

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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G.O., No. 505, 25th July 1911.

Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam.

Recording report on the working of the — during 1910-1911.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper:—

Letter—from the Committee, Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakōnam.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department (through the Director of Public Instruction, Madras).
Dated—the 8th July 1911.
No.—C.R. 162-H.

We have the honour to submit our report on the working of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakōnam, as prescribed in G.O., No. 499, Educational, dated 27th August 1909, from the 1st January 1910 to the 30th April 1911 in accordance with G.O., No. 260, Educational, dated 3rd May 1911.

2. *The committee.*—Mr. A. F. G. Moscardi, I.C.S., who was President of the committee, was transferred during the year and Mr. C. G. Austin, I.C.S., took charge on the 19th October 1910. On the transfer of Mr. T. O. Hodges on the 14th November Mr. J. A. Yates became Principal of the College and Warden of the hostel. The vacancy on the committee caused by the death of Mr. G. Narayanaswami Aiyar was filled by the appointment of Mr. S. Natesa Aiyar who was elected by the taluk board.

There were four meetings of the committee during the year held on the marginally-noted dates. At these meetings except the first, which failed for want of quorum, questions relating to the administration of the hostel and improvements to the buildings were discussed and measures adopted in relation thereto.

3. *Strength and financial position.*—The average strength of the hostel was 24 in the first term of 1910, 36 in the second term and 34 in the first term of 1911. There is accommodation in the hostel for about 70 students. The total receipts from the 1st January 1910 to the 30th April 1911 amounted to Rs. 7,561-9-7 including a sum of Rs. 2,851-12-11 being the sale-proceeds of Government securities of the face value of Rs. 3,000, and a sum of Rs. 434-13-4 being the interest on Government securities. The total charges for the same period amounted to Rupees 7,511-7-8 including a sum of Rs. 3,059-2-4 expended on repairs, improvements to buildings, pump, chairs and lamps. The most important of the improvements was the erection of the compound wall referred to in paragraph 4 of the last report. The financial position of the hostel stood as follows on the 30th April 1911:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Amount of Government securities to the credit of the hostel			
with the Accountant-General	3,200	0	0
With the Accountant-General in cash	164	8	0
Cash balance in the Kumbakōnam sub-treasury	399	7	8

4. *Boarding charges.*—In his audit report of last year, the Collector suggested that endeavours should be made to make the hostel self-supporting. With this object in view certain changes were made last January in the working of the hostel and the mode of collecting boarding fees. The system adopted had been to divide evenly among all the boarders the cost of provisions and the pay of the cooks, and to meet all other establishment charges out of the hostel funds. The committee have resolved as a tentative measure to make each section of boarders (Smarta, Vaishnava and non-Brahman) pay for its own cook and provisions, and to divide evenly among all the boarders the salaries of the storekeeper, store peon, sweepers and scavenger. A saving of Rs. 22-8-0 per mensem has thus been made for the hostel. The average boarding charges came to Rs. 8-12-0 per month for each student.

5. *Gardening.*—A remarkable feature of improvement during the year was the extension of the hostel gardens. Under instructions from the Warden, the students in the hostel were induced to take part in gardening work. Eight of the students took plots under their separate care and others helped then in the work of the garden. The zeal and enthusiasm of students was displayed not only in their attending to their particular plots, but in their helping the sub-warden in making the hostel compound neat and attractive.

6. *Literary Society and Badminton Club.*—There are a literary society and a badminton club attached to the hostel. The society was started last year. It meets once a fortnight. The meetings are popular and well attended, and members take active part in the discussions. The badminton club is also popular and regularly worked. Members of the hostel took prominent part in the college games and sports.

7. The University Commission visited the hostel on the 26th September 1910. Its remarks on the structural arrangements of the main building will be considered by the committee at its next meeting.

8. The management of the hostel and discipline are under the immediate supervision of Mr. J. A. Yates, the Warden, and M.R.Ry. S. V. Venkateswara Aiyar, the sub-warden. The latter, a member of the college staff, is residing in the hostel premises. The tone and discipline of the hostel were good throughout the year. The general zeal and interest evinced by the students, the increase in number of boarders and their healthy common life in the hostel show that the hostel is popular and that the advantages of the system are attracting public attention.

N. Ref. on Cur. No. 2035/11, dated 13th July 1911.

Submitted to Government.

J. H. STONE,
Ag. Director of Public Instruction.

Order—No. 505, Educational, dated 25th July 1911.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

To The D.P.I.

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