

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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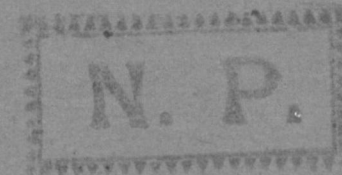
Regd.

} 1910.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 143, 19th March 1910.



College of Engineering.

Permitting the failed students of the College of Engineering to sit at the forthcoming Upper Subordinate examination to be held in April next or to join the third year Engineer class in July 1910 and to appear for the Engineer examination to be held in April 1911.

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EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

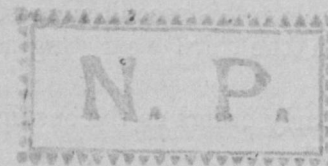
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. A. G. BOURNE, D.Sc., F.R.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Dated—Madras, the 28th February 1910.

No.—Ref. on C. No. 576.

I have the honour to submit herewith a petition from the students of the College of Engineering who have failed in the final examination of the Engineer class held in December last under the old rules of the College, together with the remarks of the Acting Principal thereon, and to state that I agree with Mr. Morgan in thinking that it will be a great hardship to these students if their case is dealt with in the same way as in the case of the failed independent candidates of the old Engineer Subordinate, Sub-Overseer and Surveyor and Draughtsman classes (*vide* G.O., No. 370-R, Educational, dated 29th October 1909).

I accordingly beg to recommend that Mr. Morgan's first suggestion, viz., that the failed Engineer candidates be permitted to sit at the forthcoming Upper Subordinate examination in the subjects specified in paragraph 4 (1) of his endorsement No. 1148-C, dated 26th January 1910, and that the successful candidates be placed in the order of merit below the regular students of the Upper Subordinate class who pass out, which seems preferable to his second suggestion which requires the further attendance of the students in the third year Engineer class for another year, be approved and sanctioned.

I request the favour of early orders as the ensuing Upper Subordinate examination is to be held in April next.

ENCLOSURE.

Petition—from the Students of the College of Engineering, Madras.

To—the Director of Public Instruction (through the Principal, College of Engineering, Madras).

Dated—the 22nd January 1910.

We, the undersigned students who have failed in the final examination of 1909 of the Engineer class of the College of Engineering, Madras, most respectfully beg leave to bring to your kind notice our unfortunate case and pray that you will consider it sympathetically and favourably.

When we joined the College in 1907 after an entrance examination, there was no prospect of the changes consequent upon the revised rules which have since come into force. Some of the changes have been great disabilities to us and we shall take the liberty of setting them forth.

(i) The vernacular which formed subject VI of our syllabus was abolished in 1907 after we had a six months' course on it. It used to be a subject in which students in past years had scored marks to make up any deficit of marks in other and more difficult subjects.

(ii) The marks assigned to the vernacular were redistributed among Engineering and Drawing subjects, subjects in their nature more difficult than the vernacular.

(iii) When we had passed through more than half the prescribed course of study, about the end of 1908, a Government Order was passed abolishing all chances of a re-examination if we once failed. This is certainly a hardship which it has been our peculiar misfortune to meet with, and the slightest knowledge of which at the beginning of our course would have, we venture to submit, deterred many of us from entering upon this course of study under such conditions.

The combined results of the examinations on the first two years' course of study have been that only half the class got through. Under the circumstances a representation was made to the Principal by the entire class about the middle of April 1909 requesting a favourable consideration of our disabilities.

The results of the Final examination of 1909 show a record of nine failures, unprecedented in its nature, the maximum number in any of the preceding years hardly rising above four.

We may add that in previous years when the lower classes, namely, the Engineer Subordinate, the Sub-Overseer and Surveyor and the Draughtsman classes, used to sit for examination along with our class, some of the papers as those on Drawing and Surveying used to be common to all the classes. The absence of this feature in 1909, when our class alone were examined, has, in our humble opinion, enhanced the standard of the examination in general, as may be seen from the marks obtained by the class at the examination.

Under these circumstances, we most humbly request that a re-examination may be held which, we believe, is also justified by the following further considerations :—

(i) That we have undergone a very costly and difficult course for three years in the College.

(ii) That considerations of age render it impossible for us to turn to any other profession.

(iii) That, at the same time, we are left without any testimonial of our having passed through the highest Engineering course available in this Presidency.

(iv) That, according to the spirit of the revised rules, more prominence is given to College practical work in which, we beg leave to add, we are all qualified.

We beg leave to submit that, as the College staff have since become the examining body, we trust an examination can be arranged without much inconvenience.

In the event of a re-examination not being found practicable, we most humbly beg leave to place before you the alternatives of a reconsideration of our results and the award of an Engineer Subordinate certificate, which concession used to be shown some years ago. We may here be permitted to mention that, in the sister profession of medicine, a student who fails to qualify for the M.B. & C.M., is awarded the L.M. & S. degree, if he has qualified for a reduced minimum and if he has satisfied the authorities as to his practical work. We most humbly beg to suggest that a similar course may be adopted towards us, considering the exceptional circumstances of our failure.

We fervently hope that our humble prayer for a favourable consideration of our case in the light of the above, our most humble suggestions, will receive your most kind and sympathetic consideration.

No. 1148 C., dated 26th January 1910.

Forwarded.

2. The number of students, of the Engineer class, who sat at the Final examination in December last was 19, of this number nine failed, though, in view of the examination being the last under the old rules, every point was stretched in valuing the papers.

3. The training that the petitioners have undergone is a much longer and more expensive one than that of the students of the old E.S. & S.O.S. and Draughtsman classes, and I therefore think that considerable hardship will be entailed, if the present case is dealt with in the same manner as in the case of the other classes under the old rules.

4. I am not prepared to recommend re-examination by the College staff, which would throw more work on them than they have the time to undertake, and the petitioners are not likely to be in a position to defray the cost of an examination held, in December 1910, by outside examiners; I, however, think that the following suggestions are feasible and would meet the case :—

(1) The failed students to be allowed to sit at the forthcoming Upper Subordinate examinations, in April next, and to take the following papers in the Final examination :—

- (1) Building Drawing and Estimating.
- (2) Applied Mechanics.
- (3) Construction.
- (4) Hydraulic Engineering.

and, in addition, to take the following papers in the Test examination of the same class :—

- (1) Machine Drawing.
- (2) Mechanical Engineering.

Students, who have passed in practical surveying, who obtain 33 per cent., or more, in each of the above papers and 50 per cent., or more, of the grand total to be granted the usual provisional certificates, but to be classed as independent candidates, as under the old rules, or to be placed in order of merit below the regular students of the Upper Subordinate class, who pass out.

(2) The failed students to be allowed to join the third year Engineer class, in July 1910, and on their passing at the Test examination and on College marks, for the year, to be granted provisional certificates, but to be placed on a separate list as in the case of the former independent candidates.

5. An additional point in favour of my first suggestion is the fact that the number of Upper Subordinates that can be turned out this year, or in the next three years, will be short of the demand for such men, as will be seen from the table below :—

Number of students passing out of the College.

Year	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Engineer class	10	10	14	10	11	14	15	18	17	10
Indians	32	22	32	31	18	31	27	35	34	..
Engineer Subordinate class— Military students .. .	3	1	1	3	2	..	..	1	1	..

Present strength of classes.

[illegible]

6. As to my second suggestion the number of students in the Engineer class would be brought up to 24 or 4 more than the usual limit placed to the numbers of this class.

F. E. MORGAN,
Ag. Principal, College of Engineering, Madras.

Order—No. 143, Educational, dated 19th March 1910.

The Government consider that the students of the Engineer class of the College of Engineering who failed in the Final examination held in December last under the old rules of the College, may be permitted, at their option, to sit at the forth-coming Upper Subordinate examination to be held in April next in the subjects specified and on the terms mentioned in Mr. Morgan's endorsement of the 26th January 1910 and qualify themselves as Upper Subordinate Engineers, or to join the third year Engineer class in July 1910 and to appear for the Engineer examination to be held in April 1911.

2. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to inform the memorialists accordingly.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Director of Public Instruction.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 143, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
19TH MARCH 1910.

[SUBJECT.—*Re-examination of the Engineer students of the College of Engineering who failed in the final examination held in December last.*]

Previous papers :

G.O., No.	37, Educational, dated	20th January	1906.
" "	159	" "	20th March 1907
" "	417	" "	29th May 1908.
" "	556	" "	22nd July "
" "	240	" "	26th April 1909.
" "	338	" "	9th June "
" "	514	" "	7th September "
" "	550	" "	7th October "
" "	370	" "	29th " "
" "	370 R.	" "	29th " "

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 28th February 1910, No. 576.

The Director of Public Instruction submits for the orders of Government a petition from the Engineer students of the College of Engineering who failed in the final examination held in December last.

2. The students in question joined the College of Engineering in January 1907.

* The new rules came into force on 1st April 1907. under the old * rules of the College and they were the last batch of students admitted under those rules. Their college course ended in December last. Nineteen students then sat for the final examination and of these, ten passed and nine failed.

3. Under the old rules (rule 98) a student who failed to obtain a certificate from the Board of Examiners at the final examination could appear before the Board for examination in any subsequent year on certain conditions. Candidates who qualified in this way were termed "independent candidates". But the new rules of the College, which came into force on 1st April 1907, do not make any such provision for failed candidates. Under rule 14 of the new rules a student who fails to obtain qualifying marks at a sessional or final examination shall not be promoted or pass out, but "must either leave the College or join the class division next below his own."

4. In view of the above disabilities the failed students request that a re-examination under the old rules may be arranged for them or if this is not practicable their results may be re-considered and that they may be awarded an Engineer Subordinate certificate.

5. The Acting Principal, Mr. Morgan, states that the training the petitioners have undergone is a much longer and more expensive one than that of the students of the old Engineer Subordinate, Sub-overseer and Surveyor and Draftsman classes and he therefore considers that considerable hardship will be entailed if the petitioners' case were dealt with as in G.O., R. No. 370, Educational, dated 29th October 1909, and they were given a certificate showing merely how they did at the final examination.

6. Mr. Morgan is not, however, prepared to recommend a re-examination of the candidates as that would, according to him, throw more work on the College staff than they have time to undertake; but he makes two alternative suggestions for meeting the petitioners' case. The first is that the failed students may be allowed to sit at the forthcoming Upper Subordinate examinations, in April next, and to take the following papers of the final examination:—

- (1) Building Drawing and Estimating,
- (2) Applied Mechanics,
- (3) Construction,
- (4) Hydraulic Engineering,

and, in addition, to take the following papers in the test examination of the same class:—

- (1) Machine Drawing,
- (2) Mechanical Engineering.

Mr. Morgan suggests that the successful students be classed as "independent candidates" under the old rules or be placed in order of merit below the regular students of the Upper Subordinate class who pass out.

7. Mr. Morgan's second suggestion is that the failed students be allowed to join the third year Engineer class in July next, and that on their passing at the Test Examination and on College marks for the year, they may be granted certificates as "independent candidates" of the Engineer class.

8. The Director of Public Instruction considers that Mr. Morgan's first suggestion is preferable to his second, which requires the further attendance of the students in the third year Engineer class for another year and recommends accordingly that Mr. Morgan's first suggestion may be sanctioned.

9. It is for consideration whether the Director's recommendation may be accepted. Perhaps both the suggestions made by Mr. Morgan may be approved, so that such of the students as may desire to qualify as Engineers may join the College, as they would do under the old rules, and sit for the examination to be held in April 1911.

T.K.—7-3-10.

The new rules of the College of Engineering came into force in April 1907. At that time there were four sets of students of the Engineer class who had entered the College under the old rules and who were affected by the introduction of the revised rules. These were—

- (1) students who had appeared for the final examinations in December 1906 and in previous years but had failed to secure a pass;
- (2) students who had joined the College in January 1905 and who were to appear for the final examination in December 1907,
- (3) students who had joined in January 1906 and who would have to appear for the final examination in December 1908, and
- (4) students who joined in January 1907 and who had to appear for the final examination in December 1909.

2. With regard to the students referred to in item (1) the Director of Public Instruction proposed to give them a further opportunity to pass the examination according to the standard prescribed by the old rules and he suggested that a re-examination should be held in December 1908 to those candidates as the last chance. This suggestion was accepted by Government in G.O., No. 556, Educational, dated 22nd July 1908. A re-examination was accordingly held in December 1908; but some of the candidates failed in that examination also and their memorials for the grant of some concession were dealt with in G.Os., No. 240, Educational, dated 26th April 1909, 514, Educational, dated 7th September 1909, No. 550, Educational, dated 7th October 1909. It was at last decided that these candidates should be granted a sort of certificate saying exactly how they did in the College and in the Board's examinations.

3. As to the students referred to in clauses 2 and 3 of paragraph 1 above it is observed that all the candidates who appeared for the examination in December 1907 were successful while only one failed of the candidates who appeared for the examination in December 1908. At the examination held in December 1909 only 10 passed out of 19.

4. The present memorial is from eight of these failed students. They request that a re-examination according to the old rules may be held or that they may be given a certificate of having passed the Engineer Subordinate examination.

5. Mr. Morgan (late Acting Principal) does not recommend the holding of a re-examination but proposes in the alternative that they should be permitted to appear for the Upper Subordinate examination to be held in April next in certain subjects and be granted a certificate as independent candidates if they obtained a certain specified percentage of marks or that they should be allowed to join the third year Engineer class and sit for the Engineer examination to be held in April 1911, and then be granted certificates as independent Engineer candidates.

6. The Director of Public Instruction does not accept the latter suggestion and recommends the adoption of the former.

7. In the first place it is observed that the next Upper Subordinate examination is to be held in the middle of April next and that even if the concession be granted, the memorialists will still complain of want of sufficient notice.

But it is an easier examination than the one they failed in? If so they may be able to pass without extra time to prepare.
A.G.—12-3-10.

8. Secondly, if these candidates had joined the College in July 1908 instead of January 1907, that is under the revised rules instead of under the old rules, and failed at the final examination, the only course open to them would be either to leave the College or to join the next lower division of the Engineer class. Mr. Morgan's second suggestion is on the lines of the new rules and appears to be more acceptable than the Director of Public Instruction's recommendation to make them appear for the Upper Subordinate examination. In any case, the candidates seem to be eligible to appear for the B.E. Degree examination of the University.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—11-3-10.

I do not know what rule 14 means. There are three divisions of the Engineer class—1st, 2nd and 3rd year. If a student fails at the end of his 3rd year in the final examination, he must "join the class division next below his own". This would ordinarily mean that he would join the 2nd division. But this can hardly be what is meant because if he joined the 2nd division he must be at least five years in the College, and the rule says he must not be "more than four years in the College." So I suppose what the rule means, though it does not say it, is that he should join the 3rd division again. This is Mr. Morgan's proposal II which would therefore seem to be simply applying the existing rules—and this, I should have thought, does not require Government's sanction.

2. Mr. Morgan and the Director, however, both favour another proposal, which would be a concession, that is, to let these failed Engineers appear for the Upper Subordinate examination to be held next month. This is not much of a concession. If they pass the examination presumably they are fit to be Upper Subordinates. Moreover it seems desirable on public grounds to make the concession as there is a shortage of Upper Subordinate students. Submitted that the proposal may be approved. The Director's further proposal that if these failed Engineers pass the Upper Subordinate test they should be placed below the successful members of the Upper Subordinate class is apparently intended to guard the vested interest in appointments of the Upper Subordinate class.

A. GALLETT—14-3-10.

and on the terms
mentioned

or to join the Third year Engineer Class in July 1910 and appear for the Engineer Examination to be held in April 1911.

2. The D.P.G. is requested to inform the memorialists accordingly.
19.3.10
H. 1913

S. C. P. 100
20/4/10

To The D.P.G. 1913/10
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Docket... Letter of Engineering
Permitting the student of the
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