

Educational (1912) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 900

DATED 9/10/1912

[Despatch Abstract.]

Dates of birth.

Recording papers connected with the enquiry
with the slips taken by the University to require definite
evidence as to the — of persons appearing for its
examinations.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

[E. & L.]
68
2,408-15-3-06.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT FILE.

CONTENTS.

From	Number.	Date.	Pages.

[P.T.O. FOR PUT UP PAPERS.]

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (=O.) or spare copy (=S. C.)	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department.

Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number.	Date.	Original (=O.) or spare copy (=S. C.)	Despatcher to note the return of the papers to the departments concerned.

V
Educational Department

CN: 2239.

OK. N^o 2239-1
189-12

Sp. 189

The Registrar of the University of Madras is requested to state whether the University requires any definite evidence to be furnished of the age entered in the applications for University examinations ~~except the~~ beyond the signature thereto of the Principal of the College or head of the institution, and if not whether any specific injunction is imposed on him to verify the age by comparison with the Secondary school leaving certificate or other registers. He is also requested to ~~send~~ furnish Govt with a copy of the Circular No. 1550, dated 13th May 1904 issued by the University.

DESPATCHED
19 SEP 1912

MA.

CR
16-9-12

LD
18/9/12

Lo
The Registrar, University of Madras
18912



2. *CNR 2594*
26-9-12 *M*
25/9/12
University of Madras.

No. 3646

SENATE HOUSE, 24 SEP 1912

Enclosures. /

FROM

FRANCIS DEWSBURY, Esq., B.A., LL.B.,

Registrar, University of Madras,

TO

The Under Secretary to Government,
Educational Department.

Sir,

With reference to your Memorandum No. 2239-1, dated the 18th instant I have the honour to inform you that the University does not require any evidence to be furnished of the correctness of the ages given by candidates for University Examinations in their applications, and that there is no specific rule or regulation requiring the Registrar to verify the ages of candidates by comparison with the Secondary School Leaving Certificates or other Registers. The signature of the Principal of a College or the Head of an institution is considered a sufficient guarantee of the correctness of the entries in a form of application for an examination. Under the New Regulations there is no provision for the admission of candidates to Examinations under concessions granted on account of age: no unfair advantage can now be gained by any false statement of age, and consequently no special measures are taken to verify the ages given by candidates ~~for University Examinations.~~

If, however, a candidate for an examination wishes to amend his statement of age after his application has been received and registered, this office usually insists on the

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production of an endorsement from the Principal of the College concerned, or in the case of a candidate for the Matriculation examination from an Inspector of schools certifying that the necessary alteration has been first carried out in the admission register of the college or school in which the candidate is studying.

A copy of the circular letter No.1550, dated 13th May 1904 is enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Francis D. B. [Signature]
Registrar.

No.
Dated

FROM

THE REGISTRAR OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS,

To

Enclosures

SUBJECT.

No.1550 dated 13th May 1904.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

Circular to the Headmasters of all Recognised High Schools.

Certificates of Age and Character.

In connection with the recent Matriculation examination there were numerous causes in which persons sought to be admitted to the examination as private candidates by falsely representing that they were 20 years old, and an investigation that was held by the Syndicate clearly proved that there had been great carelessness on the part of those who signed the Age and Character certificates.

The investigation further indicated that some headmasters, in the case of pupils with whose progress they are not satisfied and whose failure they do not desire to see debited to their schools, furnish these pupils with certificates of Age and Character to enable them to appear as private candidates under the provisions of by-law 131. These certificates are apparently given without sufficient reason for the opinion expressed that the pupils have completed their twentieth year, and in spite of the fact that the school registers show that the pupils are under 20 years of age.

The investigation further indicated that it is a common practice for pupils who are disqualified for age conditions from appearing as private candidates to leave one school in which they have been studying for some time, and join another school, where they falsely overstate their age in order to mislead the headmaster into giving them the Age certificate required under by-law 131.

The investigation further indicated that it is a common practice for persons who are under 20 years of age to obtain certificates of Age and Character, from the Headmaster of a school which they have not attended, or from a Fellow of the University

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University, and that in many instances such certificates have been given without due care being taken to make sure of the truth of the statements made therein.

The Syndicate hopes that the utmost care will be taken in future to ensure the correctness of these certificates. When the age given in the school register is inconsistent with the statement as to a candidate's age in the certificate, the headmaster signing the certificate, should explain the discrepancy. To sign the certificate without so doing either lays his action open to misinterpretation, or involves an admission that he attaches little importance to the registers he professes to keep.

Further, a headmaster who signs an Exemption certificate on behalf of a pupil who has attended his school for the two terms of the current school year, appears to the Syndicate to have completely failed to realize his responsibility in promoting the cause of sound learning; for, while refusing to grant a certificate that the candidate's conduct and progress have been satisfactory, he nevertheless grants another certificate which may enable that candidate to enter upon a University course.

Senate House,
12th May, 1904.

C. A. PATERSON,
Registrar.

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C. A. PATTERSON,
Registrar.

Senate House,
12th May, 1904.

[L. & L.]
61.
1,000-17-11-11.

Edl. DEPARTMENT

NOTE FILE.

of candidates with which the University has to deal is too large I think for check over the ages returned by candidates to be exercised, but they might at least insist on a clear and definite statement in months and years of age being always given.

A.G. *Hardew*
7-8-12.

For the D. S.

x x x

The file may go to Educational with reference to paragraph 2 of C.S.'s note ^{about} on p. 4 ante, after issue of the orders.

C.V. 10-8-12.

C.W.E. *Caston*
12-8-12.

(G. O. No. 981 Public, dated 13-8-12) *C*

Educational Department u.o.



Educational Dept

In the forms of application for the several University examinations a column is set apart for entering the age and date of birth of the Candidates - vide pages 485 to 496 of the Madras University Calendar for 1912 - vol. I. All that the University

Pub. U.S. No. 3413-3
14 ⁸/₁₂
C No. 22395-8
16-8-12. *W*

718

has to do is to see that this column ⁹ is properly filled. From the application of H. Subrahmanyam on page 13 of G.O. no. 981 Pub. dated 13th August 1912 it will be seen that the candidate in that case omitted to give his date of birth.

2. In May 1904 the University issued a ^{*}circular (no. 1550 dated 13-5-04) to all colleges and schools urging the necessity for giving correct dates of birth of candidates for examinations and of students in colleges & schools. It also instituted an examination of the applications submitted by candidates, and rusticated many of them for giving false ages - vide the list on pages 864 to 867 of Part I-B of the Fort St. George Gazette dated 6th Dec. 1904. If the University will undertake to examine in this manner the applications of candidates for a few years, the tendency on the part of the candidates to give false ages in their applications will disappear.

3. The Scheme for the award of Secondary School leaving certificates is also eminently calculated to check this tendency - on the first page of the certificate provision is made for entering the date of birth of the student. This entry is made by the headmaster from the records of his school or ~~in the case of a candidate~~

* copy not available

Page 4 of the Pamphlet book

~~not good method~~ from the leaving certificate¹⁰ of the candidate. This certificate remains in charge of the headmaster till it is completed and when it is completed it will be taken by the student to the college he goes. The column relating to date of birth in the College admission register will be filled in from the School leaving certificate and the application forms for the University examinations from the college register. Thus under this system chances for giving false ages at various stages are entirely eliminated.

4. This is the case in elementary and and incomplete secondary schools also. Under the Educational Rules, the dates of birth of pupils have to be given both in the register of admission and withdrawals maintained in these schools and in the leaving certificates granted by them. When a pupil first enters a school, the father or guardian of the pupil is required to give the date of ~~the~~ birth of the pupil and it is this date which finds entry subsequently in all the school registers and leaving certificates. If these rules are carefully observed, and there is no reason to suppose that they are not, there will be no room for giving false ages at any subsequent stage. In these cir-

Appendices to the
Madras Educl. Rules.
C, M & L.

Appendix K. 50

circumstances it is for consideration whether any reference should be made to the University as suggested in the Public Dept. note.

5. The file may it is submitted be sent to the D.P.I. for remarks.

T.H. Amananjachari
29-8-12 ~~21-8-12~~

I do not think there is any need to refer the case either to the D.P.I. or to the University at this stage. The University forms do provide for age and Date of birth & the secondary school leaving certificate should go a long way to prevent tampering with dates in future.

Mr Schafflin's carelessness in the case which gave rise to this file seems hardly sufficient ground for ~~advice~~ advice to the University.

But does not the University require any evidence of age except the signature of the Principal of the College? If so, is there no specific instruction to the Principal to verify it by comparison with the S.S. L.C.?

L Davidson
2/11

T.H.

The University does not require any evidence of Age except the signature of the headmaster of the school or the Principal of the College as the case may be. In its circular no. 1550 dated 13th May 1904, referred to in para-2 of the office note on page 3 supra, the Syndicate issued certain instructions in the matter to ^{heads of} schools and colleges who were required, it is presumed, to verify the age of candidates from the admission registers. A copy of this circular is not available in the Madras office too and it is for consideration whether one may be obtained from the University office. A draft o.m. to the University is submitted.

T.H. Gammamurjachari
15-9-12 16-9-12

D. L. Davidson
Sd/-

C No 2594 (Memo no. 2239-1 dated 18-9-12)
From the Registrar, Madras University, no 3646 & 24-9-12

Please see the Registrar's letter on pages 2 & 3 of current file. The Registrar states that the University does not require any evidence of ^{the} ages of the candidates for examination except the signature of the head of the school or college in their applications and that there is no rule requiring him (the Registrar) to verify the ages of candidates by comparison with the Secondary School leaving certificates or other registers.

The memo. was meant to enquire whether there is any instruction imposed on the Principal of a College to verify the age with the registers, and not on the Registrar.

Ca
27-9-12

He further adds that under the new University regulations no unfair advantage can be gained by any false statement of age and that consequently no special measures are now taken to verify the ages given by candidates in their applications.

2. In the case of certificates of ages given to ^(private) Candidates by headmasters, the latter are expected to see that the ages they state agree with those given in the school registers and in the case of any difference to explain the discrepancy - vide the penultimate para of Circular no. 1550 dated 13th May 1904. - page 5 of current file.

3. The suggestion of the Chief Secretary on page 2 supra is that the University might be required to insist on a clear and definite statement in months and years of ages being always given in the applications. The University already requires that the age and date of birth of the candidate should be given in column 2 of the application and this does not materially differ from the suggestion of the Chief Secretary. In these circumstances it is for consideration whether it is necessary to require the University to do anything further.

T.H.
27912

The Registrar's statement that under new regulations no unfair addition can be gained by any false statement of age is not clear. Under 131 of the old regulations a candidate for the matriculation examination who produced a certificate that he had completed his twentieth year, could be exempted from the production of a certificate of attendance. Under 168 of the new regulations, no candidate for that examination could be admitted unless he had completed the age of 15 years on or before the first day of the examination. While under old regulations a candidate would overstate his age to obtain the exemption from attendance, under the new regulations there would be a similar temptation to make false statement of age to become eligible for appearing for the examination. It is, however, observed that it is not only in respect of examinations that false statements of age are made but more often to qualify one-self for public service. An overstatement of age may be made for examination purposes, and under statement of ~~xxxx~~ age is generally made for purposes of entering public service.

Obviously no special injunction is placed on the heads of institutions to verify the age entered in the candidates application for examination. The circular, copy of which is submitted by the Registrar, relates only to private candidates, and no special safeguards are taken in respect of candidates appearing from institutions. As already observed by the Secretary, the introduction of a section of a secondary school leaving certificate should go a

pages 4 + 5 of

pages 6 + 7 of

He further adds that under the new regulations no unfair advantage can be gained by any false statement of age and that no special measures are now taken to verify the age given by candidates in their applications. 2. In the case of certificates of age given to candidates by institutions the latter are expected to see that the age they state corresponds with the given in the school register and in the case of any difference to confirm the discrepancy by the fundamental form of Circular No. 1250 dated 12th May 1914. - Page 2 of Circular file. 3. The suggestion of the Chief Secretary on page 2 above is that the University might be required to insist on a declaration of age being made in months and years of age being always given in the applications. The University already require that the age and date of birth of the candidate should be given in columns 1 of the application and this has not been altered. Hence from the suggestion of the Chief Secretary in this connection it is for consideration whether it is necessary to require the University to do anything further.

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11975

very long way to prevent tampering with dates in future. Whether a candidate in the end appears for the matriculation examination or obtains a school leaving certificate, the institutions which train up those candidates ~~now~~ ~~may~~ maintain the same kind of registers, which sufficiently provide for accurate entry of information as regards age. There seems to be no need for any further action in the matter. It is for consideration whether the papers may be recorded.



W
 No. 2594-181
 1-05-12

Amavijayam
 30.7.12
 Chief Secy. for perusal as he initiated the enquiry.
 L. Davidson
 10/11/12

By 1/10 C.S. no.

Recd 2/11/12

Public Dept.

For the D.S.

This may be submitted to C.S. with reference to ^{Ch. Secy's} ~~his~~ note of 7-8-12
 also pp 1-2 note.

7/10 *CO*
 3-10-12 4-10-12

2 5. 10. 12

CL
 Alford CW
 7.10.12

78 Edcl u.o.



[G.O. No. 900 uis of 9.10.12]

READ AGAIN G.O., No., dated 191

191

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 2239, From the, No., dated 191

2594 191

191

ORDER.
Wise

No. 900 *his*, dated *9-6-* 1912.

Recorded.

L.D

1. 10. 12

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

191

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____ DATED _____
 191

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DETTO.

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

V.S.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy Heading only