

Edd (1915) Department.

his SERIES.

G.O. No. 909 Edd

DATED 17-8-15

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Delegation of powers [Despatch Abstract.]

Recording notes connected with the
— to Collectors to appoint person
who do not possess the education qual-
fications prescribed for employ-
in the public service.

NOTES



At 12 noon on Friday the 16th July
held an informal conference with the Revenue Officers of Chittoor District. They were

1. Mr. P. C. Dutt, I.C.S., lately Divisional Officer, Chendragiri Chittoor.
2. Saiyid Ahmad Badsha Sahib Bahadur, Divisional Officer, Madanapalle.
3. M. R. RY. D. V. Srikanthayya Garu, Divisional Officer, Madanapalle.
4. M. R. RY. V. Ramakrishnayya Pantulu Garu, Divisional Officer, Chendragiri.
5. M. R. RY. B. V. Subrahmanya Ayyar Avl., Acting Tahsildar, Chittoor.
6. Mir Nasir Ali Sahib Bahadur, Tahsildar, Chendragiri.
7. M. R. RY. S. A. Krishna Ayyar Avl., Tahsildar of Vayalpad.
8. M. R. RY. A. Duraiswami Mudaliyar Avl., Acting Tahsildar, Madanapalle.
9. M. R. RY. K. Viraswami Ayya Garu, Land Records Tahsildar, Chittoor District.

Mr. H. L. Braidwood, I.C.S., the Collector, and Mr. H. G. Stokes, C.I.E., I.C.S., Private Secretary, were also present.

The question of scarcity of non-Brahmans in Government service was first raised by the Collector, who explained that it was due to the difficulty of obtaining duly qualified candidates from among this class of persons though the number of non-Brahmans in Chittoor District was much larger than that of Brahmins. Excellency inquired whether this state of affairs was due to want of educational facilities. The reply was on the whole in the negative, but it was stated that Brahmins went to school in large numbers as a matter of course and that Government service was a profession to them. They could not take to trading or other walks of life. On the other hand, it was observed that Brahmins nowadays are turning their attention in directions other than Government service so much so that it is difficult to obtain Brahmin graduates in the lower ranks of the revenue department. It was further suggested as one reason for the preponderance of Brahmins that the existing rules are so framed as to put a premium on the possession of literary qualifications, such as B.A. degree, not so much by requiring these as a condition precedent to entry into Government service, as by deterring in due course to its higher walks to those not so qualified. The remedy is either to insist less rigidly on these qualifications or to allow greater freedom of exemption at the later stages. At present the powers of exemption are exercised almost entirely

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(except in respect of the lowest paid posts) by the Board and by Government and it was suggested that Collectors should be allowed wider discretionary power to select and appoint persons who, though not possessing literary degrees, might have shown themselves fitted for promotion. His Excellency ~~xx~~ suggested that before a definite conclusion could be reached, an examination of the facts as to whether Brahman preponderance was on the increase was desirable. No final conclusion was arrived at but it was agreed that it might be worth while to ascertain whether the tendency was on the increase.

3 The next point was the scarcity of passed candidates for appointments in the subordinate ranks of the revenue department starting on Rs.20/-. Difficulty was said to be experienced in the matter of selecting candidates on the basis of Secondary School Leaving Certificate. It was suggested that the authorities of colleges had not been sufficiently strict in the matter of admitting to collegiate instruction students who under the old system would have failed to pass the Matriculation examination. These are thus encouraged to pursue their studies instead of swelling the number of candidates for Government employment in lower posts. His Excellency suggested that when the new University regulations had had time to take effect this state of things would find its own remedy. Failing this, it was observed that the only remedy seemed to be to offer better inducements to attract ~~inducements~~ a better class of men either in the shape of improved pay in the lower appointments or in the shape of better and easier access to the higher grades as indicated above.

4 The next point was in regard to the Tahsildar's power over village officers. At present village officers were appointed or dismissed by the Divisional Officer, the Tahsildar having only to fine up to one rupee which was thought insufficient to enable him to exercise proper control over them. It was suggested that the powers of appointment, punishment, granting to village officers might be delegated to them. It was suggested that for the present it would be enough to delegate the power of suspension, say up to 3 months, subject

instead of removal or dismissal, but it was objected that in order to effect this purpose, it would be necessary to modify the Village Officers Act by legislation. The general feeling was in favour of some such modification, as conducing to more prompt and efficient control over Village officer's work.

Certain proposals were put forward regarding the status of Deputy Collectors: (1) their starting pay should be raised; (2) travelling allowances should be revised; (3) the necessity for a probationary period should be done away with in the case of Tahsildars promoted to Deputy Collectors. As regards (1) it was pointed out that the pay of a 1st grade Tahsildar and a last grade Deputy Collector was the same - Rs.250/- and it was urged that a distinction should be drawn between the non-gazetted appointment of a Tahsildar and the gazetted appointment of a Deputy Collector by raising the minimum pay of the latter to Rs.300/-. As to (2), persons drawing Rs.50/- to ~~Rs.~~ Rs.500/- were entitled to double 2nd class fare, so that there was no difference in this respect between a Deputy Collector and his head clerk in the scale of travelling allowance. It was therefore urged as a matter of prestige that the Deputy Collector should be entitled to travel in 1st class like the officers of the Postal department. It was also urged ~~that~~ that the rate of daily batta which was now Rs.3/- might be raised to Rs.4/-. On the other hand, it was pointed out that the desired differentiation might be equally well served if the Deputy Collector's head clerk were given only 3rd class travelling allowance. But this method did not find favour with the conference. In regard to (3), it was argued that as the duties of the Deputy Collector did not differ materially from those of the Tahsildar, it was a slur to insist on a probationary period of two years in the case of a Tahsildar promoted to Deputy Collector. It was however pointed out in reply that the difference between the work of a Tahsildar and a Deputy Collector was not one merely of degree but of kind; a good Tahsildar does not by any means necessarily succeed as a Divisional Officer, and for Deputy Collectors appointed direct a probationary period was indispensable. The conference recorded no specific conclusion on the point.

Mr. Dutt brought to notice that the Tirupati East Railway Station where pilgrims to Tirupati alighted should be improved. His Excellency remarked that this was a question which could be taken up by the Collector. It was also suggested that this subject might be placed by the Collector before the Pilgrim Committee for consideration and the Collector undertook to do so.

As regards the pay of Shroffs and Deputy Shroffs in Government treasuries, it was suggested that it should be raised as the holders of the posts had to furnish a cash security of Rs.500/- which returned them only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest from Government as against 12 per cent, the current rate of interest. Further, bad coins crept in which had to be made good by them, with the result that the men actually got much less than the pay itself. Against this it was stated that this state of affairs did not deter people from coming forward for such appointments. His Excellency remarked that this was a conflict of views and that no strong case was made out for the proposed increase.

The Tahsildar of Vayalpad raised the question of splitting Vayalpad and Madanapalle taluks into three on the ground that they were heavy charges, Vayalpad being 831 square miles and Madanapalle 837 square miles in extent. Travelling was rendered difficult owing to want of proper roads. His Excellency remarked that this was a subject in which the Collector should take the initiative in framing proposals if a case could be established.

In addition to the punitive powers demanded for Tahsildars in dealing with village officers as mentioned above, it was requested that they should be empowered to dismiss or suspend peons, attenders and muchis of their offices. The Collector thought that these wider powers of punishment might be given to Tahsildars subject to appeal.

The following two matters of general interest were also discussed, namely that Tahsildars should be given discretionary powers to dispense with the collection of the value of trees on darkhast lands assigned to poor ryots. The Collector pointed out that such assignments would only tend to enrich the sowear, to whom in course of time the land would be mortgaged. Another

difficulty in this direction was that it would not be possible to realise easily the assessment from such ryots. The feeling of the Conference was that no such powers were necessary.

The last point touched upon was increase of pay to Talaiyaris. As a class they were trustworthy but they could earn 4 annas a day as day labourers, that is much more than their present pay. In reply to His Excellency's query whether the Conference could suggest any other method than that of increasing the pay, it was suggested that they could be given inam lands. The Collector pointed out that here again it was quite possible that the lands would fall into the hands of the sowcar. Against this it was stated that such inam lands should be made absolutely inalienable.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department,
for remarks.

Madras Governor's Camp,
19th July 1915.

Private Secretary.



Public Department.

Extract from the Secretary's remarks on the copy of the proposal received in the Public Department.

As regards extending the power of exempting from tests the efficiency of the service ultimately depends on the class of men admitted to it. Since Divisional Officers and Treasury Deputy Collectors have been given power of appointment up to Rs. 30 as well as power of exemption I believe there has been a marked deterioration in the quality of the men admitted, partly because they have less choice than a Collector, partly because they are much less strict in enforcing the rule that preference must be given to qualified candidates. The exemption rules are undoubtedly troublesome, but I am satisfied by experience (having formerly held an opposite view) that they are generally very necessary.

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C. G. T.
22-7-15.

To

The Educational Department u.o.



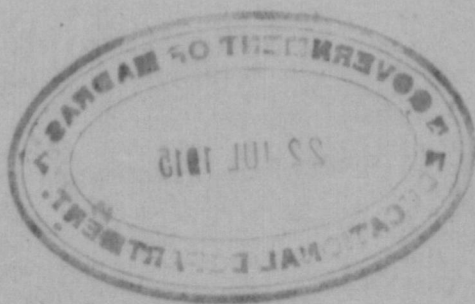
vide clause (7) on p. 15 of the Public Service Notice. (T)

Pub. no. 124257-1
27-7-1915

CN. 260161

28/7/15

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Educational Department

This department is concerned only with two suggestions, namely,

(i) That Collectors should be allowed wider discretionary power to select and appoint persons who do not possess the education qualifications prescribed for them, and

(ii) That the authorities of colleges had not been sufficiently strict in the matter of admitting to the collegiate course students who under the old system would have failed to pass the matriculation examination.

2. The first suggestion is similar to that made by the Anantapur Revenue Officers' Conference in July 1914 and is one which has already been considered and rejected - vide notes recorded in G.O. 592 Eold, the 28th July 1914. Attention is also solicited to the Secretary's remarks on the previous page on this suggestion which are in agreement with the decision already arrived at by the Govt.

3. The second suggestion has been sufficiently met by His Excellency by observing that when the new University regulations had had time to take effect, the evil complained of by the Conference would disappear. His Excellency was no doubt referring to the alterations in the University regulations approved in G.O. 590 Eold, the 5th June 1914.

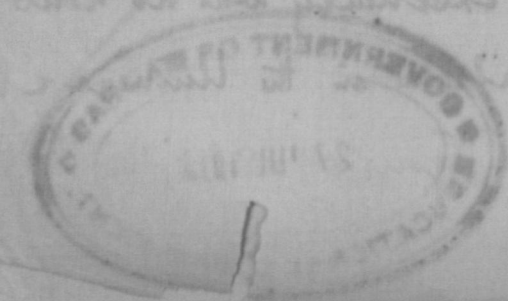
para. 2, p. 2 of the Progs.

" 3 — do —

p. 1 of G.O. 592 Eold
28.7.14

Removed & put up
with C.A. 2067
P.D.
11.8.15

para. 3, page 2 supra



1915 by which the discretion allowed to the Principal in the matter of admitting students to the Int. class has been withdrawn and a minimum percentage of marks has been laid down as qualifying a candidate for such admission.

These changes have created much agitation among the public and the action of the Senate has been criticised in the Press and elsewhere. Numerous petitions have been received by the Govt. invoking their interference. There are separately under consideration. The file has been sent to the D.P.S. & Co. for remarks as to the circumstances in which the special Committee appointed by the Syndicate refused to take any action in the matter.

It is submitted that so far as the suggestion of the Conference is concerned no action is called for.

4. The file may be forwarded to the P.E.G. no. with reference to his endorsement on p. 5 ante.

P.F.
28.7.15

Th
30.7.15

No present action appears to be necessary. I am disposed to think that delegation of the power of exemption

has in some cases already gone too far. As regards the Secondary school leaving Certificate the representations made at the conference form an interesting commentary on the outcry that has been made against the Syndicate's action

2.8.15

H.E. The Governor.



Submitted that the papers may be

Order 909 of 17.8.15
M.H.

Recorded.

11.8.15

14.8.15

17.8.15

Spang

(C)

When signed

19

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH BITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL

N.B.—

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