

# Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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*Secd.*

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} 1915.

*Enclosures*

*Spare copies*

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G.O. No. 700, 30th June 1915.

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Government College, Kumbakonam.

Recording report on the working of the — during 1914-15.

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## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

*Letter*—from the Hon'ble Mr. H. S. DUNCAN, M.A., Acting Director of Public Instruction.

*To*—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

*Dated*—the 12th June 1915.

*No.*—R.C. 620/3 of 1915.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of Government, a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 620/3 of 1915, dated 4th June 1915, reviewing the report on the working of the Government College, Kumbakonam, during the year 1914-15.

## ENCLOSURE.

*Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, dated 4th June 1915,*  
*R.C. No. 620/3-15.*

Read—the following paper :—

*Letter*—from R. M. STATHAM, Esq., Acting Principal, Government College, Kumbakonam.

*To*—the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

*Dated*—the 23rd April 1915.

*No.*—R.C. 123.

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the college during the year 1914-15.

2. M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur T. Sankara Rao Avargal was senior lecturer in charge from 1st April until 28th June. During the remainder of the year I acted as Principal in the place of Mr. Yates on leave.

M.R.Ry. K. Natesa Ayyar, assistant lecturer in English, was transferred on 9th July 1914 and M.R.Ry. T. A. Rama Ayya acted for him until 1st February 1915. M.R.Ry. N. E. Vijayaraghava Achari acted as assistant lecturer in English until the end of the year.

3. *Accommodation and equipment.*—With the very large increase in the strength of the Intermediate classes, the number of lecture rooms in the college has been found insufficient. The new science block has been built on a scale too small for the requirements of group I. There is little room for the storage of scientific apparatus and the number of seats available in the practical classes is insufficient. When the college is affiliated in the B.A. Physics, these difficulties will be even greater. It is difficult to see on which side of the college the necessary extensions can be made.

During the year the gas installation was completed. Its work has been far from satisfactory. The retort room, with a ferro-concrete roof, and no ventilation, was too hot to use regularly, and the partition wall cannot long support the weight of the beams. In spite of repeated reminders the Public Works Department has not as yet made the necessary structural alterations. We have also been left without a gas maistry for over six months. The engine is constantly out of order and our supply of gas irregular. The buildings of the electric installation have been completed and an order placed with Messrs. Crompton and Co.

The need for a continuous connection verandah round the college is still very much felt.

4. *Strength and attendance.*—The number at the end of the year was 270 and the average daily number on rolls was 284 and the average daily attendance was 261. The following statement gives the number of students on the rolls in the first and second terms of 1913-14 and 1914-15.

|                           | 1913-14.    |              | 1914-15.    |              |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
|                           | First term. | Second term. | First term. | Second term. |
| First-year class .. .. .  | 102         | 100          | 118         | 110          |
| Second-year class .. .. . | 113         | 109          | 125         | 114          |
| Third-year class .. .. .  | 18          | 18           | 23          | 23           |
| Fourth-year class .. .. . | 20          | 19           | 21          | 23           |

Whilst it is difficult to restrict the number of admission to the Intermediate classes, the strength of the B.A. classes leaves much to be desired. The Senior Intermediate class for the year 1912-13 numbered 72. Group I 26, group III 46, yet the Senior B.A. class for 1914-15 only numbered 7 in group I, 5 in group IV, and 9 in group V.

The best students of the Senior Intermediate are either attracted to colleges in Madras for the B.A. classes or receive scholarships or similar inducements to enter other mufassal colleges.

5. *Classification of students.*—The distribution under the several heads is shown in appendices A and B. All the students have been either vaccinated or bear marks of small-pox.

6. *Library.*—Six thousand three hundred and five volumes have been issued from the main library to students and members of the teaching staff during the year. The number of books consulted or taken for temporary study during the library periods by students was 8,630. Four hundred and sixty-five volumes were added during the year. The total number of volumes at the end of the year was 8,053. The library this year has suffered under the severe disability of a frequent change of librarian. Two important alterations in the shelving and control of the library were constantly postponed pending the arrival of a permanent officer. The introduction of a system of class libraries, situated in the class rooms of the chief lecturers in each subject, whilst lightening the burden of distribution and collection for the librarian involved considerable alteration in the main library.

The magazines and papers supplied to the library are very little read by the majority of the students, and constantly defaced and marked. To avoid this the more important monthlies have been placed in the class libraries. The practice of marking and extracting pages from books appears to have done great damage in the past. It is hoped that the closer control afforded by the class library system will do something towards reducing this evil. The catalogue (author's) was completed and printed during the year.

7. *The tutorial system.*—It was found that the existing distribution of students did not afford the tutors sufficient opportunity to keep in touch with the students under their charge. A redistribution scheme is in preparation for next year, which, it is to be hoped, will enable the tutorial report to be something more than a mere formality.

8. *Discipline and work of the college.*—The work and discipline of the students during the early part of the year was hardly satisfactory, attendance at college was irregular, the library was little used for methodical study and college rules were laxly kept. To remedy this a system of recognised study and library hours with the supervision of a lecturer was introduced. The supervision entailed greater work on the part of the staff, but the system is likely to work well. A test examination was held some months prior to the public intermediate examination which tended to raise the standard of the work done. A section of the first class scarcely seemed to realise the responsibility attached to a college course, and some ten have been refused readmittance on the grounds of conduct as well as work.

9. *University examinations.*—The results of the examination are shown in statements C and D appended and they will speak for themselves.

10. *Promotions.*—Of the 116 students in the first-year class that were on the rolls at the time of the test examination 76 students were promoted and all the 23 students of the third-year class were promoted to the fourth-year class. The promotion examinations were held a few days before the commencement of the summer vacation.

11. *Scholarship and prizes.*—The following students received the scholarships and prizes noted against them :—

|                                   |     |                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) R. Nagarajan, IV class        | ... | The Edward Birds scholarship.                                         |
| (2) K. Vasudevan, IV              | ... | These were in receipt of Government scholarships throughout the year. |
| (3) M. K. Ramamritam, IV class    | ... |                                                                       |
| (4) P. S. Krishnamurti, II class  | ... |                                                                       |
| (5) S. Chinnaswami, IV class      | ... |                                                                       |
| (6) P. S. Sundaresan, III class   | ... | Senior Subrahmanya scholarship.                                       |
| (7) C. S. Narayanaswami, II class | ... | Junior Subrahmanya Ayyar's scholarship.                               |
| (8) S. Krishnamurti, I class      | ... |                                                                       |

Orders for the award of the Morris medal and the Beauchamp and Muppanar's prizes recommended to certain students have been received from the Director of Public Instruction only just now.

12. *Games and athletics.*—Football, hockey, tennis, badminton and fives have been played throughout the year. And the college has taken part in a number of local and district matches. The extended playing fields are spoilt by the position of the fives court. It is hoped that at a near date, the existing fives courts may be demolished and re-erected elsewhere. The college did badly in the district sports, largely through want of proper training and sufficient enthusiasm. A system of fortnightly sports has been instituted which it is hoped will raise the general level of athletics in the college. Two students attended the South Indian Association sports at Madras and gained a number of prizes. The athletic fund started with an opening balance of Rs. 32-9-3 at the beginning of the year under report. The receipts and expenditure were Rs. 1,351-3-8 and Rs. 1,203-11-9 respectively. The balance at the close of the year was Rs. 180-1-2.

13. *Finance.*—The total receipts and charges for the year were Rs. 26,012-2-0 and Rs. 43,919-5-1. The net expenditure to Government was Rs. 17,907-3-1 against Rs. 29,362-5-1 in the year previous. The net cost per student was Rs. 74 against Rs. 126 in the previous year.

14. *Hostel.*—A detailed report on the working of the hostel will be submitted in June as is usual, both to the Director of Public Instruction and to the Committee.

15. *Work of the department.*—The work of the department of English has suffered throughout the year by changes in the staff. The standard attained in the B.A. class was good, but the English of the Intermediate class was poor. The English class library for the B.A. classes was well used. The Lecturer in Mathematics (Mr. T. Sankara Rao) reports that with a few exceptions his students were below the average in ability and industry. The room at the disposal of the assistant lecturer is far from adequate and the want of an additional class room for practical work is badly felt. The work of the History department during the year has been encouraging. The students were urged to make the greatest possible use of their class libraries and study hours and to read more widely and intelligently. The Senior B.A. class reached a high level of intelligence and industry, and should do well in the university examination.

16. *College societies.*—The literary society was active throughout the year. Two new societies were founded, the Historical Association and the Mathematical Society.

17. *General.*—Several new scholarships were endowed during the year, and the "old boys" of the college have started a fund for poor and deserving students, which is expected to provide eight or nine scholarships. In conclusion I would thank the members of the staff for their generous co-operation during the year.

## APPENDIX A.

## I.—Distribution of students according to caste or race.

| Caste or race. | Number. |
|----------------|---------|
| Muhammadans    | 4       |
| Brahmans       | 246     |
| Non-Brahmans   | 20      |
| Total          | 270     |

## II.—Distribution of students according to the occupation of parents or guardians.

| Occupation.     | Number. |
|-----------------|---------|
| Officials       | 95      |
| Petty officials | 21      |
| Landholders     | 137     |
| Traders         | 14      |
| Mendicants      | 3       |
| Others          | ...     |
| Total           | 270     |

## III.—Distribution of students according to wealth.

| Class.         | Number. |
|----------------|---------|
| Richer classes | 6       |
| Middle         | 254     |
| Poorer         | 10      |
| Total          | 270     |

## APPENDIX B.

## DISTRIBUTION of students according to the districts to which they belong.

| District      | First-year class. | Second-year class. | Third-year class. | Fourth-year class. | Total. |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Tanjore       | 102               | 96                 | 20                | 19                 | 237    |
| Madura        | 1                 | 2                  | 1                 | 1                  | 5      |
| Chingleput    | ...               | 2                  | ...               | ...                | 2      |
| North Arcot   | ...               | 3                  | ...               | ...                | 3      |
| South Arcot   | 2                 | 8                  | ...               | 1                  | 11     |
| Pudukkottai   | ...               | ...                | 1                 | ...                | 1      |
| Cochin        | ...               | ...                | 1                 | ...                | 1      |
| Travancore    | ...               | 1                  | ...               | ...                | 1      |
| Malabar       | ...               | ...                | ...               | 1                  | 1      |
| South Ramanad | ...               | ...                | ...               | ...                | 3      |
| Tinnevely     | 3                 | ...                | ...               | ...                | 3      |
| Coimbatore    | 2                 | ...                | ...               | ...                | 2      |
| Trichinopoly  | ...               | 2                  | ...               | ...                | 2      |
| Total         | 110               | 114                | 28                | 23                 | 270    |

## APPENDIX C.

## RESULTS of the Intermediate Examination in arts and B.A. Degree Examination—Pass course, 1913-14.

| Examination and groups.       | Examined. | Number passed. |               |        | Percentage of pass for |          |          |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|--------|------------------------|----------|----------|
|                               |           | First class.   | Second class. | Total. | 1911-12.               | 1912-13. | 1913-14. |
| Intermediate Examination—     |           |                |               |        |                        |          |          |
| Group I                       | 39        | 4              | 4             | 8      | 57                     | 37       | 23       |
| Group III                     | 67        | 1              | 15            | 16     |                        |          |          |
| B.A. Degree Examination—      |           |                |               |        |                        |          |          |
| (i) English Language division | 21        | ...            | 7             | 7      | 54                     | 55       | 33       |
| (ii) Science Division—        |           |                |               |        |                        |          |          |
| Mathematics                   | 5         | 1              | 2             | 3      | 50                     | ...      | 60       |
| History                       | 8         | ...            | 1             | 1      | 60                     | 60       | 13       |
| Logic, etc.                   | 5         | ...            | 4             | 4      | ...                    | 50       | 80       |



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