

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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G.O. No. 576, 1st July 1912.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, KUMBakonam.

Recording report on the working of the — for 1911-1912.

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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 13th June 1912.

No.—R.C. 3211.

I have the honour to submit for the information of Government a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 3211, dated 4th June 1912, reviewing the report on the working of the Kumbakōnam College during the academic year 1911–12.

ENCLOSURE.

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, R.C. No. 3211, dated 4th June 1912.

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from J. A. YATES, Esq., M.A., Acting Principal, Kumbakōnam College.

To—the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Dated—the 15th April 1912.

No.—C. 151.

I have the honour to report on the working of the Kumbakōnam College during the academic year 1911–1912.

2. *Principal*.—There was no change in the Principalship. I continued to act throughout the year.

3. *Staff*.—M.R.Ry. K. P. Guruswami Aiyar, Lecturer in Philosophy, retired from service with effect from the 9th January last, but I deeply regret to record that he did not live to enjoy his well-earned pension, he having died on the 27th March, i.e., the day before the copy of the Government order granting his pension reached him. The long and faithful service that the late Mr. Guruswami Aiyar rendered to this institution must be remarked. M.R.Ry. A. Chakravarti, M.A., L.T., Assistant Lecturer in Philosophy, was appointed sub. *pro tem.* Lecturer with effect from the date of retirement of the late Mr. Guruswami Aiyar. M.R.Ry. A. Raghava Aiyar, M.A., was appointed to act as Assistant Lecturer, sub. *pro tem.*, *vice* M.R.Ry. A. Chakravarti; and he joined his appointment on the forenoon of the 10th February.

M.R.Ry. T. K. Venkatarama Aiyar, M.A., L.T., who was transferred to act as Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the Presidency College, Madras, was relieved by M.R.Ry. S. Balakrishna Aiyar, B.A., L.T., in the afternoon of the 21st August.

M.R.Ry. K. C. Subrahmanya Aiyar, M.A., L.T., was permanently attached to this college as Assistant Lecturer in Science *vice* M.R.Ry. K. Srinivasapatrachari, M.A., L.T., confirmed in the Presidency College, Madras.

4. *Strength and attendance*.—The number of students on the rolls at the commencement of the year was 19 in the fourth-year class and 23 in the second-year class and these numbers were increased respectively by 12 and 18 admissions during the year. The number of students admitted into the third and first year classes was 19 and 88, respectively. The strength of the college at the end of the year was 163, the numbers for the four classes from the highest downwards being, respectively, 26, 18, 37 and 82 against 40, 19, 45 and 23, on the 31st March 1911. The average number on the rolls and the average daily attendance during the year were 170 and 149, respectively. Part I of the B.A. (Pass) course contained 40 students and Part II, 42 students who, divided according to groups, stood as follows:—16 in mathematics, 21 in history and 5 in logic. Group I of the first and second year Intermediate classes together contained 50 students and group III, 69. In selecting subjects

under the latter group only one student has taken up two languages, Tamil and Sanskrit, with modern history as his third subject, and 10 students have chosen Tamil and 10 Sanskrit in combination with two other subjects.

5. *Classification of students*.—There were only three non-Brahmans and one Muhammadan and the remaining 159 students were Brahmans. Classified according to districts, 154 students belonged to the Tanjore district. Of the remaining 9 students, one each came from Malabar, Coimbatore and Salem and two each from Madura, South Arcot and Trichinopoly. Distributed according to wealth, 147 students were of the middle class and 4 and 12 were of the richer and poorer classes, respectively. As regards occupation of their parents, 89 students were the sons of landholders, 68 were the sons of officials including pleaders and 4 of traders. One was the son of a mendicant and one was the son of a musician.

6. *Accommodation and equipment*.—The new laboratory buildings for the Intermediate course and the additional class rooms were begun during the last summer and are in progress. A new gymnastic shed in place of the one dismantled to make room for the new buildings, and a row of four five-courts are being constructed. It is hoped that these will be ready for use in July next. The fixed gymnastic apparatus was removed from its former site near the new buildings and replanted close to the new gymnastic shed. One of the two thatched temporary sheds was improved with a tiled roof so as to be used as a temporary workshop for the laboratory. Additional temporary laboratory accommodation was also provided by the conversion of one of the class rooms into a dark room and by enclosing the northern portion of the verandah adjoining the balance and dark rooms with iron bars so as to serve as a store-room. Considerable inconvenience continued to be felt for want of the requisite number of class rooms. This will not be remedied until the new buildings are completed. I trust that the building operations will be carried on as expeditiously as possible. Judging from the progress made during the past year which, I am inclined to think, has been rather slow, it may take another year more to complete the work.

The construction of quarters for the Principal of the College has at last been abandoned for the present—*vide* G.O. No. 109, Educational, dated 8th February 1912, referred to in your Proceedings Ref. on Cur. No. 7659/10, dated the 14th *idem*.

The land intended for additional play-ground referred to in the last year's report was acquired during the year, but it has not yet been levelled and made fit for a foot-ball ground. The Public Works Department has been addressed on the subject. Compound walls on two sides of this land are in progress.

Two additional working benches for the laboratory were provided and the four working benches which existed before were considerably improved. Lead sheeting was provided for the three chemical benches and a copper vessel was purchased for the storage of distilled water. The additional furniture supplied to the laboratory during the year included six glass cases, one teakwood almirah with a nest of drawers, two teakwood racks, four show cases and a photometry board. Two indents for Europe stores were submitted during the year. One of them, which was the ordinary annual indent, was composed of three parts—(1) for physical and chemical apparatus, (2) for chemicals and (3) for workshop tools, and they aggregated £61-17-7. This indent has been almost wholly complied with, but the adjustment of accounts has not yet been communicated by the Accountant-General. The other indent was a special one which consisted wholly of physical apparatus amounting to £366-1-3 for the use of the students selecting group I of the B.A. Pass course; these stores have not yet arrived.

Forty sets of tables and stools for practical mathematics were provided.

7. *Library*.—The number of books issued from the library during the year (including books and periodicals issued for temporary use during class and library hours which amounted to 1,087) was 8,440 against 9,546 in 1910–1911. The slight decrease was due to the issue of books being temporarily stopped for a short time when the library was under repair. The number of volumes added to the library during the year was 569, and the total number of books in the library at the end of the year was 6,923.

8. *The tutorial system and discipline.*—The tutorial system continued to exercise a wholesome influence on the conduct of the students and on the maintenance of discipline which was quite satisfactory during the year.

9. *University examinations.*—The results of the Intermediate and the B.A. Degree examinations of 1910-1911 are appended. Twenty-six candidates out of 45 sent up for the Intermediate examination, or 58 per cent., passed with 5 in the first class, the numbers for the two groups being 10 with 3 first classes in group I and 16 with 2 first classes in group III. The subjects in which the students gained distinction were English and Ancient History 6 each, Chemistry and Logic 5 each, Physics 4 and Mathematics and Modern History 2 each. The number of students sent up for the B.A. Degree examination was 28 for the English Language division, 29 for the Second Language division and 36 for the Science division. As regards results, there was a first class in each of the three divisions, the student who passed in Sanskrit standing first in the Presidency. Four candidates passed in the second class in the English Language division and there were 11 second classes in each of the other two divisions. The percentage of passes was 53 and 93, respectively, in the English and Second Language divisions which were, I believe, above the Presidency average, and the percentage in the Science division was 61.

The students who have appeared for the Intermediate examination of 1911-1912 number 36 and those for the B.A. Degree examination number 24.

10. *College examinations.*—Periodical examinations for all the classes continued to be held as usual. The results of these examinations combined with those of the final examination held at the end of the year will determine the promotion of students to the second and fourth year classes.

11. *Scholarships and prizes.*—The Edward Bird scholarship was awarded to P. S. Krishnaswami who stood third in this college in the Intermediate examination in Arts of 1910-1911, the first two having left this college.

The Subrahmanyam scholarships were held by the following students :—

T. Ramaswami	...	...	...	...	Senior B.A. class.
S. Minakshisundram	...	...	...	...	Junior B.A. class.
V. Rajahraman	...	...	...	...	Senior Intermediate class.
M. Venkatachalam	...	...	...	...	Junior do.

The Morris medal and the Beauchamp and Muppanar's prizes were awarded to the students named below :—

Morris medal	...	...	...	...	S. Lakshmanaswami.
Beauchamp and Muppanar's prizes in—					
English and History	...	...	...	...	K. Muthuswami.
Philosophy	...	...	...	...	G. Narasimhachari.
Mathematics	...	...	...	...	N. Govindarajan.

12. *Athletics and sports.*—No game except the tennis could be played throughout the year and badminton was played only during the first few months of the year, because the site of the badminton court was taken up by the new gymnastic shed and the fives-court was pulled down along with the old gymnastic shed to which it was attached. Only practice football could be played as nearly half of the ground was utilized for the storage of the working materials for the new buildings under construction, and the land newly acquired for the football ground was not, as already stated, rendered fit for use. Successful football matches, however, were played outside the college premises against the local Town High school, Native High school and the Kumbakonam town teams and also against the "rising star" of Tanjore. Students of the college took part, as in previous years in the inter-collegiate sports held at Tanjore and did well. Before the Coronation holidays and during then the college ground was cleared and used for sports open to the school boys and college students. The latter did well.

The receipts of the athletic club amounted to Rs. 428-6-9. The opening balance of the year was Rs. 69-4-5 and the closing balance Rs. 136-6-8.

13. *Finance.*—The receipts for the year ending 31st March 1912 were Rs. 15,663-2-0 and the charges during the same period were Rs. 45,473-0-9. The latter does not include cost of Europe stores obtained during the year as noted in paragraph 6 *supra*. The net expenditure, deducting receipts, was Rs. 29,809-14-9, and the net cost per student was Rs. 175 against Rs. 296 for the previous year.

14. *Hostel.*—The average strength of the hostel during the year was 43 and the average monthly rate of boarding fees, exclusive of room rent, was Rs. 8-9-2 for the Smartha section and Rs. 10-0-2 for the Vaishnava section. The total receipts and charges during the year ending 31st March 1912 were Rs. 5,158-11-1 and Rs. 4,167-0-10, respectively. Excluding a sum of Rs. 1,277-12-8 realized by the sale of a portion of the hostel land to the college, the net receipts amounted only to Rs. 3,880-14-5. The working of the hostel, therefore, resulted in a deficit of Rs. 286-2-5. But this should be considered more apparent than real as the adjustment of boarding charges for March, which will be made only in April, has not been taken into account.

M.R.Ry. S. V. Venkateswara Aiyar, M.A., L.T., continued to be the sub-warden throughout the year. He took a keen and lively interest in the working of the hostel in general and looked carefully to the welfare of its members. The keenness in gardening roused in the members of the hostel last year flagged, I fear, during the year under report; but the season—a very wet one—discouraged effort. However, it was proved possible to make the garden a source of income in future to the hostel; the land has been partly cleaned and beds are in course of being hard. The tone and discipline of the hostel were, on the whole, satisfactory.

The hostel badminton court was more largely used than in previous years as the college members also played there for want of a court in the college itself. The reading-room continued to be popular and the literary society started last year did useful work in convening occasional meetings and inviting members of the college staff and others to deliver lectures and in the members themselves discussing subjects and reading papers.

15. *College Literary Society.*—This society also showed great activity during the year. Several meetings were called at which members read papers on subjects of general interest, presided over either by a member of the college staff or a gentleman of the town. One or two lectures by members of the staff and gentlemen not connected with the college were also given.

16. In conclusion I have much pleasure in recording my warm appreciation of the hearty co-operation of the members of the staff in the working of the college during the year and making it a success.

SUB-ENCLOSURES.

(1)

APPENDIX A.

RESULTS of the Intermediate examination in Arts and B.A. Degree examination, 1910-1911.

	Number sent up.	Number passed.				Percentage for 1908.	Percentage for 1909.	Percentage for 1910-1911.
		First class.	Second class.	Third class.	Total.			
Intermediate examination in Arts—								
Group I	20	3	7	..	10	73	54	58
Group II	25	2	14	..	16			
Group III	..	..	..	..	..	50	85	54
B.A. Degree examination—	28	1	4	10	15			
I. English Language division	..	..	..	..	..	90	100	91
II. Second Language division—	12	..	3	8	11	90	86	94
Tamil	17	1	7	8	16			
Sanskrit	..	..	..	..	..	75	46	59
III. Science division—	17	1	8	1	10			
Mathematics	16	..	3	6	9	85	100	56
History	..	..	..	..	..	75	100	66
Philosophy	3	..	..	2	2			

(2)

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing the number examined, passed and failed in the several divisions of the Intermediate examination in Arts, 1910-1911.

Divisions.	Number.			
	Exa- mined.	Passed.	Gained distinc- tion.	Failed.
English	45	38	6	7
Tamil composition	40	31	..	9
Sanskrit translation	5	5	..	..
Mathematics	20	14	2	6
Physics	20	16	4	4
Chemistry	20	17	5	3
Ancient History	25	23	6	2
Modern History	25	22	2	3
Logic	25	20	5	5

Proceedings R.C. No. 3211 of 1912.

Recorded.

2. M.R.Ry. K. P. Guruswami Aiyar, Lecturer in Philosophy, who was long connected with the Department, retired from service during the year and the Director regrets to note that he did not, however, live to enjoy his pension.

3. The strength of the College rose from 127 to 163 and the increase was shared by all the classes except the highest.

4. The attention of the Public Works Department will be invited to the Principal's remarks in paragraph 6 of his report. The working of the College has been hampered by the insufficiency of accommodation and it is to be hoped that the new buildings will be completed as soon as possible.

5. The Principal and the staff deserve to be congratulated on the continued efficiency of the College.

A. G. BOURNE,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Kumbakonam College, with spare copies.
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L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
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