

Vol (1913) Department.

mis SERIES.

G.O., No. 1195 Vol

DATED 13-12-13

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council

Recording notes connected with
the resolution regarding the improvement
of the pay and prospects of students in
Govt. Colleges proposed at the
meeting of Nov 1913

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.



RESOLUTION VIII—STATUS OF PANDITS IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES.

Extract from the Proceedings of an Adjourned Meeting of the Council of the Governor of Fort St. George assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Acts of Parliament, 24 & 25 Vict., C. 67, 55 & 56 Vict., C. 14, and 9 Edw. 7, C. 4.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 A.M. on Wednesday, the 12th day of November 1913.

P R E S E N T :

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble JOHN, Baron PENTLAND of Lyth, P.C., G.C.I.E., Governor of Madras—*Presiding*.
 The Hon'ble Sir JOHN ATKINSON, K.C.S.I.
 The Hon'ble Mr. P. S. SIVASWAMI AYYAR, C.S.I., C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble Sir HAROLD STUART, K.C.V.O., C.S.I.
 The Hon'ble Mr. W. O. HORNE, C.S.I.
 The Hon'ble Surgeon-General W. B. BANNERMAN, I.M.S., M.D., D.Sc., C.S.I.
 The Hon'ble Mr. R. B. CLEGG.
 The Hon'ble Mr. L. M. WYNCH, C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble Mr. R. C. C. CARR.
 The Hon'ble Mr. A. BUTTERWORTH.
 The Hon'ble Mr. N. S. BRODIE.
 The Hon'ble Sir ALFRED BOURNE, K.C.I.E., D.Sc., F.R.S.
 The Hon'ble Mr. H. E. CLERK.
 The Hon'ble Mr. C. R. M. SCHMIDT.
 The Hon'ble Mr. S. D. PEARSON.
 The Hon'ble Mr. F. H. M. CORBET (*Advocate-General*).
 The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. W. GILLMAN.
 The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMIKANNU PILLAI Avargal.
 The Hon'ble Mr. W. FRANCIS.
 The Hon'ble Dr. T. M. NAYAR.
 The Hon'ble Mr. T. V. SESHAGIRI AYYAR.
 The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur B. NARASINHWASWARA SARMA Garu.
 The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU Garu.
 The Hon'ble Mr. A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU.
 The Hon'ble Mr. P. KESAVA PILLAI.
 The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur A. SUBBARAYALU REDDIYAR Avargal.
 The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR.
 The Hon'ble Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON.
 The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJA ACHARYAR Avargal.
 The Hon'ble Mr. C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU.
 The Hon'ble Mr. K. CHIDAMBARANATHA MUDALIYAR.
 The Hon'ble Mr. V. KUNHIRAMAN NAYANAR.
 The Hon'ble Shifa-ul-Mulk T. ZAIN-UL-ABIDIN SAHIB Bahadur.
 The Hon'ble Mr. R. M. SAVEGE *
 The Hon'ble Mr. E. F. BARBER.
 The Hon'ble Sir FRANCIS SPRING, K.C.I.E.
 The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur HAJI ISMAIL SAIT SAHIB Bahadur.
 The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI.

* * * * *

(Rao Bahadur Ramanuja Acharyar.)

STATUS OF PANDITS IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJA ACHARYAR :—"Your Excellency, I beg to move the following resolution :—

VIII. This Council recommends that the Governor in Council may be pleased to direct that the pay and prospects of pandits in Government colleges be further improved by grading them with assistant lecturers.

"This question was once moved in this Council by my Hon'ble friend Mr. Kesava Pillai and, as slightly modified, it was accepted by the Government and the pay of the pandits was improved to some extent. But I submit that the improvement is not adequate. The scale sanctioned is two on Rs. 80 rising to Rs. 100, nine on Rs. 60 rising to Rs. 75 and two on Rs. 40 rising to Rs. 50. The pay on which the pandit starts is Rs. 50, and after a service of 30 years he retires on a salary of Rs. 100. The minimum pay of an assistant lecturer is Rs. 100, so that while the assistant lecturer starts on Rs. 100 the pandit draws Rs. 100 when he retires. This is their complaint as regards their pay. Then as regards their status. I happened to look into the list of officers appointed in the Educational department. In pages 119-120 under 'Miscellaneous' I found the pandit classed with sergeants, mechanics, gymnastic instructors, drawing masters, etc. Their chagrin at the company in which they find themselves may be imagined. The question is why these pandits are treated in this manner. Their pay is much lower and their status is the status of gymnastic instructors and drawing masters. Are they inferior to the B.A.'s and M.A.'s, who are assistant lecturers? In their own field of knowledge, they are as good, if not better. Dr Bhandarkar's testimony at the Orientalists' Conference quoted by the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai on the last occasion was this: 'They have a depth of knowledge which the modern scholar does not possess.' They have spent years at the feet of their masters and are masters of their languages. The Council have heard of the complaint that the vernaculars are much neglected in these days; and I find two resolutions at the end of the agenda requesting the Government to make the study of the vernaculars compulsory. I do not go into that question, but so long as the pandits are not properly treated by the Government, they cannot take interest in their work; and unless they take interest in their work they cannot rouse interest among their students. The Council knows well that Sanskrit has a very rich literature. But they may not know so well about the vernaculars. As regards Tamil, I may inform the Council that it has a rich literature teaching the highest morality. We have the Saiva hymns, the *Tevaram* and the Vaishnava hymns, the *Prabandhams*, Kamban's *Ramayana*, the works of the Jainas in the first and second centuries of the Christian era, and above all Tiruvalluvar. These will hold their own in competition with any other literature. Most of these were written before William the Conqueror set his foot on English soil. Is all this to go for nothing, because you do not employ proper pandits? I communicated this resolution to a friend of mine, for whom I have great respect, but who is somewhat anglicised. He told me that there must be some relation between what the employee gets and what he is paid elsewhere. My reply is—as the same objection may be raised on behalf of the Government—that in other departments high pay is offered to numerous persons, munsifs, deputy collectors, tahsildars, etc. Will they get the same pay except under Government? Good pay must be given to secure efficiency. The second objection was that the pandits should be compared with men of their own class. The class of pandits is poor no doubt; but the graduate class from among whom the assistant lecturers are recruited,—have they better pay or better status? When I was in the Board of Revenue lots of graduates used to come to me applying for Rs. 20 posts. There is really no distinction between the pandit class and the graduate class. They all come from the same class. I happened to look into a book, *Ancient India*, by Mr. Krishnaswami Ayyangar and I found that the Cholas patronised these pandits to a very large extent. This is what he says: 'These (South Indian Inscriptions) and scores of other similar references bear eloquent testimony to the impetus given to literary culture by the Cholas.' I therefore request that the Government will give better pay to, and improve the status of, pandits."

(Mr. Kesava Pillai; Sir Alfred Bourne; Dr. Nayar.)

The Hon'ble Mr. P. KESAVA PILLAI :—"I beg to second the resolution. I spoke on the subject at great length when I moved the resolution last time. I was not very much satisfied with the increase given to pandits and moulvis, and I am glad that my Honourable friend has brought forward this resolution asking that their prospects may be further improved. I have heard, Sir, that even in the scale of pay introduced recently Canarese and Tamil pandits are given Rs. 80 to Rs. 100, while the Telugu pandit is relegated to the position of Rs. 60 to Rs. 75. This is an abnormal thing. I do not know why the poor Telugu pandit should not have got the same scale of Rs. 80-100. His work is as heavy as that of the others and his literature is as rich as that of any other language. With these remarks I support my friend's recommendation for the reconsideration of the subject, for bettering the condition of the pandits."

The Hon'ble Sir ALFRED BOURNE :—"As we all know, Sir, there are very many demands upon the funds which are available for education and, in accordance with the promise of Government when the resolution was moved two or three years ago by the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai, some of these available funds were devoted towards increasing the pay of the pandits. Apparently the only difference of opinion between the Honourable mover and the Government is as to the extent of the increase given. The increase was considerable. The scale of pay, as it originally stood, was from Rs. 20-25 to Rs. 60-80. The scale has now been raised to two posts on Rs. 80-100, eleven on Rs. 60-75, four on Rs. 40-50 and three on Rs. 30-40. With regard to the remark of the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai, I may say that the pay is independent of the language which they are teaching. The pandit in any language may be on any pay within the scale, so far as I know. It seems to me, Sir, that when more funds are available for this pandit class, our next duty, the next duty, of the Government, will be to increase the pay of the pandits in other institutions. I have laid before the Government proposals for increasing the pay of pandits in institutions under the management of local boards and municipal councils—proposals which your Excellency's Government have still under consideration. And then there will come the question of pandits in aided privately-managed schools. I submit that we should endeavour to do something for these two other classes of pandits before we further attempt an increase in the pay of pandits in Government institutions. I should like to enter one word of protest against the Honourable mover's accusation against the pandits, for whom I have great sympathy. He has told the Council that they take no interest in their work on account of the smallness of their pay. I do not believe that that is the case. With these words I may intimate to the Council your Excellency's decision to oppose this resolution."

The Hon'ble Dr. T. M. NAYAR :—"My Lord, I am not an authority on pandits; and I certainly do not want to stand in the way of their getting any increase in their pay. But before this question of the increase of pay for pandits can be settled, we have to decide whether the pandits are competent to teach the languages. I make this statement, because I heard the discussion in another place, in the Senate of the University, where the subject has been threshed out thoroughly and where the majority came to the conclusion that at the present time you cannot find anybody in the Madras Presidency able to teach either Tamil or Telugu in a satisfactory manner; and I believe they have almost come to the conclusion that the only professors who can teach these languages must come from Paris. If it is true—I am no authority on the subject and I simply bring this before the Council—if it is true that the Tamil and the Telugu pandits in this Presidency are not competent to teach the languages in a satisfactory manner and that we have to import Parisian professors to teach Tamil and Telugu, where is the necessity for increasing the pay of the pandits here? We would have to pay a very high salary to a professor imported from Paris, whether he is an Indian who has gone and studied there, or whether he is a real Parisian; we shall have to pay him considerably higher than we pay the pandits. Therefore, till that question is settled, I do not think the Government ought to consider this question of the increase of pay of pandits. The first thing to decide is: 'are these people competent to teach?' I myself believe that the Parisian professor will be more competent; and if we can give more money, I think we could much better

(Dr. Nayar ; Mr. Seshagiri Ayyar ; Mr. Srinivasa Sastri.)

spend the money in that direction rather than in increasing the pay of the pandits, and have the languages taught better. I would rather increase the expenditure in that way."

The Hon'ble Mr. T. V. SESHAGIRI AYYAR:—"I should have kept quiet but for the remarks of the Hon'ble Dr. Nayar. There was no such conclusion in the Senate as he represented to the Council. What really did take place in that body was this: it was stated there that the pandit of the present day does require some more training in modern modes of teaching before he can be said to be up-to-date. That was all that was said in that body. Never was it suggested that the pandits are not as capable of teaching the languages as they have been hitherto. It seems to me that the Hon'ble Sir Alfred Bourne, who has taken great interest in the pandit class, should extend his sympathy towards classifying them as regards the position they occupy in the college department. It is the cadre of the appointment that is more important than anything else. If they are graded with the assistant lecturers their position would be much better. They would be able to command more respect from the students than at present. As most members of this Council are aware, the pandit is always looked down upon by the students for the reason that he is poorly paid and for the reason that he has got a class of his own, that he has no rank among the people who are not educated much better than himself but who certainly get much better emoluments and are graded much higher in the service. I do not think that my Hon'ble friend Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar ever meant to attribute to these pandits that they are not teaching as well as they ought to do. What he said was that they would pay more attention if they are paid more and that on the whole the course of study would be improved. I feel that the matter has been brought up a little too soon; but if the Government would promise to consider this matter as soon as funds permit, I think that is all that my Honourable friend will require. It is really the position of the pandit which has to be improved. I think the Government ought to be a little more considerate towards them. It is no doubt proved that their position has been bettered a great deal; but I think a good deal yet remains to be done."

The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI:—"I feel drawn into this debate much against my will. I must, in the first place, say that I am the person who holds those heretical doctrines to which the Hon'ble Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar referred at the beginning of his remarks. I argued, in a way, that his resolution was a trifle premature on this occasion, that the Government have considered favourably the claims of this class recently to increased salaries and that it would be well, in consideration of other matters as well, to put off pressing further claims on their behalf. But the Hon'ble Dr. Nayar has referred to the question of the efficiency of the pandits and their claims on their own merits to increased consideration at the hands of those who are in charge of Government colleges. It strikes me that there is a great difference which often escapes the notice of people who talk of the efficiency of pandits. The knowledge possessed by pandits is of a very peculiar character. I must say that I am one of those who think that a great deal may be added to their critical equipment, that in point of comparative scholarship, for example, they are woefully lacking. But in regard to the profundity of their knowledge of the subject which they profess to understand, in regard to their readiness and ability to communicate it, I am perfectly certain that the pandits of our day, far inferior as they are to the pandits of former days, can hold their own against the best scholars turned out by the western system. Your Excellency, it is perfectly true, and I am one of those who deplore it, that they are at the present moment unable to occupy with perfect efficiency the chairs of comparative philology and comparative study of literature which the University intends to open. But it is not that sort of work we expect from the pandits for whom Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar pleads. He is talking of the pandit who teaches literature in the colleges, Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu works, and for that sort of work I must say, with all respect to Dr. Nayar, that the ordinary pandit will do very much better than any European scholar whom we can think of. I am perfectly sure that any one who has studied Sanskrit in India for a certain number of years with any attention can beat a western scholar hollow in regard to the accuracy of the meanings of the passages, the spirit in which the author wrote, etc. Even in the case of works

(Mr. Srinivasa Sastri ; Rao Bahadur Ramanuja Acharyar ; the President.)

written by great scholars like Professor Max Müller, if a minute scholar goes through them carefully, he could pick out a great many flaws which ordinary men who have lived in India in the atmosphere of indigenous scholarship would have avoided. It behoves everybody who talks on this subject to keep this distinction well in mind. It is not this scientific, critical scholarship and study which we ask for in these pandits and it is rather illegitimate to bring that argument to resist a claim that is made on quite other grounds. I have my own arguments, as I indicated, for doubting the expediency of this proposition having been brought forward just now."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJA ACHARYAR:—"Your Excellency, at the outset I have to thank the Hon'ble Dr. Bourne for the sympathy he has shown to the pandit class. The only difficulty in his way is want of funds. I know that the pandits feel that they are an inferior people, because they get lower pay and their status is inferior; and I think this is also reciprocated by their students who regard the pandits as an inferior class; and so long as this state of things continues I do not think the pandits can rouse much interest. I am glad to have the assurance that the pandits do their work very well. But we must judge a tree by its fruit. Are they in a position to rouse interest in the students and make them resort to the study of the vernacular languages to a larger extent than they do at present? On that point I have my doubts. If they are made to feel that they are in no way inferior to the assistant lecturers in the colleges, a great deal of improvement will take place. It is unnecessary for me to criticize what the Hon'ble Dr. Nayar has said. I never knew that to study the vernacular or to have the *Kural* expounded to me, I should go to Paris for a professor. The Hon'ble Dr. Nayar says he is no expert on the subject and we can very well ignore what he has said."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"Does the Honourable gentleman wish to press the resolution?"

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJA ACHARYAR:—"Yes."

The resolution was put to the Council and lost.

* * * * *

W. FRANCIS,
Ag. Secretary to Government, Legislative Dept.

Legislative Departments. 5

Resolutions on matters of General
Public Interest.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur
V.R. Ramanuja Chariar.

VIII This Council recommends that the
governor in Council may be pleased to
direct that the pay and prospects of
pandits in government Colleges be
further improved by grading them with
Assistant Lecturers.

To the *Educadmit* Department.

Copy to other departments of the Secretariat.

Leg. U.O.

dated

1913.

P.T.O

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[L. & M.]
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Ed. DEPARTMENT.

NOTE FILE.

Left Resol. No VIII /

VIII
This Council recommends that the
Governor in Council may be pleased to
direct that the pay and provisions of
pension in Government colleges be
further improved by giving them with
Assistant Masters.

To the Secretary of the Government
Copy to other departments of the Government.

1881 dated

Left Resol. No VIII
Copy to other departments

RESOLUTION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V.K. Ramanuja Achariyar:--

VIII. This Council recommends that the Governor in Council may be pleased to direct that the pay and prospects of pandits in Government colleges be further improved by grading them with assistant lecturers.

A resolution on the same subject but in a more elastic form was moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 14th February 1912. It ran as follows:--

"That this Council recommend to the Governor in Council that all pandits and other language masters in the Government colleges should be placed in the collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service or that their status and pay be raised in some other convenient manner and that the pay and prospects of the language teachers in other Government educational institutions should be correspondingly improved".

2. In his u.o. note dated 3rd February 1912 and in his speech at the meeting, Dr. Bourne expressed the opinion that it would not be well to put the pandits in the collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service. Then at the instance of the Hon'ble Member (Sir Murray Hammick) the resolution was modified and accepted in the following form:--

"That this Council recommend to the Governor in Council that the status and pay of all pandits and other language masters in the Government colleges should be raised in some convenient manner and that the pay and prospects of the language teachers in other Government educational institutions should be correspondingly improved."

*p. 1 of notes
with govt. 2213d 16.10.12* (E)

*do
+ p. 2 of the file ①
As it was in advisable
to bind down the
Govt. to a definite
course Mr.*

do

Memo. no. 127
G.O. No. 921 2d
16/10/12 (E)

+ para 3 in p 9 of
notes with G.O. No. 921 3d
16/10/12 (E)

p 3 of p 9 of
921 2d
16/10/12 (E)

p 9 of the
report of the Finance
Committee for 1913

(XIX)

(IV)

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3. The Director of Public Instruction was thereupon requested to submit proposals to give effect to it. These were submitted to Government in July 1912 and orders were passed thereon in G.O.No.921, Educational, dated 16th October 1912. With effect from 1st March 1913 the appointments of twenty pandits and munshis in Government colleges and schools were accordingly graded as follows involving an extra cost of Rs. 4,013 $\frac{1}{3}$ per annum.--

Two	on a pay of	Rs. 80- $\frac{4}{2}$ -100
Eleven	do.	Rs. 60- $\frac{3}{2}$ -75
Four	do.	Rs. 40- $\frac{2}{2}$ -50
Three	do.	Rs. 30- $\frac{2}{2}$ -40

The original scale of pay, it may be mentioned, ranged from Rs. 20-1-25 to Rs. 60-2-80.

4. At the last Finance Committee meeting the Hon'ble Mr. Ramanuja Achariyar urged that in the case of elderly pandits the maximum pay under the new scale should be immediately granted. The cases of all the pandits were subsequently brought under examination and in respect of deserving ones, increments in advance of due dates were sanctioned - G.Os.No.267, dated 31st March 1913 and No.723, dated 7th August 1913.

5. The present suggestion further to improve the prospects of the pandits is apparently to be based on the general consideration of encouraging this class of teachers adopted at the discussion of the resolution on the occasion. The question now is whether an enhancement having been sanctioned only a

recor

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recently as 1st March last any further increase is so soon necessary. The maximum pay has been raised from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 and it is sought further to raise it to Rs. 175. The collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service has four grades with a sanctioned scale of pay ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 175. The Director of Public Instruction as already stated is not in favour of the adoption of this scale of pay for pandits.

6. Even apart from this view, it is submitted that there is another reason for not accepting the resolution. Before any further improvements of the prospects of teachers of the Government institutions is considered, it would be highly desirable to take steps to bring the pay of the similar establishment under local bodies and in aided institutions ^(on a par with that obtaining in Govt. employ) at least to avoid an invidious and unnecessary distinction between the status of these servants. ~~and of~~ ~~these under Government~~ It is admitted that these bodies will be unable to give effect to this without Government aid. The Director has separately proposed to distribute from the Imperial grant a subsidy amounting to Rs 9,100 to certain local bodies to enable them to raise the pay of the pandits under their employ to the scale sanctioned for Government subordinates. It has also been decided that if the Government of India make any grant for improving the pay of pandits and munshis with reference to their letter No. 800, dated 3rd April 1912, aided institutions may also be subsidized to improve

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~~(The Pleasure)~~
~~with Sir Harold Street~~
@ (written for me) mon.
This proposal has been
opposed by Sir Harold Street & Sir
John Arkison no.

⑦ in Jones $\frac{475 \text{ Ed}}{27.573}$ (J)
(right put up with the
file above mentioned)

in form $\frac{3752d}{1-5-12}$ VIII

the pay of pandits employed in them. It was estimated that such a step would entail a further outlay of about ₹50,000. It will be seen that Government will have enough to improve the prospects of this class of teachers without further enhancing the pay of that section of them under Government employ.

124 CR
23-10-13 23-10-13

H.E. the Governor.

Submitted that the Resolution may be opposed & that Sir Alfred Moncre may be asked to take charge of it. N^o 24/10

Sir A.B. may also be told that if for any reason his views have undergone any change, I shall be glad to consider this subject with him.

Enc. no 3032-2

31. 10. 13



P.
26. 10. 13.

D.P. no.

N^o 50/10

(Note: these notes & first charge)

De. G. W. 1887 3-11-13

I have nothing to add
Aug 2-11-13



Seen - need not go again to H.E.

M. H. 11

sent Aug 2/11

P. 10.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH RESOLUTION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJA ACHARYAR :—

VIII. This Council recommends that the Governor in Council may be pleased to direct that the pay and prospects of pandits in Government colleges be further improved by grading them with assistant lecturers.

A resolution on the same subject but in a more elastic form was moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 14th February 1912. It ran as follows :—

"That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that all pandits and other language masters in the Government colleges should be placed in the collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service or that their status and pay be raised in some other convenient manner and that the pay and prospects of the language teachers in other Government educational institutions should be correspondingly improved."

2. In his u.o. note, * dated 3rd February 1912, and in his speech at the meeting, Dr. Bourne expressed the opinion that it would not be well to put the pandits in the collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service. Then at the instance of the Hon'ble Member (Sir Murray Hammick) the resolution was modified and accepted in the following form :—

As it was inadvisable to bind down the Government to a definite course.

W. FRANCIS.

"That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that the status and pay of all pandits and other language masters in the Government colleges should be raised in some convenient manner and that the pay and prospects of the language teachers in other Government educational institutions should be correspondingly improved."

3. The Director of Public Instruction was thereupon requested to submit Memorandum on page 2 of G.O. No. 921, Educational, dated 16th October 1912.

No. 921, Educational, dated 16th October 1912. With effect from 1st March 1913 the appointments of twenty pandits and munshis in Government colleges and schools were accordingly graded as follows involving an extra cost of + Rs. 4,013 $\frac{1}{3}$ per annum :—

Two	on a pay of	Rs. 80—4—100
Eleven	do.	60—4—75
Four	do.	40—4—50
Three	do.	30—4—40

Page 3 of G.O. No. 921, Educational, dated 16th October 1912.

The original scale of pay, it may be mentioned, ranged from Rs. 20—1—25 to Rs. 60—2—80.

4. At the last Finance Committee meeting the Hon'ble Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar urged that in the case of elderly pandits the maximum pay under the new scale should be immediately granted. The cases of all the pandits were subsequently brought under examination and in respect of deserving ones, increments in advance of due dates were sanctioned—G.Os. No. 267, dated 31st March 1913, and No. 723, dated 7th August 1913.

5. The present suggestion further to improve the prospects of the pandits is apparently to be based on the general consideration of encouraging this class of teachers adopted at the discussion of the resolution on the last occasion. The question now is whether an enhancement having been sanctioned only so recently as first March last any further increase is so soon necessary. The maximum pay has been raised from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 and it is sought further to raise it to Rs. 175. The collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service has four grades with a sanctioned scale of pay ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 175. The Director of Public Instruction as already stated is not in favour of the adoption of this scale of pay for pandits.

6. Even apart from this view, it is submitted that there is another reason for not accepting the resolution. Before any further improvements of the prospects of teachers of the Government institutions is considered it would be highly desirable to take steps to bring the pay of the similar establishment under local bodies and in aided institutions on a par with that obtaining in Government employ at least to avoid an invidious and unnecessary distinction between the status of these servants. It is admitted that these bodies will be unable to give effect to this without Government aid. The Director has separately proposed to distribute from the Imperial grant a subsidy amounting to Rs. 9,100 to certain local bodies to enable them to raise the pay of the pandits under their employ to the scale sanctioned for Government subordinates. It has also been decided * that if the Government of India make any grant for improving the pay of pandits and munshis with reference to their letter No. 800, † dated 3rd April 1912, aided institutions may also be subsidized to improve the pay of pandits employed in them. It was estimated that such a step would entail a further outlay of about Rs. 50,000. It will thus be seen that Government will have enough to do to improve the prospects of this class of teachers without further enhancing the pay of that section of them under Government employ.

This proposal has been now opposed by Sir Harold Stuart and Sir John Atkinson.

W. FRANCIS—30-10-13.

* In G.O. No. 475, Educational, dated 27th May 1913.

† In G.O. No. 375, Educational, dated 1st May 1912.

B. GOPALACHARI—23-10-13.

C. RAMANUJACHARI—23-10-13.

His Excellency the Governor—

Submitted that the resolution may be opposed and that Sir Alfred Bourne may be asked to take charge of it.

W. FRANCIS—24-10-13.

Yes. Sir Alfred Bourne may also be told that if for any reason his views have undergone any change, I shall be glad to consider the subject with him.

P[ENTLAND]—26-10-13.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

W. FRANCIS—30-10-13.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

I have nothing to add.

A. G. BOURNE—2-11-13.

Seen.

W. FRANCIS—4-11-13.

Extract from the *Prings* of the *the meeting*
of the *Legislative Council* held
on 12th Nov 1913

STATUS OF PANDITS IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJACHARYAR :—" Your Excellency, I beg to move the following resolution :—

This Council recommends that the Governor in Council may be pleased to direct that the pay and prospects of pandits in Government colleges be further improved by grading them with assistant lecturers.

" This question was once moved in this Council by my Hon'ble friend Mr. Kesava Pillai and, as slightly modified, it was accepted by the Government and the pay of the pandits was improved to some extent. But I submit that the improvement is not adequate. The scale sanctioned is two on Rs. 80 rising to Rs. 100, nine on Rs. 60 rising to Rs. 75 and two on Rs. 40 rising to Rs. 50. The pay on which the pandit starts is Rs. 50, and after a service of 30 years he retires on a salary of Rs. 100. The minimum pay of an assistant lecturer is Rs. 100, so that while the assistant lecturer starts on Rs. 100, the pandit draws Rs. 100 when he retires. This is their complaint as regards their pay. Then as regards their status. I happened to look into the list of officers appointed in the Educational Department. In pages 119-120 under 'Miscellaneous' I found the pandit classed with sergeants, mechanics, gymnastic instructors, drawing masters, etc. Their chagrin at the company in which they find themselves may be imagined. The question is why these pandits are treated in this manner. Their pay is much lower and their status is the status of gymnastic instructors and drawing masters. Are they inferior to the B.A.'s and M.A.'s, who are assistant lecturers? In their own field of knowledge;

Status of pandits in Government colleges.

(*Rao Bahadur Ramanuja Acharyar ; Mr. Kesava Pillai ;
Sir. Alfred Bourne*).

they are as good, if not better. Dr Bandarkar's testimony at the Orientalists' Conference quoted by the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai on the last occasion was this: "They have a depth of knowledge which the modern scholar does not possess". They have spent years at the feet of their masters and are masters of their languages. The Council have heard of the complaint that the vernaculars are much neglected in these days; and I find two resolutions at the end of the agenda requesting the Government to make the study of the vernaculars compulsory. I do not go into that question, but so long as the pandits are not properly treated by the Government, they cannot take interest in their work; and unless they take interest in their work they cannot rouse interest among their students. The Council knows well that Sanskrit has a very rich literature. But they may not know so well about the vernaculars. As regards Tamil, I may inform the Council that it has a rich literature teaching the highest morality. We have the Saiva hymns, the *Thevaram* and the Vaishnava hymns, the *Prabandhams*, Kamban's Ramayana, and the works of the Jains in the first and second centuries of the Christian era, and above all Tiruvalluvar. These will hold their own in competition with any other literature. Most of these were written before William the Conqueror set his foot on English soil. Is all this to go for nothing, because you do not employ proper pandits? I communicated this resolution to a friend of mine, for whom I have great respect, but who is somewhat anglicised. He told me that there must be some relation between what the employee gets and what he is paid elsewhere. My reply is—as the same objection may be raised on behalf of the Government—that in other departments high pay is offered to numerous persons, Munsiffs, Deputy Collectors, Tahsildars, etc. Will they get the same pay except under Government? Good pay must be given to secure efficiency. The second objection was that the pandits should be compared with men of their own class. The class of pandits is poor no doubt; but the graduate class from among whom the assistant lecturers are recruited,—have they better pay or better status? When I was in the Board of Revenue lots of graduates used to come to me applying for Rs. 20 posts. There is really no distinction between the pandit class and the graduate class. They all come from the same class. I happened to look into a book, *Ancient India*, by Mr. Krishnaswami Ayyangar and I found that the Cholas patronised these pandits to a very large extent. This is what he says: "These (South Indian Inscriptions) and scores of other similar references bear eloquent testimony to the impetus given to literary culture by the Cholas." I therefore request that the Government will give better pay to and improve the status of pandits."

The Hon'ble Mr. P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"I beg to second the resolution. I spoke on the subject at great length when I moved the resolution last time. I was not very much satisfied with the increase given to pandits and Moulyies, and I am glad that my Honourable friend has brought forward this resolution asking that their prospects may be further improved. I have heard, Sir, that even in the scale of pay introduced recently, Canarese and Tamil pandits are given Rs. 80 to Rs. 100, while the Telugu pandit is relegated to the position of Rs. 60 to Rs. 75. This is an abnormal thing. I do not know why the poor Telugu pandit should not have got the same scale of Rs. 80—100. His work is as heavy as that of the others and his literature is as rich as that of any other language. With these remarks I support my friend's recommendation for the reconsideration of the subject, for bettering the condition of the pandits."

The Hon'ble Sir ALFRED BOURNE:—"As we all know, Sir, there are very many demands upon the funds which are available for education, and in accordance with the promise of Government, when the resolution was moved two or three years ago by the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai, some of these available funds were devoted towards increasing the pay of the pandits. Apparently the only difference of opinion between the Honourable mover and the Government is as to the extent of the increase given. The increase was considerable. The scale of pay, as it originally stood, was from Rs. 20—25 to Rs. 60—80. The scale has now been raised to two posts on Rs. 80—100, eleven on Rs. 60—75, four on Rs. 40—50 and three on Rs. 30—40. With regard to the remark of the Hon'ble Mr. Kesava Pillai, I may say that the pay is

States of pandits in Government colleges.
(Sir Alfred Bourne; Dr. Nayar; Mr. Seshagiri Ayyar.)

independent of the language which they are teaching. The pandit in any language may be on any pay within the scale, so far as I know. It seems to me, Sir, that when more funds are available for this pandit class, our next duty, the next duty of the Government will be to increase the pay of the pandits in other institutions. I have laid before the Government proposals for increasing the pay of pandits in institutions under the management of local boards and municipal councils—proposals which your Excellency's Government have still under consideration. And then there will come the question of pandits in aided privately-managed schools. I submit that we should endeavour to do something for these two other classes of pandits before we further attempt an increase in the pay of pandits in Government institutions. I should like to enter one word of protest against the Honourable mover's accusation against the pandits, for whom I have great sympathy. He has told the Council that they take no interest in their work on account of the smallness of their pay. I do not believe that that is the case. With these words, I may intimate to the Council your Excellency's decision to oppose this resolution."

The Hon'ble Dr. T. M. NAYAR:—"My Lord, I am not an authority on pandits; and I certainly do not want to stand in the way of their getting any increase in their pay. But before this question of the increase of pay for pandits can be settled, we have to decide whether the pandits are competent to teach the languages. I make this statement, because I heard the discussion in another place, in the Senate of the University, where the subject has been thrashed out thoroughly and where the majority came to the conclusion that, at the present time, you cannot find anybody in the Madras Presidency, able to teach either Tamil or Telugu in a satisfactory manner; and I believe they have almost come to the conclusion that the only professors who can teach these languages must come from Paris. If it is true—I am no authority on the subject, and I simply bring this before the Council—if it is true that the Tamil and the Telugu pandits in this Presidency are not competent to teach the languages in a satisfactory manner and that we have to import Parisian professors to teach Tamil and Telugu, where is the necessity for increasing the pay of the pandits here? We would have to pay a very high salary to a professor imported from Paris, whether he is an Indian who has gone and studied there, or whether he is a real Parisian; we shall have to pay him considerably higher than we pay the pandits. Therefore till that question is settled, I do not think the Government ought to consider this question of the increase of pay of pandits. The first thing to decide is: 'are these people competent to teach.' I myself believe that the Parisian professor will be more competent; and if we can give more money, I think we could much better spend the money in that direction, rather than in increasing the pay of the pandits, and have the languages taught better. I would rather increase the expenditure in that way."

The Hon'ble Mr. T. V. SESHAGIRI AYYAR:—"I should have kept quiet, but for the remarks of the Hon'ble Dr. Nayar. There was no such conclusion in the Senate as he represented to the Council. What really did take place in that body was this: It was stated there that the pandit of the present day does require some more training in modern modes of teaching before he can be said to be up-to-date. That was all that was said in that body. Never was it suggested that the pandits are not as capable of teaching the languages, as they have been hitherto. It seems to me that the Hon'ble Sir Alfred Bourne, who has taken great interest in the pandit class, should extend his sympathy towards classifying them as regards the position they occupy in the College department. It is the cadre of the appointment that is more important than anything else. If they are graded with the assistant lecturers their position would be much better. They would be able to command more respect from the students than at present. As most members of this Council are aware, the pandit is always looked down upon by the students for the reason that he is poorly paid and for the reason that he has got a class of his own, that he has no rank among the people who are not educated much better than himself, but who certainly get much better emoluments and who are graded much higher in the service. I do not think that my Hon'ble friend Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar ever meant to attribute to these pandits that they are not teaching as well as they ought to do. What he said was that they would pay more attention if they are paid more, and that on the whole the course of study

Status of pandits in Government colleges.

(Sir Alfred Bourne; Dr. Nayar; Mr. Seshagiri Ayyar.)

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(Mr. Seshagiri Ayyar ; Mr. Srinivasa Sastri ; Rto Bahadur Ramannuja Acharyar.)

would be improved. I feel that the matter has been brought up a little too soon; but if the Government would promise to consider this matter as soon as funds permit, I think that is all that my Honourable friend will require. It is really the position of the pandit which has to be improved. I think the Government ought to be a little more considerate towards them. It is no doubt proved that their position has been bettered a great deal; but I think a good deal yet remains to be done."

The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI :—“ I feel drawn into this debate much against my will. I must, in the first place, say that I am the person who holds those heretical doctrines to which the Hon'ble Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar referred at the beginning of his remarks. I argued, in a way, that his resolution was a trifle premature on this occasion, that the Government have considered favourably the claims of this class recently to increased salaries and that it would be well, in consideration of other matters as well, to put off pressing further claims on their behalf. But the Hon'ble Dr. Nayar has referred to the question of the efficiency of the pandits and their claims on their own merits to increased consideration at the hands of those who are in charge of Government colleges. It strikes me that there is a great difference which often escapes the notice of people who talk of the efficiency of pandits. The knowledge possessed by pandits is of a very peculiar character. I must say that I am one of those who think that a great deal may be added to their critical equipment, that in point of comparative scholarship, for example, they are woefully lacking. But in regard to the profundity of their knowledge of the subject which they profess to understand, in regard to their readiness and ability to communicate it, I am perfectly certain that the pandits of our day, far inferior as they are to the pandits of former days, can hold their own against the best scholars turned out by the Western system. Your Excellency, it is perfectly true, and I am one of those who deplore it, that they are at the present moment unable to occupy with perfect efficiency the chairs of comparative philology and comparative study of literature which the University intends to open. But it is not that sort of work we expect from the pandits for whom Mr. Ramanuja Acharyar pleads. He is talking of the pandit who teaches literature in the colleges, Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu works, and for that sort of work I must say, with all respect to Dr. Nayar, that the ordinary pandit will do very much better than any European scholar whom we can think of. I am perfectly sure that any one who has studied Sanskrit in India for a certain number of years with any attention can beat a Western scholar, hollow in regard to the accuracy of the meanings of the passages, the spirit in which the author wrote, etc. Even in the case of works written by great scholars like Professor MaxMuller, if a minute scholar goes through them carefully, he could pick out a great many flaws which ordinary men who have lived in India in the atmosphere of indigenous scholarship would have avoided. It behoves everybody who talks on this subject to keep this distinction well in mind. It is not this scientific, critical scholarship and study which we ask for in these pandits and it is rather illegitimate to bring that argument to resist a claim that is made on quite other grounds. I have my own arguments, as I indicated, for doubting the expediency of this proposition having been brought forward just now.”

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJACHARIYAR:—"Your Excellency, at the outset I have to thank the Hon'ble Dr. Bourne for the sympathy he has shown to the pandit class. The only difficulty in his way is want of funds. I know that the pandits feel that they are an inferior people, because they get lower pay and their status is inferior; and I think this is also reciprocated by their students, who regard the pandits as an inferior class; and so long as this state of things continues I do not think the pandits can rouse much interest. I am glad to have the assurance that the pandits do their work very well. But we must judge a tree by its fruit. Are they in a position to rouse interest in the students and make them resort to the study of the vernacular languages to a larger extent than they do at present? On that point I have my doubts. If they are made to feel that they are in no way inferior to the assistant lecturers in the colleges, a great deal of improvement will take place. It is unnecessary for me to criticize what the Hon'ble Dr. Nayar has said.

Status of pandits in Government colleges : the Godavari and Kistna delta systems.

(*Rao Bahadur Ramanujacharyar; the President; Shifa-ul-mulk Zuin-ul-abidin Sahib;
Rao Bahadur Ramachandra Rao Pantulu.*)

"I never knew that to study the vernacular or to have the *Kural* expounded to me, I should go to Paris for a professor. The Hon'ble Dr. Nayar says he is no expert on the subject, and we can very well ignore what he has said."

His Excellency the **PRESIDENT**:—"Does the Honourable gentleman wish to press the resolution?"

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur V. K. RAMANUJACHARYAR :—“ Yes.”

The resolution was put to the vote and lost.

P.T.O.

14
The Additional member's resolution
~~having been~~^{was} put to vote & lost. No action
has to be taken. The papers may be
recorded. A draft order is placed below.

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READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED
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CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DICCO.

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

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N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
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