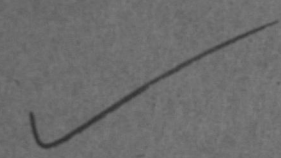


Eds (1915) Department.

his SERIES.

G.O. No. 275

DATED 12-3-15



[Despatch Abstract.]

Principal for the Presidency College

Recording letter from the Director
of Public Instruction stating that he is
not able to propose any arrangements
for relieving the _____ of a portion of
his routine administrative functions.

C. 3748 Ed

G.F.-20

Educational DEPARTMENT.

3 Dec 1914

191 . Registered 3.12 1914.

Subject.

Replying to G.O.No. 1279 Edl., dated 13th November 1914 declining to sanction the proposal to appoint a full time Principal to the Presidency College.

ENCLOSURES

No.

Spare copies

cl No. 65

Station Madras, Dated the 2nd December 1914.

From (Name) The Hon. Mr. J.H. Stone, M.A., F.R.H.S., C.I.E.
(Designation) Director of Public Instruction.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Educational Department.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No. 1279 Edl., dated 13th November 1914 I am not able to propose any arrangements for relieving the Principal of a portion of his routine administrative functions. In Sir A.G. Bourne's letter Cl. No. 43, dated 17th July 1912 the nature and extent of those functions are described and it is pointed out that they are such as in a college at Oxford or Cambridge are divided among the tutors, deans and bursar. It might seem that officers with these functions might be appointed in the Presidency College and in this way the Principal left freer for teaching work. The position of members of a college staff who are also members

Gene 214 SD
13-3-13

of a Collegiate society or corporation and therefore jointly responsible for its good Government is very different from that of the professors in the Presidency College who have no joint responsibility for the working of the college as a whole, and it is this fact, I think that has made inevitable the concentration of administrative work in the Principal's hands. Even if his functions were distributed among the staff he would still be responsible for their due discharge and it is questionable whether having in view the necessity of supervision any arrangement of the kind would give him much relief. It is Mr. Middlemast's view that it would not.

✓ There is, however, a much stronger reason for objecting to such a scheme, which is, that in proportion as the Principal were relieved of administrative work his opportunities of coming into personal relations with the bulk of the students would be diminished. It must be remembered that the Principal can only teach one subject and that therefore unless this happens to be English, which at present it is not, he comes in contact in the class room with only a very small proportion of the students. Mr. Middlemast is at present professor of Mathematics and the whole number of students taking that subject is 85 in the B.A. and 85 in the Intermediate classes, and it is certainly not desirable that he should do much, if any, teaching in the latter. For cultivating relations with the bulk of the students he must therefore largely rely on opportunities created by his administrative work.

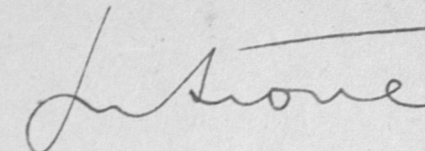
3 I may say further that I regard the creation of a real principalship of the College as only a first but essential step in the direction of a more satisfactory organization of its work and I can quite believe that this would include more delegation of administrative functions to professors, but any time and energy so saved should be devoted not to teaching

but to what in drafting Sir A.G. Bourne's letter I called
"the un-easily specified functions of the head of a college,
the preservation of its ideals and the setting of its tone."

I have the honour to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant,



Director of Public Instruction.

7/22/14

S U B J E C T.

Re: appointment of a full time Principal
to the Presidency College.

(J)

Please see G.O.No.1279 Educational, dated
the 13th November 1914 and the notes connected
with it. In this the decision of the Secretary
of State disapproving the proposal of the Local
Government to create a separate appointment of
Principal of the Presidency College was communi-
cated to the Director of Public Instruction with
suggestions for arranging otherwise the adminis-
trative and other duties of the Principal.

2. On a perusal of the notes and orders
therein, the D.P.I. recorded the following u.o.
note:--

"I am replying to the G.O. and in
"doing so I thought of remarking on the
"reasons which have led to the rejection
"of the proposal of Government but perhaps
this

2. 5 b
"this^{is} a more suitable place to do so. In
"the first place the opinions collected by
"the Government of India are those of people
"evidently quite^{un}acquainted with our Uni-
"versity system and the organization of the
"Presidency College. Some of them I believe
"have no first hand knowledge of any Indian
"College at all.

"In the second place much stress is
"laid in the criticisms on the proposed
"divorce of the principal from teaching
"functions. It was not proposed by Sir
"A.G. Bourne that this should be complete;
"but in the letter to the Government of India
"I find nothing to suggest that it should
"not be so. Sir A.G. Bourne's idea will be
"found at the top of page 3 of the G.O. and
"he considered that the strongest argument
"for the proposal was that under the present
"system the college department from which
"the principal was appointed was weakened
"by his appointment. The essence of the
"proposal really was the addition of a pro-
fessorship

(L)
x no 214 Edl
11-3-13

6 1
"professorship to the staff since this
"would both set free the principal for

"administrative work and strengthen instead
"of weakening the department in which he was
"professor. Another point which is not
"brought out in either the Director's or
"Government's letter is that it is necessary
"that the Principal should be relieved not
"only of much of his teaching work but of
"the supervision and organization of the
"department of studies to which he belongs .

"In view of these and other consider-
"ations I venture to suggest that Government
"should consider the possibility of reopen-
"ing the question when a favourable oppor-
"tunity arises. "

x

x

x

"I take this opportunity of adding a

No 270 SDP
17-2-14 (H)
"word about Mr. Francis's letter of the 17th
"February. Sir A.G. Bourne seems to have
"had the idea that the principal should give
"lectures to large groups of students on
"subjects somewhat outside the regular
"course. No doubt he might occasionally

4. 7 8
"do so but I should hesitate to assign this
"to him as a regular duty - its successful
"performance would ~~depend~~ depend so entirely
"on the personality of the principal; a man
"might be a very good principal but a very
"poor popular lecturer. So far as I have
"had anything to do with the scheme I have
"never contemplated the principal's entire
" separation from regular teaching" .

x

x

x

"His Excellency wishes the correspondence
"to be completed by stating Madras/ case
"and I place below a further note going into
"details."

8 9
"College system", the former being more complicated than others, as it contains two distinct courses for graduation, pass and honours;

(ii) that the system of dividing the college work by departments with a professor at the head of each will weaken under the existing conditions the section which is presided over by the Principal, if he happens to be the regular professor also;

(iii) that though it was not proposed by Sir Alfred Bourne that the Principal should be completely divorced from teaching functions, this was not indicated clearly in the letter to India;

(iv) that he is not able to propose any arrangements for relieving the Principal of a portion of his routine administrative functions;

(v) that, even if it were possible to appoint officers with the functions of tutors, deans and bursar, the concentration of administrative work and the responsibility for their discharge has still to be in the Principal, as the professors in the College have no joint responsibility for the workings of the College

page 5 supra

page 2 supra

page 1 of 4

do

page 2 of 4

9 10
as a whole; and

pay 20 of
(vi) that in proportion as the principal is relieved of administrative work, his opportunities of coming into personal relations with the bulk of the students would be diminished, especially when he happens to be a professor of one of the optional subjects.

4. As regards point (iii) above, attention is solicited to paragraph 3 of the letter to India No. 207 dated the 17th February 1914, in which it was specifically stated that this Government never intended to divorce the principal entirely from all teaching work and that all that was contemplated was that he should be relieved of his present charge of one of the regular courses of specified study. At the instance of Sir A.G. Bourne it was then pointed out to the Government of India that the principal could only give occasional lectures on subjects which would interest large groups of students. Mr. Stone however, now considers that this would not be feasible, but advocates that the principal should stick to a particular section of which he is qualified by his

pages 3 to 4 supra

10. 11
his attainments to hold the professorship and at the same time appoint another professor to co-ordinate with him in the same section, so that the section will be strengthened than weakened.

5. The detailed arguments now put forward by Mr. Stone may perhaps prove more convincing to the Secretary of State and may induce him to reconsider his original order. It is therefore for consideration whether the Government of India should be addressed again.

24. CR
28/1/15

Shall I draft letter to India asking for reconsideration?

1000 Rs. 10
1. 2. 15

H. E.

29.1.15

Yrs. For consideration.
P.
2.2.15.

12

Let me have draft letter
to India

[Signature]
4/2/15

A draft letter to India is submitted for approval.

2. The D.P.I. may perhaps see it as

[Signature]
5-2-15 10/2/15

[Signature]
20/2/15

S.P.I. Co

Edno 3748-2/14

20/2/15

[Signature]

(with 100.)

Edl. B
13 5,000-14-5-12

THE OLD COLLEGE,
NUNGAMBAKAM.

2. in 11.



I am coming on
tonight till the
12th so perhaps then

This time for this in my
 father's
 name
 E. J. / 2d.
 Jackson

Submitted for orders.

2 The ~~prop~~ proposal in the linked file
strengthens this case.

Ca
27/15

I have taken H. E. as a
 personally: and the eyes
 with me and the fact
 that we had better not
 go up to India again just now
 in this matter. A. F. O. may
 be reading by the side of
 the letter with reference to
 No. 1279 dated the 13th
 of March 1914.

[Signature]
 5/13

A draft order is sub? for approval.

[Signature]
 5/2/15

[Signature]
 11.3.15

G.O.No.1279 Edl., dated the 13th November 1914. (N)

C.No.3748 Edl., From the D.P.I. No.65, dated the 2nd December 1914.

ORDER :-
P.S.

The Government of India will
be addressed.

To
The Director of Public Instruction.

Letter:

15
16
LETTER :-

To

The Secretary to the Government of
India,
Department of Education.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with your endorsement No.1600, dated the 16th October 1914, forwarding despatch from the Secretary of State, No.157 Public, dated the 4th September 1914, declining to sanction the proposal of this Government to convert the appointment of Principal of the Presidency College at Madras into a separate whole-time post in the Indian Educational Service. With reference thereto I am to place before the Government of India for their consideration the following facts connected with the question, which, it is apprehended, have not been quite clearly brought out

in

page 1 of Lys. no. 1274 Edl
13.11.14

page 33 do

para. 2 - page 5 of notes

para. 4 - do

para. 2 - do

16 17
in the previous correspondence.

2. At the outset I am to say that the University and College systems of Madras are different from, and more complicated than, those of most other provinces. The former provide for two distinct courses for graduation, pass and honours, with a two and three years' duration respectively. Consequently in the Presidency College there are five ~~main~~ classes in ~~each~~ each subject for graduation besides the two classes for the Intermediate Examination. In consequence of the introduction of the Universities Act of 1904, and with the object of bringing the teaching staff into closer personal touch with the students, the Presidency College has been systematically organized in departments, each with one or more professors and one or more assistant professors, the largest department being that of English with three

professors

para 3 - page 5 of notes

— 4 — do —

para 2 - page 2 of c.f.

para 4 - page 5 of notes

17 18

professors and three assistants. Each department is self-contained, with its own professors' and assistants' rooms, lecture rooms, library and study room or laboratories, with the result that the supervision of a department by its senior professor entails considerable work. The officer who now discharges the duties of Principal, is one ~~one~~ of the professors in charge of a department; his administrative work takes ~~away~~ him away to a material extent from his department; even should he find time for the normal amount of lecturing, his opportunities for coming in contact with students are lessened; and if, as is frequently now the case, the Principal's subject is not English, the opportunities are further minimized. The present system overloads the Principal with work, besides reducing to a minimum his opportunities of personal contact with students, and

page 2 of notes

para 3 - page 33 of G.O. no. ^(J) 1279 Edl
13.11.14

pages 34 of notes

page 34 of G.O. no. ^(J) 1279 Edl
13.11.14

18 19
and it also weakens the department from which he is appointed.

3. The main reason for which the Secretary of State found himself unable to approve the proposal of this Government is that the Principal should not be entirely dissociated from regular teaching in the college. I am to say that it is far from the idea of the Governor in Council that any such complete divorce should be effected; all that is contemplated is that the Principal should be relieved of his present sole charge of one ~~part~~ of the regular courses of study. The Governor in Council has now given the subject further consideration and has come to the conclusion that the Principal should lecture in the particular department in which he is qualified, though he should not be responsible for the detailed management of that department.

4. In paragraph 4 of the despatch it is assumed that the Principal will generally

para 4- page 6 of notes

pages 3+4 of notes

19 20

be the Professor of English. With reference to this I am to say that, though English teaching has in the past often been part of the work of the Principal, as specialization has now gone very far and the days of ~~the~~ the general utility man are over, it will be impossible to give the officer made Principal charge of the English teaching as a general rule. The present Principal is Professor of Mathematics and the next officer in order of seniority is the Professor of History. The Governor in Council understands that the original proposal made in paragraph ³ of Mr. Francis' letter No.207, dated the 17th February 1914, of requiring the Principal to give occasional lectures on subjects which would interest large groups of students, would not be feasible as a permanent arrangement, though such lectures can be resorted ^{to} occasionally. The essence of this Government's proposal really is the addition of a professorship

page 3 of notes

para 4- p. 34 of Lps no 1279 Edl
13/11/14

para 5- page 6 of notes

20 21
to the staff, such as would set free
the Principal for administrative work
and strengthen, instead of weakening,
the department in which he is professor.

51. The despatch appears to assume
that the Principal should be able
to devote about ten or twelve hours
a week to set professorial teaching.
This, however, is precisely the amount
of formal lecturing which the professors
now give in the Presidency College;
and the Governor in Council believes
that, in consideration of the fact
that teaching in this college has to
be of a very high order and that
thoroughness of preparation and
freshness of treatment are expected
of the professors, the allotment of
two lectures a day for a professor
is the most that should be possible
for him, in addition to the work of
supervision and organization of the
department of studies to which he

belongs.

para 5 - page 7 of notes

para-1- page 1 of cf

do 2

belongs. A Principal relieved of his regular professorial work to the extent proposed should not be responsible for more than about four lectures a week.

6. On the question of the grant of relief to the Principal in the discharge of some of his administrative functions

I am to say that no satisfactory arrangement seems feasible. Although it might

seem that officers with the functions

of tutors, deans and bursar might be

appointed, thereby leaving the Principal

freer for teaching work, I am to point

out that ^{unlike} ~~the position~~ of the members of a college staff who are also members of a

collegiate society or corporation and

therefore jointly responsible for its

good government, ~~is different from that~~

~~in~~ the professors in the Presidency College

at Madras ~~who~~ have no joint responsibility

for the working of the College as a whole,

and this ^s rendering inevitable the concentration

para 1 - page 2 of cf.

22 23

of administrative work in the Principal's hands. I am to add that, even if the Principal's functions were distributed among the staff, he would still be responsible for their due discharge and that it is questionable whether ~~in view of the necessity for supervision~~ any arrangement of the kind would give him ~~any~~ relief.

7. In the circumstances explained above, I am to request that, if the Government of India agree with the Madras Government, the Secretary of State be moved to consider the question again.

I have etc.

23

24

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

" " " " 191 .

READ ALSO:-

C. No. 3748; From the *D.P.D.*, No. *65*, dated *2/12/15* 1915 .

" " " " 191 .

" " " " 191 .

ORDER.

His

No. *275*, dated *12.3* 1915 .

Recorded.

(It is not necessary to quote the f.o. as the letter is written with ref. to it)

ca
5/3/15

cll
11.2/15

Sp + give me the 10
11/3

SK
13/3 *Inc 13 3/15*
Copy to the D.P.D. (10/6) ©
sent on 13/3/15

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

191 .

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

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

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