

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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G.O. No. 584, 20th June 1913.

Law College, Madras.

Recording report on the working of the—during the year 1912-13

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Sir ALFRED GIBBS BOURNE, D.Sc., F.R.S., K.C.I.E.,
Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 11th June 1913.
No.—Ref. on Cur. 3160/13.

I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 3160, dated 22nd May 1913, reviewing the report on the working of the Madras Law College during the year 1912-13.

ENCLOSURE.

*Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, Ref. on Cur. No. 3160/13,
dated 22nd May 1913.*

Read—the following papers :—

Letter—from Dr. S. SWAMINADHAN, Ag. Principal, Law College, Madras.
To—the Director of Public Instruction.
Dated—the 15th April 1913.
No.—211.

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the working of the Law College for the year 1912-13.

2. *College staff*.—Mr. Nelson the Principal who had permission to go out of India during the long vacation, availed himself of three months' leave on medical certificate from the date of the re-opening of the college after the summer vacation on the 8th of July 1912, and I was appointed to act in his place and this arrangement has continued throughout the rest of the year as Mr. Nelson was granted an extension of his leave. Owing to the large accession to the strength of the various classes, Government were pleased to appoint M.R. Ry. K. Y. Adiga Avargal a practising vakil of the High Court as a Special Lecturer. Mr. Adiga entered on the discharge of his duties on the 7th of October 1912 and has continued for the rest of the year. These were the only changes in the teaching staff during the year under report.

3. *College Council*.—The Hon'ble Mr. P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar on his appointment to the Executive Council of His Excellency the Governor, resigned his membership on the College Council. The vacancy has not been filled up (*vide* my letter No. 205 dated 11th April 1913). There was no other change in the Council. The ordinary annual meeting of the Council was held on the 17th day of March 1913 and the proceedings of the meeting were communicated to you in my letter No. 160, dated 28th March 1913.

4. *Strength*.—The number of the students on the rolls on the 31st March 1913 was 566 against 455 on the 31st March 1912, showing an increase of 111 students. This increase may be attributed to the better numerical results of the B.A. Degree Examinations, 1912 and the large numbers of students who appear for that examination both under the new and under the old Regulations of the University. The increase is likely to be sustained until the transitional provisions providing an examination under the old bye-laws have spent themselves out by efflux of time. The figures for the four preceding years are furnished below for comparison :—

	1908.	1909.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.
B.L. Class	195	109	90	151	183
F.L. Class	168	166	207	233	295
Pleadership Class	42	49	..	71	88
Special Classes	11	9	4	..	..
Total	316	333	301	455	566

Figures regarding the distribution of students according to the classes of the community, the occupation and financial status of their parents or guardians and vaccination, appear in appendices A and B. The district distribution of the students is given in appendix C.

5. In the table below is given the number of hours of instruction each student had in the several subjects dealt with in the college during the academic year 1912-13. This information may be useful as it might tend to bring about a certain standard of uniformity as to the way in which subjects are dealt with from year to year.

F.L. Class.		B.L. Class.		Pleadership Class.	
Subjects.	Number of hours of instruction.	Subjects.	Number of hours of instruction.	Subjects.	Number of hours of instruction.
1. Jurisprudence	71	1. Law of property	154	1. Civil Procedure and Law of Land-lord and tenant	152
2. Roman Law	112	2. Hindu and Muhammadan Law	120	2. Criminal procedure	90
3. Contracts	176	3. Criminal Law	88	3. Torts	62
4. Torts	62	4. Law of evidence	60	4. Contracts	153
		5. Indian constitutional Law	62	5. Hindu Law	80
				6. Criminal Law	79
				7. Law of property	88
				8. Law of Evidence	40

6. *Results of examinations*.—I. *University Law examinations*.—(a) *M.L. degree examination, April 1912*.—The only candidate who attained this degree in the year 1912 appeared direct from this college.

(b) *B.L. degree examination, April 1912*.—The number of students appearing direct from the college was 152. Of these 83 passed—a percentage of 57.9 as against 45.5 of the previous year. Fifteen out of 22 candidates placed in the second class appeared direct from this college.

(c) *First Examination in Law, April 1912*.—For this examination 230 students appeared from the college. Of these 130 passed—a percentage of 56.5 as against 53.2 of the previous year. The only candidate who passed in the first class and 19 out of the 26 candidates who were placed in the second class, appeared direct from this college.

Appendix D gives the figures for the three preceding years.

II. *The High Court Pleadership examination, April 1912*.—For the Pleadership examination conducted by the High Court under the provisions of the Legal Practitioners' Act, 67 candidates appeared direct from the college. Of these 35 passed—a percentage of 52.2. There was no examination in the previous official year, the High Court having altered the date of the examination. Considering that students of this class have to gain an acquaintance with the several subjects of the examination in the short space of nine months the result is not unsatisfactory.

III. *Class examinations*.—As students seem to take the earlier periods of their law course very easy, it was insisted that every student of the college should undergo periodical class examinations in the several courses of study. One set of examinations was held in September 1912 and those of the students that did not appear for that examination for one reason or another had to appear for a supplemental examination and they soon learnt that they cannot escape being examined by putting forward excuses. The examinations during the Spring term of 1913 were spread over a considerable period commencing from the first Monday in February and were so arranged that each student had on an average to sit for an examination once in a fortnight. Students have already been notified that the grant of the certificates required by Regulation 390 of the University Regulations would depend upon the progress they make in the several subjects of study as tested by these examinations. I propose to refuse certificates to those that do very badly in all the examinations.

7. *Library and Reading-room*—(a) *Library*.—The books in the library were sorted out into three main sections, the first—the consulting section containing mostly Law reports and other books of reference including advanced works usually read by students preparing for the M.L. degree examination; the second section consisting of books constantly in requisition by students attending the various courses of lectures have been arranged in 14 different groups, viz :—

(1) Jurisprudence	...	...	...	Used by the students of the F.L.class.
(2) Roman Law	...	...	...	
(3) Contracts—General	...	...	...	
(4) Do. Special	...	...	...	
(5) Torts	...	...	...	Used by the students of the B.L. class.
(6) Law of Property—General	...	...	...	
(7) Conveyancing and Transfer of Property.	...	...	...	
(8) Hindu Law	...	...	...	
(9) Muhammadan Law	...	...	...	Used by the students of the Pleader-ship class.
(10) Criminal Law	...	...	...	
(11) Indian constitutional Law	...	...	...	
(12) Law of Evidence	...	...	...	
(13) Civil Procedure and Law of Landlord and Tenant.	...	...	...	
(14) Criminal Procedure	...	...	...	

These are lodged in the several lecture-rooms and are made available for use from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., with the result there is less crowding in the consulting-room and students derive greater benefit from the books and from the constant use of all the accommodation available. Students are also permitted to borrow books from these class libraries at 6 P.M. on condition they return the same by 10 A.M. the next morning. The third section of the library consists mainly of old editions of text-books which are lent out to students for a week at a time. 415 volumes were added to the library during the year under report so that the total number of volumes in the library on 31st March 1913 was 3,353. No record was kept of the number of books used in the class libraries, the very object with which these special collections were formed being to allow students freely to handle the books on the several courses of instruction they were undergoing; but the usefulness of this section is apparent from the fact that 6,254 books were taken out in the evenings and returned the following morning and every lecture room when not in actual use for lectures or classes is used by at least a dozen or more students for the purpose of reading the books therein lodged. The following table is an abstract of the record as to the use of the consulting and lending sections :—

	Consulting.		Lending.	
	1912-13.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1911-12.
Students	14,198	3,929	1,784	2,490
Staff	855	1,199	20	44
Total	15,174	5,128	1,804	2,534

(b) *Reading-room*.—A reading-room was for the first time opened by removing the gallery from the north lecture-hall on the first floor and fitting it up with appropriate furniture. The Government in G.O. No. 993, Mis., Educational, dated 12th November 1912, were pleased to sanction the supply of a large number of Indian, English and American Legal Periodicals; the reading-room contains in addition a collection of law lexicons and statutes and other works required for reference and I am glad to be able to report that very good use is made of the facilities thus provided. One complete set of the Indian Law Reports out of the supply sanctioned in your Reference on C. No. 9740 of 1912, dated 9th April 1913, will also be lodged in the

reading-room for ready reference. The Government in G.O. No. 141, Mis., Educational, dated 15th February 1913 have been pleased to sanction the entertainment of two attenders to be in special charge of the several class libraries and of the reading-room.

8. *Scholarships*.—The power to award scholarships originally vested in the Director of Public Instruction was during the year delegated to the Principal and the consequential alteration in the Code of College Rules was made by Government in G.O. No. 996, dated 12th November 1912.

(1) *Morhead Law Scholarship*.—This scholarship was awarded to P. V. Parameswaran the only student who took a first-class in the F.L. Examination held in April 1912.

(2) *College scholarships*.—Of the two Government scholarships of Rs. 100 each per term, one was awarded to S. Panchapakesan who stood first in the second class, in the F.L. Examination held in April 1912. The other Government Scholarship which is reserved for Muhammadan or Uriya students was awarded, owing to the death of the only Muhammadan student who sought admission into the B.L. Class, to V. Radhakrishnamurthi an Uriya student coming from the district of Vizagapatam.

9. *Accommodation*.—The large strength of the several classes rendered it impossible for any of the lecture-halls to accommodate the entire class and consequently lectures had to be delivered in two sections for most of the courses. I have addressed you separately in my letter No. 165, dated 29th March 1913, regarding the several minor requirements of the College in order to give full effect to the re-organization scheme sanctioned by Government, in G.O. No. 224, Educational, dated 15th March 1913. It may not be out of place if I mention here that the college is in need of a special hostel. The managers of the existing hostels attached to Arts Colleges naturally enough give preference to Arts students, with the result that the majority of students who do not live with their parents or with their families resort to the insanitary eating houses maintained by private individuals and which are in a deplorable condition. A number of benches originally in the north lecture-room has been conveniently arranged in the verandah and several students sit and read there almost from 6 A.M. in the morning. If the reading-room is properly lighted and kept open from 7 A.M. till about 10 P.M., I think it will to a large extent minimise the evils attendant upon a large number of the College students living in insanitary dwellings in Georgetown, Periamet and Chintadripet. The number of students applying for leave or exemption from undergoing the class examinations on the ground they were suffering from fever was really large; but I am not able to compare the number of such applicants with the state of things in previous years as no statistics are available.

10. *College associations and athletics*.—With a view to encourage the growth of the idea of corporate life among students who come from all parts of the Presidency and the adjoining Native States, they were encouraged in the beginning of the last Autumn term to form a Students Representative Council with the Morhead Law Scholar for the year as its President and the student next in order of merit who gets the College scholarship as Secretary, each class electing a certain number of representatives in proportion to its strength. This council has been doing excellent work during the year—one sub-committee organised several moots which were presided over by Judges of the High Court and other friends of legal education; another sub-committee was in charge of the college athletics and had the management of the funds amounting to Rs. 1,300 collected as athletic fees. Owing to the large increase in the number of students taking interest in athletics, permission of the High Court was obtained and an additional tennis court and a badminton court were opened in the High Court Park and the various plots of ground allotted for the use of this college in the High Court Park for tennis, hockey, cricket and football were made good use of during the year. A third sub-committee of the Students' Representative Council rendered me very good assistance in connection with the College Library and several of the members came forward and offered their services as Honorary Librarians in charge of the several class libraries until the sanction of Government for additional attenders was obtained.

11. Financial summary.—

Year.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.	Remarks.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	
From 1892 to 1912	10,55,416	7,51,250	2,94,066	Correct amount—vide letter No. 202, dated 7th September 1912.
From 1912-13	90,844 (a)	34,075 (a)	56,169 (a)	(a) Preliminary figures subject to alteration after verification by the Accountant-General.
Total ..	11,46,260	7,95,025	3,50,235	

The surplus during the year under review amounted to Rs. 56,169 and this would probably remain a record year as the liberal re-organization scheme now sanctioned by Government would involve considerable additional expenditure, with the result that the net profit of the working of the college in future years is likely to be much smaller.

12. *Service books.*—The service books of the members of the establishment who are required to maintain them have been kept and verified up-to-date.

13. *General.*—The staff both teaching and clerical have had an exceptionally busy year. The teaching staff had to work additional hours owing to the abnormal strength of the classes and the consequent duplication of the lectures and the clerical and menial staff had their hours of work prolonged as I was able to attend to the administrative work only after 5 P.M. I am glad to be able to say that the members of the staff in all departments have discharged their duties to my entire satisfaction and I have to thank them for their hearty and loyal co-operation.

APPENDIX A.

DISTRIBUTION OF Students according to classes of community.

Classes of community.	B.L. Class.	F.L. Class.	Pleader-ship Class.	Special Classes.	Total for 1912 to 1913.	Total for 1911 to 1912.
Europeans and Eurasians	1	..	..	..	1	..
Indian Christians	11	19	1	..	31	15
Muslims	..	..	..	..	..	4
Hindus	147	224	79	..	450	383
Non-Brahmins	25	51	8	..	84	53
Total ..	183	295	88	..	566	455

APPENDIX B.

(1)

DISTRIBUTION OF Students according to occupation of their parents or guardians.

Classes.	Officials.	Petty officials.	Land-holders.	Traders.	Artisans.	Others.	Total.
B.L. Class	84	2	87	8	..	2	183
F.L. Class	116	2	163	10	..	4	295
Pleader-ship Class	21	..	62	4	..	1	88
Special Classes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total for 1912-13 ..	221	4	312	22	..	7	566
Total for 1911-12 ..	127	..	314	7	..	7	455

(2)

DISTRIBUTION of students according to the financial status of their parents or guardians.

Classes.	Richer class.	Middle class.	Poorer class.	Total.
B.L. class	10	172	1	183
F.L. class	15	276	4	295
Pleader-ship Class	..	85	3	88
Special classes	..	..	..	..
Total for 1912-13 ..	25	533	8	566
Total for 1911-12 ..	3	462	..	465

(3)

VACCINATION.

Classes.	Vaccinated.	Small-pox marked only.	Unprotected.	Total.
B.L. class	180	3	..	183
F.L. class	268	27	..	295
Pleader-ship class	86	2	..	88
Special classes	..	..	..	..
Total for 1912-13 ..	534	32	..	566
Total for 1911-12 ..	439	16	..	455

APPENDIX C.

DISTRICT Distribution of students.

District.	B.L. class.	F.L. class.	Pleader-ship class.	Special classes.	Total for 1912-1913.	Total for 1911-1912.
Ganjam	3	9	3	..	15	7
Vizagapatam	5	10	3	..	18	9
Godavari	11	14	3	..	28	17
Kistna	6	15	3	..	24	15
Guntur	6	4	1	..	11	16
Nellore	8	5	3	..	16	16
Madras	13	18	3	..	34	69
Chingleput	3	7	6	..	16	10
North Arcot	4	8	2	..	14	22
Chittoor	3	3	..	..	7	..
South Arcot	5	8	..	..	17	10
Trichinopoly	8	14	5	..	27	16
Tanjore	30	45	15	..	90	77
Madurai	12	10	..	..	28	8
Ramanad	2	4	2	..	8	8
Tinnevely	10	17	5	..	32	27
Coimbatore	7	16	1	..	34	13
Salem	8	11	1	..	20	17
Cuddapah	..	3	..	..	3	1
Kurnool	..	1	1	..	2	1
Bellary	2	2	1	..	5	5
Anantapur	1	2	..	..	3	6
South Canara	4	9	1	..	14	7
Malabar	15	22	4	..	42	53
Travancore	3	16	..	..	19	9
Cochin	6	6	..	..	12	2
Mysore	8	5	..	..	13	7
Bangalore	1	5	..	..	6	11
Padunkola	2	3	1	..	6	10
Hyderabad	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ceylon	..	1	..	..	1	..
The Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tumkur	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pondicherry	1	..	..	..	1	4
Karikal	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	183	295	88	..	566	455

APPENDIX D.

(1)

RESULTS of the B.L. Degree Examination, April 1912.

		Number of students examined.	Number of students passed.	Percentage.
1909	From Law College	108	37	34.26
	Other candidates	279	106	38.00
	Total	387	143	36.95
1910	From Law College	111	58	52.25
	Other candidates	304	83	27.29
	Total	415	141	33.97
1911	From Law College	88	40	45.5
	Other candidates	228	41	17.9
	Total	316	81	25.7
1912	From Law College	152	88	57.9
	Other candidates	276	88	31.9
	Total	428	176	41.1

(2)

RESULTS of the First Examination in Law, April 1912.

		Number of students examined.	Number of students passed.	Percentage.
1908	From Law College	164	78	47.56
	Other candidates	246	78	31.70
	Total	410	156	38.04
1910	From Law College	166	66	39.76
	Other candidates	287	53	18.46
	Total	453	119	26.26
1911	From Law College	203	108	53.2
	Other candidates	284	81	28.6
	Total	485	189	38.9
1912	From Law College	280	130	55.5
	Other candidates	299	119	39.8
	Total	579	249	47.1

(3)

RESULTS of the Pleaders Examination.

		Number of students examined.		Number of students passed.		Percentage.	
		First grade.	Second grade.	First grade.	Second grade.	First grade.	Second grade.
1909	From Law College	30	8	13	14	43.33	71.05
	Other candidates	74	181	23	131	31.08	60.39
	Total	104	189	36	145	34.61	61.77
1910	From Law College	33	14	9	24	27.27	70.21
	Other candidates	86	216	18	122	20.93	46.35
	Total	119	230	27	146	22.68	49.57
1911	From Law College	33	13	17	25	51.51	80.79
	Other candidates	100	389	29	208	29.0	51.94
	Total	133	408	46	233	34.58	48.46
1912	From Law College	67		35		52.2	
	Other candidates	93		37		39.7	
	Total	160		72		45.0	

Ref. on Cur. No. 3160/13, dated 22nd May 1913.

Recorded.

2. There was a further marked increase in the strength of the college to which all the classes contributed.

3. The results of the University and the Pleaders examinations were satisfactory.

4. The introduction of a system of periodical class examinations is noted with satisfaction.

5. Government have been addressed regarding the vacancies in the College Council.

6. The question of having a special hostel for the college should form the subject of a separate communication.

7. The Director trusts that the several measures of reform introduced during the year and the scheme of re-organization recently sanctioned by Government will conduce to the efficient working of the institution.

8. The administration of the college during the year was creditable to the Acting Principal and the staff of professors and assistant professors.

A. G. BOURNE,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Law College, with 20 spare copies.
 „ Principals of other Government Colleges.
 „ President of the Law College Council.
 „ Honourable the Chief Justice.
 „ Honourable the Advocate-General.
 „ Directors of Public Instruction of other provinces.
 „ Government with covering letter.

A

B

C

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