages in this suggestion, since in that case the services of the expert would be more fully utilized and his expenses which would not be increased by any means proportionately to the amount of the work which he would be able to accomplish during his Indian tour would be shared among a number of Local Governments. I am therefore to report the suggestion in the hope that it may receive the favourable consideration of the Government of India.

3

II

Memorandum No. 1190-1, Educational, dated 23rd June 1909.

The Government of the United Provinces propose to constitute a Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee, in order to ensure that the organization and management of the institution are efficiently conducted. The Board, which would be convened once in three years, would consist of the Secretary to the United Provinces Government in the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, the Provincial Director of Public Instruction, and an outside expert of high standing either connected with, or familiar with the working of, some well-known technical college or institute in the United Kingdom.

2. In order that the services of this expert may be fully utilized, it has been suggested to the Government of India that he should also be employed to inspect other engineering institutions in India. The Director of Public Instruction and the University of Madras are requested to be good enough to favour the Governor in Council with their views upon this suggestion.

L. M. Wynch,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
,, Registrar, Madras University.

III

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. A. G. Bourne, D.Sc., F.R.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 2nd July 1909.
No.—Ref. on Cur. 4425.

With reference to paragraph 2 of Government Memorandum No. 1190-1, Educational, dated 23rd June 1909, calling for my opinion on the suggestion made to the Government of India that the services of the expert on the Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee, should be employed to inspect other engineering institutions in India, I have the honour to state that Mr. James, the permanent Principal of the College of Engineering, is now on leave, so that I am unable to consult him. I am, however, entirely opposed to the suggestion. The college rules already provide, as noted below, for a Board of Visitors consisting of a President and three members to advise the Director of Public Instruction and the Government :—

President.

The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

Members.

The Chief Engineer, Madras Railway Company.

The Chief Engineer, Madras Port Trust.

The President of the Faculty of Engineering of the Madras University or a member of the Faculty to be nominated by the Syndicate if the President of the Faculty is already included in the Board under any of the foregoing designations.

Secretary.

The Principal of the college.

2. So long as the Principal of the college is well fitted for the post and assisted by a well-qualified staff, I think that he should be left with as free a hand as possible. He may be expected by means of literature received from institutions in other countries and by means of periodical visits when on leave to such institutions to keep himself up to date.

3. There is a great difference of opinion as to how a technical college or institute should be conducted and, so far as I am aware, there is no such institute in the United Kingdom which can be considered to be an unqualified success or at any rate fit to serve as a model to all others. An expert coming out as suggested, without any knowledge of local conditions, might want to see all sorts of changes carried out and there is certainly no intrinsic expectation that they would necessarily be improvements.

4. The Principal of such an institute should be a man whose opinion might be assumed by Government to be more valuable than that of a so-called expert coming out and spending perhaps a few days in the college. It would be time enough to constitute such a Board of Inspection when it is clear that there is something radically wrong with the organization and management of the college.

IV

Letter—from Francis Dewsbury, Esq., B.A., LL.B., Registrar, University of Madras.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—Senate House, Madras, the 5th August 1909.
No.—2308.

With reference to your Memorandum, dated the 23rd June last, requesting the views of the University on the suggestion that the expert appointed on the Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee, be also employed to inspect other engineering institutions in India, I have the honour, by direction of the Syndicate, to inform you that the University would be glad to avail itself of the services of the expert if they are available when it desires to inspect the affiliated Colleges in Engineering.

Order—No. 551, Educational, dated 7th October 1909.

The Government of India will be addressed.

(True Extract.)

W. Francis,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 552.

4

From

W. FRANCIS, Esq., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Educational Department,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Home Department.

Dated Ootacamund, the 7th October 1909.

Sir,

I am directed to reply to Mr. Fell's letter No. 515, Education, dated 11th June 1909, inviting the views of this Government and of the University of Madras on the suggestion made by the Government of the United Provinces that the engineering expert whom they propose to appoint as a member of the Board of Inspection to be constituted for the Thomason College, Roorkee, should also be employed to inspect engineering institutions in this Presidency.

2. The only engineering institution in this Presidency maintained by Government, or affiliated in engineering to the Madras University, is the College of Engineering at Madras. This has already a permanent Board of Visitors consisting of a President and three members, who advise the Director of Public Instruction and the Government on matters connected with the administration of the college. The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, is the President of this Board, and the members are the Chief Engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company, the Chief Engineer, Madras Port Trust, and the President of the Faculty of Engineering of the Madras University, or (if the President of the Faculty is already on the Board in virtue of his holding any of the three posts above mentioned) a member of the Faculty to be nominated by the Syndicate.

3. This Government consulted the University of Madras regarding the proposal of the Government of the United Provinces and the Syndicate has replied briefly that it would be glad to avail itself of the services of the proposed expert if they are available when it desires to inspect the Engineering College.

4. I am to say, however, that the Governor in Council is of opinion that but little advantage would accrue from the adoption of Sir John Hewett's proposal. The existing Board of Visitors has hitherto shown itself sufficiently qualified to advise upon the points with which the suggested engineering expert would be required to deal, namely, the quality of the work done in the college, the discipline maintained there and the suitability of the organization of the institution; the expert would necessarily have but a limited knowledge of local conditions and a limited period to acquaint himself with the working of the college and might favour changes which would fail to succeed in practice; and there exists, it is believed, considerable diversity of opinion in England regarding the lines upon which technical institutions of this kind should be conducted.

5. Moreover, this Government have no present intention of developing the Madras College of Engineering into a large technical institute; though they propose that it shall embrace a wider range of instruction in technological subjects having their basis in mathematics and physics, such as mechanical and electrical engineering; students who desire technical instruction in arts having their basis in chemical science will be encouraged to go to the Institute of Science at Bangalore. So long therefore as the teaching in the college is confined to civil and mechanical engineering and the Principal of the college is fitted for his post and keeps his knowledge up to date by means of literature received from technical institutions abroad and by periodical visits to such institutions when on leave, it is in the opinion of His Excellency in Council unnecessary to hold any special periodical inspections of the college. The Principal will always have the advantage of being able to consult the officers of the Institute of Science at Bangalore, who by constant visits to England will keep themselves abreast of the times, and whose advice and assistance will be available whenever necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. FRANCIS,

Ag. Secretary to Government.

5

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., Nos. 551, 552, EDUCATIONAL, DATED 7TH OCTOBER 1909.

[SUBJECT.—*Engineering Expert for inspecting the engineering institutions in India.*]

From the Government of India, dated 11th June 1909, *No.* 515.

The Government of India desire to be favoured with the views of the Government of Madras and of the Madras University upon the suggestion of the Government of the United Provinces that the engineering expert whom it is proposed to appoint as a member of the Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee, should also be employed to inspect other engineering institutions in India.

2. The Director of Public Instruction and the Madras University may be requested to give their views upon the suggestion.

3. The draft placed below is for approval.

T.K.—19-6-09.

C. A. SOUTER—21-6-09.

Issue.

L. M. WYNCH—22-6-09.

[Memorandum No. 1190-1, dated 22nd June 1909.]

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 2nd July 1909, *R.C. No.* 4425.

To await the reply from the University of Madras.

T.K.—5-7-09.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—5-7-09.

C. A. SOUTER—6-7-09.

The University have not yet sent in their reply to Memorandum No. 1190-1, dated 22nd June 1909. May the Registrar of the University be reminded about it?

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—30-7-09.

Yes.

C. A. SOUTER—2-8-09.

From the Registrar, Madras University, dated 5th August 1909, *No.* 2308.

The Government of the United Provinces propose to constitute a Board of Inspection for the Thomason College, Roorkee, in order to ensure that the organization and management of the institution are efficiently conducted. It is proposed that the

Board, which would be convened once in three years, should consist of the Secretary to the United Provinces Government in the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, the Provincial Director of Public Instruction and an outside expert of high standing either connected with, or familiar with the working of, some well-known technical college or institute in the United Kingdom.

2. In order that the services of this expert may be fully utilized, Sir John Hewett has suggested to the Government of India that the expert should also be employed to inspect other engineering institutions in India. The Government of India desire to be favoured with the views of the Governor in Council and of the Madras University upon this suggestion.

In other words, in order that other provinces may help United Provinces to pay for him.
W. Francis—17-8-09.

3. The University of Madras states that it would be glad to avail itself of the services of the expert, if they are available, when it desires to inspect the affiliated Colleges in Engineering.

This isn't very lucid.
W. Francis—17-8-09.

4. The Director of Public Instruction (the Hon'ble Dr. Bourne) is entirely opposed to the suggestion, although he has been unable to consult Mr. James, the permanent Principal of the College of Engineering, who is now on leave. Dr. Bourne states:

"The college rules already provide, as noted below, for a Board of Visitors "consisting of a President and three "members to advise the Director of Public "Instruction and the Government:—

Rule 4 on page 2 of G.O., No. 191, Educational, dated 29th March 1909.

"*President.*

"The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

"*Members.*

"The Chief Engineer, Madras Railway Company.
"The Chief Engineer, Madras Port Trust.
"The President of the Faculty of Engineering of the Madras University or a "member of the Faculty to be nominated by the Syndicate if the President "of the Faculty is already included in the Board under any of the foregoing "designations.

"*Secretary.*

"The Principal of the college."

So long as the Principal of the college is well fitted for the post and is assisted by a well-qualified staff, he should, Dr. Bourne considers, be left with as free a hand as possible, and may be expected by means of literature received from institutions in other countries and by means of periodical visits, when on leave, to such institutions to keep himself up to date.

5. Dr. Bourne further observes:

"There is a great difference of opinion as to how a technical college or institute "should be conducted and, so far as I am aware, there is no such institute in the United "Kingdom which can be considered to be an unqualified success or at any rate fit to "serve as a model to all others. An expert coming out as suggested, without any "knowledge of local conditions, might want to see all sorts of changes carried out "and there is certainly no intrinsic expectation that they would necessarily be "improvements.

"The Principal of such an institution * should be a man whose opinion might "be assumed by Government to be more "valuable than that of a so-called expert "coming out and spending, perhaps, a few days in the college. It would be time to "constitute such a Board of Inspection when it is clear that there is something "radically wrong with the organization and management of the college."

* "As the College of Engineering."

6. It is for consideration whether a reply on the lines of the Director of Public Instruction's letter may be sent to the Government of India.

T.K.—13-8-09.

K. Rangaswami Aiyangar—14-8-09.

There is much force in Dr. Bourne's objections. It seems to me almost useless to get a man to examine the Engineering College who cannot be expected to know Indian conditions or wants and his suggestions might do more harm than good. The present Board of Inspection is composed of more competent men to give an opinion than is apparently the case in the United Provinces and it is well qualified to inspect the college and to give suggestions.

C. A. Souter—16-8-09.

Will the Chief Engineer kindly give his views before the file is submitted to Honourable Member and His Excellency the Governor?

W. Francis—17-8-09.

To the Public Works department.

Public Works Department.

I think the Under Secretary's note *supra* states the case exactly.

P. Hawkins—20-8-09.

I agree generally with Dr. Bourne. A competent Principal, the Director of Public Instruction himself and the present Board should be enough. Outside advice and assistance can be sought when the necessity for it is felt.

F. J. Wilson—27-8-09.

To the Educational Department.

Educational Department.

The United Provinces would no doubt be glad to get other provinces to help pay for the expert of whom they themselves feel the need.

Submitted that the Director of Public Instruction and Chief Engineer have given sufficient reasons for deciding that there is no need for the expert here and that the Government of India may be told that, having consulted the Madras University, this Government consider that the existing Board of Visitors of the Madras Engineering College (the constitution and functions of which may be shortly explained) has so far shown itself sufficiently qualified to advise upon the points which the United Provinces adviser would see to, namely, the quality and the work done, the discipline maintained and the suitability of the organization of the college.

W. Francis—31-8-09.

I am inclined to agree with Dr. Bourne. As far as I know, there is no very successful Technical or Engineering College in England. We have, of course, the Cambridge Applied Science Schools and Engineering Schools in Trinity, Dublin, Glasgow and Manchester and other places. But it is, I believe, a matter of discussion whether any one of these schools is a real success, and each school has its supporters and the reverse.

We should probably get out some distinguished Professor who would no doubt enlighten us, but would he worth his money? Would his advice be practical?

We shall have the Institute of Science, Bangalore, with men in it, all up to date in their professions, and they by perpetual visits to England will always keep themselves up to date.

Please see para. 2 of letter to India, No. 5438-2, Financial, dated 17th January 1909, on page 5 of G.O., No. 51, Financial, dated 2nd February 1909; also para. 1 of G.O., No. 15, Educational, dated 11th January 1909.

I imagine our Engineering School is not now to develop into anything like a large Technical School. We have, I think, fairly decided that the higher technical subjects—electricity and chemistry—are to be got when necessary at Bangalore.

As long as we keep solely to Civil and Mechanical Engineering proper, I do not see that we shall need an expert from home.

Mr. James is at this minute at home picking up the latest information on his subjects no doubt.

Sir J. Hewett, I think, intends his college to develop into a technical institution teaching more than we ever propose to teach in our college.

I think we may say that for our purposes we do not want this triennial inspection by an expensive expert from England, and give Dr. Bourne's reason and the ones I have alluded to above.

M. H[ammick]—4-9-09.

I entirely agree.

A. L[awley]—19-9-09.

Please draft.

W. Francis—20-9-09.

Draft submitted for approval.

T.K.—21-9-09.

K. Rangaswami Aiyangar—24-9-09.

C. A. Souter—24-9-09.

Please show clean copy.

W. Francis—27-9-09.

Clean copy of the draft is submitted below.

K. Rangaswami Aiyangar—27-9-09.

C. A. Souter—27-9-09.

Issue.

W. Francis—28-9-09.

[G.O., Nos. 551, 552, Educational, dated 7th October 1909.]

15

Educational Department.

C.No.1190, from the Government of India, No. 515, dated 11-6-1909.
C.No.1289, from the D.P.I. No.4425, dated 2-7-1909.
C.No.1490, from the Univy.of Madras, No.2308, dated 5-8-1909.

ORDER: P.S. No. 551 dt 7-10-09

NOT FOR E.T.

The Government of India will be addressed.

LETTER: No. 552 dt 7-10-09

To

The Secretary to the Govt.of India,

Home Department.

Sir,

I am directed to reply to Mr.Fell's letter No.515, Education, dated 11th June 1909, inviting the views of this Government and of the University of Madras on the suggestion made by the Government of the United Provinces that the engineering expert whom they propose to appoint as a Member of the Board of Inspection to be constituted for the Thomason College, Roorkee, should also be employed to inspect engineering institutions in this Presidency.

2.

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8

Rule 4 on page 7 of G.O. 159 Edl 20.3.07 B

2. The only engineering institution maintained by Government, or affiliated in Engineering to the Madras University, in this Presidency is the College of Engineering at Madras. This has already a permanent Board of Visitors, consisting of a President and three members, who advise the D.P.I. and the Government on matters connected with the administration of the college. The Chief Engineer, P.W.D., is the President of this Board, and the members are the Chief Engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company, the Chief Engineer, Madras Port Trust, and the President of the Faculty of Engineering of the Madras University, or(if the President of the Faculty is already on the Board in virtue of his holding any of the three posts above mentioned) a Member of the Faculty to be nominated by the Syndicate.

Page 8 of 8.

3. This Government consulted the University of Madras regarding the proposal of the Government of the United Provinces and the Syndicate has replied briefly that it would be glad to avail itself of the services of the proposed expert if they are available when it desires to inspect the Engineering College.

4. I am to say, however, that the Governor in Council is of opinion that

Sir John Hewett's

that there would be little advantage in the ~~lack of the proposal~~ from the adoption of the proposal. The existing Board of Visitors has hitherto shown itself sufficiently qualified to advise upon the points with which the suggested engineering expert would be required to deal, namely, the quality of the work done, the discipline maintained and the suitability of the organization of the college; the expert would necessarily have but a limited knowledge of local conditions and a limited period to acquaint himself with the working of the college and might favour changes which would fail to succeed in practice; and there exists, it is believed, considerable diversity of opinion in England regarding the lines upon which technical institutions should be conducted.

5. Moreover, this Government have no present intention of developing the Madras College of Engineering into a large technical institute; they propose that it shall embrace a wider range of instruction in technological subjects having their basis in mathematics and physics, such as mechanical and electrical engineering; but students who desire technical instruction in arts having their basis in chemical science will be encouraged to go to the Institute of Science at Bangalore. So long

Page 7 of the notes.

Page 7 of ~~the~~ notes.

Page 7 of the notes.

Pages 7 & 8 of notes.

Para. 2 of letter to India No. 5438-2 Jud. dd 17.1.09. on pages 5 of fgs. No. 57 Jud. dd 2.2.09. L.
also para. 1 of fgs. 1558 = 6
11.1.09

41 10 14P

Therefore long as the teaching in the College is confined to civil and mechanical engineering and the Principal of the College is fitted for his post and ~~able to~~ keep his knowledge up to date by means of literature received from technical institutions abroad and by ~~practical~~ periodical visits to such institutions when on leave, it is in the opinion of His Excellency in Council unnecessary to ~~have~~ hold any special ~~practical~~ periodical inspections of the College. The Principal will ~~moreover~~ always have the advantage of being able to consult the officers of the Institute of Science at Bangalore, who by constant visits to England will keep themselves abreast of the times, and whose advice and assistance ~~may~~ will be ~~obtained~~ available whenever necessary.

I have etc.

MCrdg

E. & L. 4 1,500—

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G.O., No.....To be numbered in proof....., dated.....190

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Docket Addressing the Govt of India in reply to the Despatch wh made by that Govt of the United Provinces that the Engineering expert whom they proposed to be appointed as a member of the Board of Inspection to be constituted for the Thomason College Roorkee also the employed to inspect the Engineering institutions in this Presidency

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[P.T.O.

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