

Ed. (1915) Department.

Mis SERIES.

G.O. No. 886 *Ed.*

DATED 13. 8. 1915

✓

[Despatch Abstract.]

His Excellency the Governor's tour.

Recording notes Connected with the
address presented to His Excellency the Governor by
the Cuddapah District Congress Committee regarding
the teaching of Agriculture in elementary schools.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

37-19



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OOTACAMUND.

12th June 1915. ✓

Dear Mr. Rajagopalachari,

I am sending you the enclosed
address to be presented to His
Excellency in the Cuddapah District Congress Com-
mittee. Will you please arrange to let me have
not later than 30th instant 3 copies of a printed
note on each subject?

Yours sincerely,

H. S. S. S.

The Hon'ble

Diwan Bahadur P. Rajagopalachariar Avl., C.I.E.,
Secretary to Government, Educational & C. Depts.,
Stonehouse Hill, Ootacamund.

C.I.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOUR, 1915.

*Extract from an address to be presented to
His Excellency the Governor by the
Cuddapah District Congress Committee.*

* * *

3. "We firmly believe that the system of
"education imparted in elementary
"schools requires some modification. The
"course of instruction must be such as to
"create in pupils an intelligent interest in
"the hereditary occupations and profes-
"sions, instead of apathy and indifference,
"and to equip them for their future lives.
"We therefore beg leave to suggest that
"in every elementary school provision be
"made for imparting instruction in agri-
"culture and the various arts suited to the
"condition of the localities."

Secretarial note.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Of portions marked in Sir John Atkinson's
speech on pages 34, 35, 36 and 39 of G.O.
1552, Revenue, 8th June 1914; also Mr.
Chadwick's note on pages 4-5 of Notes to
G.O. 1152, Educational, 9th October 1914.

G.O. 618, Educational, 12th June 1915.
(abstract) (2)

Please see the extract above. The
question of imparting agricultural
instruction in elementary schools has been
considered previously and the decision was
that it should not be imparted. It may,
however, be noted that the Educational
Department has had under consideration
proposals for developing nature-study
and that orders have recently been issued
on the subject. Submitted that this file
may be transferred to Educational who,
it is understood, have received a copy of
the extract above and are dealing with it.
A single note may be prepared in Educa-
tional.

K.S.N.—15-6-15.

C.R.—15-6-15.

I think so.

A. H. A. Todd—16-6-15.

This question was recently discussed
at a joint conference of local Agricul-
tural and Educational officers, if I re-
collect aright, and they formulated a
syllabus of nature-study, deprecating any
attempt at definite instruction in agricul-
ture. Their conclusions were endorsed by
Mr. Coventry, the Agricultural Adviser

to the Government of India, on the note which he recorded after his visit of inspection to this Presidency last January. That note should be added to the file before transfer to Educational with the request to include these notes or their substance in the final statement of the case.

L. DAVIDSON—17-6-15.

Extract from Mr. B. Coventry's notes on a tour in the Madras Presidency.

* * *

I discussed with him (Mr. Wood, the Principal of the Agricultural College) also the subject of so-called agricultural education, by which term is really meant rural education, a very different thing. It appears that a conference had been recently held between members of the Agricultural and Educational Departments with the object of defining the extent of the assistance which the Agricultural Department could afford to give. The conclusion arrived at was that the most the Agricultural Department could do was (a) to assist in training a very small class of carefully selected teachers on whom as well as on a special officer deputed for a time will rest the responsibility of threshing out a course to be given to teachers in training schools and in criticising, if requested, on the text book, and (b) to inspect, if requested, the training schools from time to time. I have forwarded demi-officially the report of this conference to Secretary for the information of the Government of India as it contains to my mind fairly clearly the issues involved in this controversy and the utmost assistance our department can give in a subject which really concerns the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The teaching of *Agriculture* in ordinary elementary schools has been condemned for the reason that pupils remain in those schools only for a short period and in the elementary school stage they are not in a position to assimilate knowledge imparted in a technical subject such as *Agriculture*. It has, however, been admitted that instruction in *nature-study* should be imparted to pupils in elementary schools. The Government have recently issued orders deputing certain officers of the Educational Department to undergo special training in *nature-study* so that they may draw up a syllabus in that subject suitable for adoption in elementary schools. It has also been decided that those officers

Mr. Chadwick's note on pages 13 to 18 and the discussion in the Legislative Council on pages 29 to 40 of G.O. 1652, Revenue, 8th June 1914.

Pages 46 to 48 of the Proceedings of the Board of Agriculture held at Coimbatore.

(Copy sent up)

G.O. 618, Educational, 12th June 1915.

(2) (abstract)

should deliver a course of lectures in the subject to teachers in elementary training schools.

G.Os. 72 M., 12th January 1914, and 729 M., 9th April 1914.

Please see Educational Department note on pages 1 and 2 of Notes to G.O. 1248 L., 13th July 1914.

Page 2 of Notes to G.O. 1257 M., 2nd July 1914.

G.Os. 1257 M., 2nd July 1914, and 1248 L., 13th July 1914.

As regards instruction in "arts" it is understood that what is desired is instruction in industrial arts such as carpentry, weaving, etc. In 1914 the Government vetoed the proposal of the Erode Municipal Council to provide for technical education in carpentry and weaving in certain elementary schools. It was then held that it should not be the aim of an elementary school to create artisans and that it was difficult to introduce carpentry or weaving as a means of manual training on account of the paucity of qualified teachers and the inability of the boards to provide adequate plant. Subsequently, however, when proposals for opening carpentry classes in elementary schools were received from the Penukonda Taluk Board and the Cuddapah Municipal Council, His Excellency the Governor was of opinion that, though the proposals might not be regarded as altogether orthodox, still as experimental and tentative measures they might be approved. The proposals were accordingly sanctioned.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—23-6-14.

[CN. 2071]

Dist. Department.

Three copies of a note on the third sub-para of para 3 of the address to be presented to H.E. the Governor by the Buddapah District Congress Committee are submitted below. The file may be sent to the P.T. G. no.

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28.6.15. 28/6/15

28/6/15

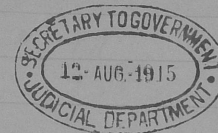
Colno 2071-2
28.6.15

Returned with the following extract from His

Excellency's reply:-

"Your proposal so to modify the curriculum in elementary schools as to impart instruction in agriculture and other arts suited to the locality is also somewhat general in character but has special relevance to the conditions of your district. In so far as your suggestion contemplates the training of artisans, I must refer you to what I have already stated on another occasion about the creation of technical and industrial schools which are the proper means of imparting such instruction. If you refer to instruction in agriculture proper, I may say that this subject has recently been under the consideration of Government who have decided that the science of agriculture is not a subject that can be

suitably taken up in elementary schools. What can however be so taught is a curriculum more adapted to rural conditions and employments; and with this in view Government have recently ordered that special steps should be taken to draw up a syllabus in the subject of nature study suitable for adoption in elementary schools."



H. H. H.

11.8.15

Govt. Dept.

These papers may, it is submitted, be now

'Received'

SK
12-8-15

G
12/8/15

clik
13.8.15

886 Colman's
172
His
order

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH RETTO

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 IN ORIGINAL.

E.S.-

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