

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1912.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. No. 103, 7th February 1912.

Study of languages.

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction letter from the Government of India forwarding a copy of a letter from Dr. Heath, Director of Special Inquiries and Reports, on the subject of language study.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. H. SHARP, C.I.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).
To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department.
Dated—Calcutta, the 31st January 1912.
No.—267.

I am directed to forward for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of a letter from Dr. Heath, Director of Special Inquiries and Reports, Board of Education, London, dated the 28th November 1911, and of its enclosure on the subject of language study. I am to observe that in the opinion of the Government of India the matter is of importance, especially in Training Institutions.

ENCLOSURES.

(i)

Letter—from Dr. H. FRANK HEATH, Director of Special Inquiries and Reports.
To—the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education.
Dated—Whitehall, London, S.W., the 28th November 1911.

One of the subjects discussed at the recent Education Conference was the attitude of Education Departments to the more important movements in favour of the simplification, improvement and uniformity of English spelling. In this connection I venture to draw your attention to paragraphs 23 and 24 of the Report of the Imperial Education Conference, page 18, as also to the papers by Mr. E. R. Edwards, H.M.I. and Dr. A. H. McKay, Superintendent of Education, Nova Scotia, and to the resume of a speech delivered at the Conference by Dr. W. J. Viljoen (Union of South Africa) which are printed on pages 207—228 of the Report.

The discussion which took place at the Imperial Education Conference in connection with the matter above referred to seemed to indicate that some of the delegates were anxious that the teachers in the areas which they represented should be put on the right lines in the matter of language study generally and phonetics in particular. It accordingly occurred to me that a useful step in this direction might perhaps be taken in bringing to the knowledge of teachers the best text books and reference books which deal with these subjects.

In these circumstances I asked Mr. E. R. Edwards, H.M.I., to draw up a tentative list of suitable books and I now send copies of this list. The list is not intended to be in any way an exhaustive bibliography, but a teacher who has read and understood most of the books on the list should be in a position to follow the development of the subject intelligently and to choose other helpful books and other helpful guidance. The books mentioned in columns 1 and 2 of the list are all easy to read; those in column 3 are more difficult and intended for advanced students.

(ii)

BOARD OF EDUCATION, LONDON.

Short list of books on the history and study of language with special reference to English.

I

HISTORY AND STUDY OF LANGUAGE.

(a) *History and Study of Language : General.*

Sweet (Henry): The History of Language. (Dent, London).
 Jespersen (Otto): Progress in Language, with Special Reference to English. (Sonnenschein, London.)

Sweet (Henry): The Practical Study of Languages. A Guide for Teachers and Learners. (Dent, London.)

Jespersen (Otto): How to teach a Foreign Language. (Sonnenschein, London.)

(b) *History and Study of the English Language.*

Sweet (Henry): A New English Grammar, Logical and Historical. Two Volumes. (Clarendon Press, Oxford.)

Jespersen (Otto): Growth and Structure of the English Language. (Teubner, Leipzig.)

Jespersen (Otto): Modern English Grammar on Historical Principles. (Carl Winter, Heidelberg.)

II

PHONETICS.

(a) *Phonetics, with special reference to English.*

Jones (Daniel): The Pronunciation of English. Phonetics and Phonetic Transcriptions. (Cambridge University Press.)

Sweet (Henry): The Sounds of English. An Introduction to Phonetics. (Clarendon Press, Oxford.)

Passy (Paul): Petite Phonétique comparée des principales Langues Européennes. (Teubner, Leipzig.)

Rippmann (Walter): English Sounds. A Book for English Boys and Girls. (Dent, London.)

(b) *Phonetic Texts.*(i) *Living English.*

Jones (Daniel): Phonetic Transcriptions of English Prose. (Clarendon Press, Oxford.)

Rippmann (Walter): Specimens of English, Read, Spoken, and Recited. (Dent, London.)

(ii) *Shakespeare's English.*

Viëtor (Wilhelm): Shakespeare's Pronunciation. (Elwert, Marburg.)

III

ADDITIONAL BOOKS FOR ADVANCED STUDENTS.

(a) *General Philology and Phonology.*

Passy (Paul): Étude sur les Changments Phonétiques et leur Caractères Généraux. (Firmin-Didot, Paris.)

Viëtor (Wilhelm): Elemente der Phonetik des Deutschen, Englischen, und Französischen. (Reisland, Leipzig.)

Jespersen (Otto): Phonetische Grundfragen. (Teubner, Leipzig.)

Jespersen (Otto): Lehrbuch der Phonetik. (Teubner, Leipzig.)

Paul (Hermann): Prinzipien der Sprachgeschichte. (Niemeyer, Halle.)

(b) *English Philology and Phonology.*

Sweet (Henry): History of English Sounds from the Earliest Period, with full Word-Lists. (Clarendon Press, Oxford.)

Storm (J.): Englische Philologie. (Reisland, Leipzig.)

Order—No. 103, Educational, dated 7th February 1912.

Communicated to the Director of Public Instruction for information.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
 Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

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To The S.S.I. ^{Safe} 27/2/12

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Letter from the Govt. of India forwarding a copy of a letter from Dr. Heath, Director of Special

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