

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1915.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. No. 764, 12th July 1915.

Text-Book Committee.

Recording the report of the — for the quinquennium ending on the 31st March 1915.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Report on the operations of the Madras Text Book Committee during the five years from the 1st April 1910 to the 31st March 1915.

Up to the year 1910 a report on the operations of the Text Book Committee was submitted to Government through the Director of Public Instruction annually. In the year 1910 Government issued an order (G.O. No. 323, Educational, dated the 6th June 1910), directing that in future the submission of the report on the working of the Text Book Committee should be once in five years. The period covered by this report is from the 1st April 1910 to the 31st March 1915.

2. On the 1st April 1910, the Text Book Committee was composed of the following gentlemen :—

The Hon'ble Dr. A. G. Bourne, President.
J. H. Allen, Esq.
P. P. Braithwaite, Esq.
A. H. Davey, Esq.
R. G. Grieve, Esq.
M.R.Ry. B. Hanumantha Rao Avargal.
R. L. Jones, Esq.
H. O. Kershaw, Esq.
Khaja Khan Sahib.
M.R.Ry. M. Krishnan Avargal.
S. Mangesh Rao Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
E. W. Middlemast, Esq.
Rev. A. Moffat.
M.R.Ry. H. Narayana Rao Avargal.
A. C. Pranatharthihara Ayyar Avargal.
Rev. H. J. Quinn, s.j.
M.R.Ry. M. Ranga Achariyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
T. Saiyid Muhammad Sahib.
Rev. J. D. W. Sewell, s. j.
M.R.Ry. P. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal.
J. H. Stone, Esq.
M.R.Ry. T. S. Subramania Ayyar Avargal.
Rev. T. Walker.
J. A. Yates, Esq.
Rev. W. Meston, Secretary

3. *Changes.*—Consequent on the resignation of Mr. R. L. Jones and the appointment of Mr. J. H. Stone to act as Director of Public Instruction, Mr. W. Erlam Smith and Mr. E. W. Green were appointed to their places. (Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction No. 7128, dated the 12th December 1910.)

In place of Saiyid Muhammad Sahib, deceased, and Khaja Khan Sahib Bahadur, transferred to foreign service, Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib and Abdur Rahim Sahib were appointed members of the Committee. (Proceedings of the Director No. 7128, dated the 12th December 1910.)

In April 1911 Mr. E. B. Ross succeeded Rev. A. Moffat, resigned, and Mr. S. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, Rao Bahadur, was appointed in place of Mr. R. G. Grieve, resigned. (Proceedings of the Director No. 2175, dated 1st April 1911.)

By the Director's Proceedings No. 8921, dated the 4th March 1912, Messrs. V. Subba Rao and Jayanti Ramayya Pantulu were added to the Telugu Sub-Committee.

In April 1912, Rev. W. Meston resigned his office as Member of, and Secretary to, the Text Book Committee, and was succeeded by Mr. F. W. Henderson.

In May 1912, Rev. C. Pollard and Mr. J. Muliyl were appointed to succeed Messrs. E. B. Ross, and P. P. Braithwaite, respectively, resigned. (Proceedings No. 8689, dated the 16th May 1912.)

To the vacancy caused by the death of Rev. T. Walker, Mr. S. Bavanandam Pillai Rao Sahib, was appointed. (Proceedings No. 6444, dated the 20th October 1912.)

The resignation of Rev. H. J. Quinn was accepted by the Director in his Proceedings No. 1574, dated 20th February 1913, with effect from the 1st April 1913.

Messrs. R. W. Ross and G. V. Appa Rao were added to the Committee by the Director's Proceedings No. 1507, dated 27th February 1913.

The resignations of Messrs. H. J. Allen and E. W. Middlemast were accepted by the Director in his Proceedings No. 1507, dated the 19th March 1913.

Messrs. V. Kalyanarama Ayyar and Haidar Ali Sahib were co-opted as members in the Commercial and Hindustani sub-committees respectively. (Proceedings of the Director No. 1828, dated 16th March 1914.)

In April 1914, Mr. F. W. Henderson resigned his office as Member of, and Secretary to the Committee and the Director appointed Rev. W. Meston in his place. (Proceedings No. 2885, dated the 4th April 1914.)

Mr. F. W. Henderson was appointed member of the Committee in place of Mr. J. A. Yates, resigned. (Proceedings No. 3915, dated the 26th May 1914.)

In June 1914, Mr. R. Littlehailes was appointed to succeed Rev. C. Pollard, resigned. (Proceedings No. 5079, dated the 17th June 1914.)

In July 1914, Rev. A. Moffat was appointed in place of Mr. C. Ransford, resigned and Mr. H. Champion was added to the Committee. (Proceedings of the Director No. 1672 of 1913, dated the 31st July 1914.)

To the vacancy caused by the death of Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib, Mr. Yakub Hassan Sait, Khan Bahadur, was appointed.

A vacancy has been caused by the death of Rev. J. D. W. Sewell.

4. The Committee on the 31st March 1915 consisted of the following members :—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Stone, President.
C. Abdur Rahim Sahib.
M.R.Ry. G. V. Appa Rao Pantulu Garu.
S. Bavanandam Pillai Avargal, Rao Sahib.
H. Champion, Esq.
A. H. Davey, Esq.
E. W. Green, Esq.
M.R.Ry. B. Hanumantha Rao Avargal, i.s.o.
F. W. Henderson, Esq.
H. O. Kershaw, Esq.
M.R.Ry. M. Krishnan Avargal.
R. Littlehailes, Esq.
M.R.Ry. S. Mangesh Rao Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
Rev. A. Moffat.
M.R.Ry. J. Muliyl Avargal.
H. Narayana Rao Avargal.
A. C. Pranatharthihara Ayyar Avargal, i.s.o., Rao Bahadur.
J. Ramayya Pantulu Garu.
M. Ranga Achariyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
R. W. Ross, Esq.
W. Erlam Smith, Esq.
M.R.Ry. P. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal.
V. Subba Rao Pantulu Garu.
T. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar Avargal.
Yakub Hassan Sait, Khan Bahadur.
M.R.Ry. S. Vaidyanatha Ayyar Avargal, Rao Sahib.
Rev. W. Meston, Secretary.

5. The following is the list of members on the various sub-committees on the 31st March 1915:—

English.

Rev. W. Meston, Chairman.
H. Champion, Esq.
A. H. Davey, Esq.
E. W. Green, Esq.
F. W. Henderson, Esq.
M.R.Ry. S. Mangesh Rao Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
R. W. Ross, Esq.

Mathematics.

M.R.Ry. B. Hanumantha Rao Avargal, Chairman.
K. Littlehailes, Esq.
Rev. A. Moffat.
W. Erlam Smith, Esq.
M.R.Ry. P. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal.

History and Geography.

E. W. Green, Esq., Chairman.
H. Champion, Esq.
F. W. Henderson, Esq.
Rev. W. Meston.
M.R.Ry. T. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar Avargal.

Tamil.

M.R.Ry. A. C. Pranarthihara Ayyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur, Chairman.
" S. Bavanandam Pillai Avargal, Rao Sahib.
" B. Hanumantha Rao Avargal.
" M. Ranga Achariyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
" P. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal.
" T. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar Avargal.

Telugu.

R. W. Ross, Esq., Chairman.
M.R.Ry. G. V. Appa Rao Pantulu Garu.
" Jayanti Ramayya Pantulu Garu.
" M. Ranga Achariyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
" V. Subba Rao Pantulu Garu.

Kanarese.

M.R.Ry. S. Mangesh Rao Avargal, Rao Bahadur.
" H. Narayana Rao Avargal.
" M. Ranga Achariyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur.

Malayalam.

M.R.Ry. M. Krishnan Avargal.
" Joseph Muliyl Avargal.

Hindustani, Arabic and Persian.

C. Abdur Rahim Sahib, Chairman.
Moulvi Mir Haidar Ali Sahib (co-opted member).
Yakub Hassan Sait, Khan Bahadur.

Sanskrit.

M.R.Ry. M. Ranga Achariyar Avargal, Rao Bahadur, Chairman.
" M. Krishnan Avargal.
" P. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal.

Latin and Greek.

E. W. Green, Esq.
F. W. Henderson, Esq.
Rev. W. Meston.

French and German.

W. E. Smith, Esq.
F. W. Henderson, Esq.

Physical and Natural Science.

W. E. Smith, Esq., Chairman.
H. O. Kershaw, Esq.

R. Littlehailes, Esq.
Rev. A. Moffat.
M.R.Ry. H. Narayana Rao Avargal.

Kindergarten, Teaching and Object Lesson.

Rev. W. Meston.
R. W. Ross, Esq.
M.R.Ry. T. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar Avargal.

Commercial.

M.R.Ry. B. Hanumantha Rao Avargal.
" V. Kalyanarama Ayyar Avargal (co-opted member).
" S. Vaidhyanatha Ayyar Avargal, Rao Sahib.

General committee meetings.

12th April 1910.
21st November 1910.
27th March 1911.
31st October 1911.
27th March 1912.
9th October 1912.

6. During the period under review eleven meetings of the Text-Book Committee were held on the following dates:—

12th March 1913.
15th October 1913.
18th March 1914.
9th September 1914.
25th February 1915.

In accordance with the Director's Proceedings No. 3915, dated the 31st October 1914, the half-yearly meetings of the committee are held in the months of February and October. The sub-committees have ordinarily met on the day of the meeting of the general committee.

7. In 1912 the number of the members of the Text-Book Committee was raised from 24 to 30. (Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, Ref. on C. No. 8921 of 1911, dated the 4th March 1912.)

8. In 1913 several alterations were made in the rules of procedure of the committee with a view to making the work of the sub-committees more effective. The revised rules of the committee and the rules of procedure are printed as appendix A.

9. The total number of books dealt with by the Text-Book Committee during the period under review is 3,081. A detailed statement of the books under the several classes is given below:—

Subject.	Total.	Suitable for school reading.	Suitable for teachers or libraries.	Unsuitable.
English	1,423	980	219	224
History and Geography	310	201	68	41
Mathematics	213	112	41	60
Physical and Natural Science	128	28	88	11
Commercial	41	26	15	..
Kindergarten	33	5	24	4
Tamil	327	217	52	58
Telugu	288	163	49	76
Kanarese	35	22	8	5
Malayalam	108	37	50	21
Urdu, Arabic and Persian	76	48	13	15
Sanskrit	11	7	6	1
Uriya	3	..	2	1
Latin and Greek	7	6	1	..
French and German	75	70	..	5
Total	3,081	1,922	637	522

Instead of "Suitable or Unsuitable as sole reader or text book", the committee resolved, at its meeting on the 27th March 1911, to use the designation "Suitable or Unsuitable for school reading," so as to include books suitable for additional reading and non-detailed study.

For the most part books were declared unsuitable because they were not suitable for Indian schools, or because they were intended for college students rather than for school pupils, or because of the size of type and the quality of the paper on which they were printed.

W. MESTON,
Secretary to the Text-Book Committee.

APPENDIX A.

RULES FOR THE TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE.

The Madras Text-Book Committee has been appointed for the following purposes :—

(a) To take into consideration such books as may be submitted to it by the Director of Public Instruction and to advise him in regard to their suitability as text-books for the several classes and forms in recognised schools in accordance with the curricula from time to time prescribed for such classes and forms, the list in each subject and for each class or form being as varied and complete as possible, so that managers of schools may have a wide field in which to exercise the freedom of choice vested in them.

(b) To advise the Educational Department as to the steps to be taken for the preparation and publication of new text-books when necessary.

(c) To help in forming, under the control of the Director of Public Instruction (i) an educational library containing copies of all text-books approved from time to time by the department, copies of text-books approved or prescribed in other provinces of India and in other countries, and copies of works on the theory, the practice, and the history of education; and (ii) an educational museum containing plans and models of school buildings and specimens of maps, diagrams, apparatus and appliances suitable for schools.

2. The committee shall consist of not more than thirty members in addition to the president.

3. The members of the committee shall be appointed by the Director of Public Instruction, who may, at any time and without assigning reasons, remove any member. The members shall hold office for three years but shall be eligible for reappointment. A member leaving the Presidency for an absence exceeding six months shall be considered to have permanently vacated his seat. Vacancies not exceeding six months in duration shall, when necessary, be temporarily filled up.

4. The Director of Public Instruction shall be *ex-officio* President, and one of the members shall be Secretary.

5. The committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees, for the purpose of dealing with different subjects and languages. It shall also have power to consult specialists who are not members of the committee. Any member appointed to fill a temporary vacancy on the committee shall, *ipso facto* become a member of the sub-committees to which the absent member belongs. Every book referred to the committee by the Director shall be referred by it to the appropriate sub-committee for examination and report.

6. The chairman of each sub-committee shall be appointed by the committee, with the limitation that in the case of the sub-committees for the vernaculars an Inspector of the department shall always be chairman.

Note.—The above rules are subject to interim appointments to sub-committees and chairmanships of them being made when necessary by the Director.

7. The committee shall meet ordinarily twice a year, on the second Wednesday in March and the second Wednesday in October. The president shall have power to convene special meetings as occasions arise or on the requisition in writing of not less than four members. Sub-committees shall meet at such times as their respective chairmen may consider necessary.

8. Seven members of the committee shall form a quorum. The quorum for a sub-committee shall be not less than half the members of such sub-committee, who are resident in Madras.

9. The meetings of the committee of sub-committees shall and ordinarily be held at the office of the Director of Public Instruction.

10. At all meetings of the committee or of sub-committees, the president or the chairman, as the case may be, shall take the chair; but in case of his absence the members present shall appoint a chairman.

11. All questions that may arise at meetings of the committee or of sub-committees shall be decided by a majority of the votes of those present. In the event of the votes, including that of the president or the chairman, being equal, the president or the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Opinions of absent members may be submitted in writing but shall not count as votes.

12. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to give notice of the meetings of the committee and of sub-committees when held at the ordinary place of meeting, to attend the meetings of the committee and whenever possible the meetings of the sub-committees, and to keep a record of the proceedings. When the Secretary cannot be present at a meeting of a sub-committee, a similar record of the proceedings shall be kept by the chairman of the sub-committee, who shall forward it to the Secretary.

13. A copy of the proceedings of every committee meeting shall be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction within two weeks after the meeting.

14. The committee shall, once in five years, forward to the Director of Public Instruction a report on the work done during the official year. This report shall be submitted to Government by the Director with such remarks as he may see fit to offer on the operations of the committee.

15. Each book forwarded to a sub-committee shall be referred to not less than two of its members for expression of opinion.

16. No books referred to a member shall be kept for more than a month.

17. In the case of books rejected as unsuitable by the Text-Book Committee, some brief indication of the grounds on which the judgment has been formed shall be given.

18. The lists of books passed by the various sub-committees shall be printed and circulated among the members of the committee at least a fortnight before the date of the meeting at which they are to be approved.

19. The committee will have no concern with the text-books of schools classed as European schools by the Director of Public Instruction unless they are specially referred to them for opinion by Government or by the Director.

PROCEDURE OF THE TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE.

1. With the object of removing unsatisfactory features from the normal working of the Committee and of giving the sub-committees a more effective control over the books which belong to their subject the following change in procedure has been approved.

At present all books coming to the Secretary from the Director are despatched by him to two members of the relevant sub-committee. Should the opinions of these members agree, the book is ready to be brought before the committee at its next meeting with the opinion upon which the two members have agreed. Should the two members differ, the book is sent by the Secretary to a third member of that sub-committee. This third member, without the guidance of the opinions already passed, or the knowledge that he is practically giving a casting vote, passes a third opinion on it which settles the fate of the book unless it is challenged at the meeting of the Committee.

2. Such method of working cannot be described as satisfactory, and although the difficulties involved in any change are considerable it is felt that a distinct improvement will be made by the adoption of the following procedure.

3. The procedure obtaining in the past shall remain in force as regards the despatch of the book to two members of the relevant sub-committee but on receipt of the two opinions the Secretary shall then send the book with these two opinions to the chairman of the sub-committee concerned who shall give his casting vote in those cases where the two opinions are at variance, or endorse the two opinions which coincide, or bring the book before the Committee.

4. Before the committee meets, the chairmen of the sub-committees shall convene a meeting of the members of the sub-committees (an earlier hour of the day on which the committee is to meet may be chosen) and present to them the books which have been dealt with. At these meetings all business to be brought before the committee shall be prepared.

These meetings of the sub-committees will give the chairmen the opportunity of receiving further guidance from sub-committee members in cases where difference of opinion has arisen or may arise.

5. The chairman of the sub-committee shall be responsible for the presentation of books (with the opinions thereon) to the Committee at its biennial meetings having previously informed the Secretary of his several opinions.

6. The chairmen of sub-committees shall present through the Secretary to the Director the reasons for unfavourable opinions.

7. It is the function of the Text-Book Committee to delete from the number of books available for school use those which are unsuitable for use in schools throughout the area controlled by the Madras Educational Department, and to distinguish those which are suitable as text-books from those which deserve a place in the school library or in the teachers' room.

The Text-Book Committee does not attempt to prescribe particular text-books, it provides a list of books in the different subjects from which the school authorities may exercise their discretion in selecting.

8. The general grounds upon which books may be described as unsuitable may be tabulated as follows :—

- (a) Not adapted to Indian requirements.
- (b) Too advanced for school classes.
- (c) Method of treatment faulty.
- (d) Subject-matter badly arranged.

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