

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1912.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. No. 966, 4th November 1912.

Indian Students in England.

Recording papers regarding the organisation for the care of —.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 415, Educational, dated 14th July 1909.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction and the Syndicate of the Madras University the Resolution of the Government of India regarding the measures adopted for ameliorating the position of Indian Students in England, and requesting the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals for the constitution of a local committee and of sub-committees and for the appointment of a Secretary to the former.

II

G.O. No. 257, Educational, dated 14th May 1910.

ABSTRACT.—Ordering the republication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the notification of the Government of India issuing the Consolidated Regulations of the four Inns of Court in England.

III

Endorsement of the Government of India, Department of Education (Education)
No. 2820, dated Simla, the 15th October 1912.

A copy of the undermentioned papers is forwarded to the Government of Madras for information.

(By Order.)

H. SHARP,
Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

ENCLOSURES.

(i)

Despatch—from the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).
To—His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.
Dated—Simla, the 5th October 1911.
No.—17.

We have the honour to refer to the question of the care and direction of Indian students in England and the supplementary measures adopted in this country.

2. As regards the latter, effect has been given through the agency of local advisory committees to the instructions embodied in our Home Department Resolution Nos. 555-569, dated the 1st July 1909, of which a copy was forwarded to Your Lordship in our Despatch No. 20, dated the 8th July 1909. We have now under consideration the further development of those measures along the lines which have been indicated. And we think that it will strengthen the position and influence of local advisory committees if the four Inns of Court are willing to effect a slight modification in Rule 7 (2) (b) of their consolidated regulations, so as to permit the certificate of a local advisory committee to serve as an alternative equivalent to the certificate now required by the Inns of Court from a Collector or a Deputy Commissioner in the case of those students whose parents reside in British territory.

3. As regards arrangements in England we venture to put forward certain suggestions for Your Lordship's consideration. We understand that the residence of Indian students in England is no longer confined to the older universities but they are also scattered in towns where universities have recently been established. We are conscious of the extreme importance in their own interests of assistance being given to Indian students wherever resident; and we

think it might be found advisable were branches of the central committee to be opened at various important centres, such as Edinburgh. Should this course commend itself to Your Lordship, it is possible that assistants will have to be appointed on suitable salaries with a view to the management of these committees and the supervision of assistance to students. If this be the case we would suggest that either suitable Indians or Englishmen may be appointed to these posts and, secondly, that the incumbents should be of an age which will permit them to associate closely with the students and to bring the activity of youth to bear upon the discharge of their duties.

4. We are also of opinion that a still wider extension of the system of assistance and supervision is indicated than can be effected through committees and the services of assistants. Though we do not in the least desire to advocate compulsion in the matter, we believe it would be salutary were each parent or guardian in India, who is known to have a son or a ward proceeding to England, invited to apply through the local committee in India to the central committee in London for a guardian, with whom the student would in some cases reside, and who, in other cases, would exercise a mild general supervision, receive remittances, control his ward's expenditure to the extent desired by the parent, and communicate direct with the parent in India. The selection of guardians would of course have to be made with the greatest circumspection, and some remuneration would be required in such cases, which should be paid by the student's parent or guardian. But we think that, if the guardian in England will accept the charge of several pupils, the charge may be considerably reduced, while the resultant reduction of expenditure and the sense of security will render the scheme acceptable to Indian parents. The fact of guardianship would probably be a valuable asset with most educational institutions and might be made a condition to the removal of restrictions against the admission of Indian students where such exist.

5. We are impressed with the undesirable consequences which may arise if Indian students congregate in a few institutions only and thus tend to limit their social intercourse to their own fellow-countrymen. We suggest for Your Lordship's consideration that it might be possible to negotiate with colleges in the principal universities and also with other institutions, such as hospitals, to remove any disqualifications attaching to Indians and to arrange for a suitable distribution of Indian students among such institutions. This course would have the advantage of bringing Indians into touch with English residents at the various colleges, etc.

6. Finally, it has been suggested that a long separation from home ties and family influence exercises a detrimental effect upon Indian students especially in those cases where they have not found suitable English homes to which they can resort for the vacations. It is accordingly suggested that the leading steamship companies might be addressed with a view to granting return tickets at special rates during the summer months when passenger traffic is slack and when educational institutions ordinarily enjoy vacation. Such an arrangement would permit Indian students who so desire to return to India for the holidays.

7. We are sensible that these suggestions constitute a substantial addition to the measures described in Lord Morley's Despatch No. 76-(Public), dated the 14th May 1909, but our suggestions are largely upon lines indicated in that despatch—namely, the appointment of correspondents of the Bureau at Oxford and Cambridge and the activities of the unofficial committees. And the matter is of such grave importance that we have no hesitation in submitting our views for Your Lordship's consideration.

(ii)

Despatch—from His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.
To—His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council.
Dated—India Office, London, the 23rd August 1912.
No.—143, the Public.

I desire to inform Your Excellency's Government that as the organisation created in 1909 for dealing with Indian students in England was originally introduced tentatively for a period of three years, I appointed a special Committee of my Council at the beginning of the present year to review the working of the organisation and to recommend such changes as might seem to them desirable.

2. A copy of the report of the committee is forwarded herewith. I have given my general approval to the proposals of the Committee, and steps are being taken to give effect to them. In the first place, I have appointed Mr. C. E. Mallet to the post of "Secretary for Indian Students" to perform the duties outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the committee's report, and the designation of Mr. Arnold's appointment, which has been made permanent, has been altered to "Educational Adviser of Indian Students in London."

3. The committee had before them Your Excellency's Despatch in the Education Department, No. 17, dated 5th October 1911, and it is largely with a view to carrying out the recommendations of that despatch, so far as it may be practicable to do so, that the Secretary

for Indian Students has been appointed. It will be one of his principal functions to enter into negotiations with the universities of the United Kingdom for the creation of local agencies to provide for the welfare of Indian students. It may, however, be a considerable time before very much progress is made in this direction, as matters connected with the discipline and conduct of these students are primarily questions for the universities themselves to decide.

4. It is hoped that the Secretary for Indian students may be able to do something towards the provision of local guardians for Indian students, and to arrange for a better distribution of Indian students among educational institutions, as suggested in paragraphs 4 and 5 of your despatch.

5. With reference to paragraph 2 of your despatch, negotiations have been entered into with the Council of Legal Education with a view to regulations being issued requiring intending Bar students to produce certificates of character and position signed by the Secretary for Indian students. In signing such certificates the Secretary would of course have to rely principally on information furnished by the advisory committees in India. I shall address your Government fully on this subject when the negotiations have been concluded.

6. It has not been found possible to come to any general arrangement with steamship companies regarding the suggestion in paragraph 6 of your despatch that they might be asked to grant cheap return tickets to Indian students during the slack summer season.

(iii)

Indian Students.

Report of the Special Committee.

The committee are of opinion that the scheme initiated by Lord Morley has been attended with a measure of success which would justify the Secretary of State in continuing and developing it. The scheme involves a considerable expenditure from Indian revenues, and for this reason it must continue to be under official control. At the same time it is desirable to recognise more or less independent associations, so that students and others interested in the scheme may have some share in working it.

2. The committee make no recommendations as to the advisory committee of which Lord Amptill is Chairman. It may be considered undesirable to abolish that body; in any case, it would be premature to dispense with its services until the new scheme is established; but it has not been treated as a working part of the system outlined in this report.

3. The general working of the scheme should, in the opinion of the committee, be entrusted to a Secretary, appointed by the Secretary of State, and holding a position in the India Office analogous to that of other special advisers who are in direct relation with the head of the office. His duties might be so defined as to afford some relief to the Secretary in the Judicial and Public Department, and to act as an intermediary between the India Office and the officer who is in charge of the agency at Cromwell Road.

4. The Secretary should be responsible for all correspondence with advisory committees in India, and with universities and professional authorities in the United Kingdom. He should also conduct correspondence with and invite co-operation among all local agencies or associations established in connection with the scheme, and should undertake such other work (including arrangements for guardianship) for the benefit of Indian students in this country as the Secretary of State may determine. His salary should not exceed 1,000l a year.

5. Of the local agencies included in the scheme the most important is that which has been established in London. The number of Indian students in London is very large, and even those who pass on to other university centres usually come to London on their first arrival. It is, therefore, desirable that the agency should develop the present system of meeting students on arrival and assisting them to find suitable accommodation.

6. The committee recommend that this agency should continue to be in the charge of the officer hitherto known as the Educational Adviser, and that Mr. Arnold's salary should be raised to 800l. They suggest that he should be described as the Warden of Indian students in London. He should have not less than two assistants at 400l., and, in the opinion of the committee, one assistant should be an Indian. The tenure of the Indian assistant should be as long as that of his English colleague, and might be extended in special cases. It is desirable that the members of the staff should be able to exercise hospitality, and the committee think they should receive sumptuary allowance in addition to salary. Mr. Arnold's report suggests that he may also require the aid of half-time officers qualified to deal with students of engineering, medicine and law.

7. If relieved by the Secretary of the travelling and correspondence now incumbent upon him, Mr. Arnold would be free to give more of his time to the duties included under the general name of guardianship. He would continue to receive moneys remitted from parents in India, to advise students as to their university and other courses of training, and to develop the organisation by means of which it is hoped that a larger proportion of London students may be brought

within the scope of the scheme. The University of London and its colleges are constantly encountering difficult questions connected with Indian students, and it would be part of Mr. Arnold's duty to co-operate with the university (subject to such reference to the Secretary as may be required).

8. It is, as the committee think, desirable that an association or associations of students and others should be brought into connection with the London part of the scheme. At present the house in Cromwell Road provides accommodation for the Northbrook Society and the National Indian Association. It may be possible to arrange terms on which these and possibly other societies or individuals may be brought into direct relations with those who are working the scheme. The Cromwell Road establishment would be more useful and more attractive to students if it provided them with a centre for their university work. If the problem of accommodation and service can be solved, the committee suggest the formation of a library, providing for the needs of law students and others.

9. Outside London, the committee suggest that the scheme should be worked in co-operation with the universities. In every university which receives any considerable number of Indian students there usually is some definite agency appointed to look after their interests. As to the formation and the duties of these authorities, the universities must be free to make their own arrangements, but in each case some representative of the local agency should be brought, if possible, into direct correspondence with the Secretary, and some local provision should be made for guardianship. If financial assistance is required to pay a local Secretary, each case may be considered on its merits, but some general rule is necessary; whatever is conceded to one university will probably be demanded by some of the others, and the adjustment of local claims is a matter which the Secretary will have to supervise.

10. The committee recommend that the Secretary should present an annual report embodying the information furnished to him by the London and other agencies. In particular, he should furnish a complete statement of expenditure from Indian revenues.

11. The committee have considered the proposal that some system of registering openings for employment in India should be established in connection with the scheme. It is, of course, important that students should understand that no agency in this country can give them the promise of situations in India. But the Secretary would no doubt make it his business to collect information as to employment in India for students returning from this country, and to make such information accessible to those whom it concerns.

Order—No. 966, Educational, dated 4th November 1912.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary, Madras Students' Advisory Committee.
" Director of Public Instruction.

257 84, 14 - 5 - 1910.

C. No. 2820, From the Govt of I., No. 2320, dated 15-10 1912.

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No. 966, dated 4. 11. 1912.

Recorded.

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The Secy. Madras Students
Advisory Committee

D.P.I. V

Desp. sp. + sign col
on 27-11-72
NA.

ORDINARY.

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URGENT (a).

EDUCATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Current No....., dated.....190 ..

G.O., No. 966..., dated 11 1902.

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Docket..... Indian Students in England

Recording papers regarding the
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