

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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Enclosures

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G.O. No. 722, 30th June 1916

Law College, Madras

Recording report on the working of the — during the year 1915-16.

2
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., F.R.H.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Dated—Madras, the 16th June 1916.

No.—R.C. 3246.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of Government, a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 3246, dated 6th June 1916, reviewing the report on the working of the Law College, Madras, during the year 1915-16.

ENCLOSURE.

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, R.C. No. 3246,
dated 6th June 1916.

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from A. DAVIES, Esq., M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Principal, Law College, Madras.

To—the Director of Public Instruction.

Dated—the 14th April 1916.

No.—C. 58.

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the working of the Law College for the year 1915-16.

2. *College staff.*—The staff remained the same as it has been during the past three years, with the re-appointment of M.R.Ry. K. Yegnanarayana Adiga as temporary special lecturer. He entered on his duties on the 15th July 1915 and continued till the 14th April 1916 when the college closed for the summer vacation. M.R.Ry. T. Rajagopala Achariyar Avargal, Assistant Professor, was on leave without allowances from the 21st July 1915 to the 17th September 1915, both days inclusive, and M.R.Ry. P. Chenchiah Avargal, an advocate of the High Court, was appointed to act for him, and took charge of his duties on the 31st August 1915.

3. *Changes in the law course.*—The re-organization scheme has not yet been given effect to and the revised rules of the college have not yet been sanctioned. But meanwhile Government have in their order No. 727, Educational, dated 3rd July 1915, sanctioned the University Regulations extending the B.L. Degree course from two to three years—for students joining this course on or after July 1915. The order was at once given effect to and an F.L. class under the revised University Regulations was started in July 1915.

Government have also in their order No. 1426, Educational, dated 15th December 1915, sanctioned certain formal changes in the transitory regulations which the Senate had found it necessary to pass in October. At the same time for the benefit of students who come under the old University Regulations, but have not passed the F.L. and B.L. Degree examinations thereunder, extra examinations to be held in October 1916 and October 1917 have been sanctioned in addition to those originally mentioned in the Transitory Regulations.

Agreeably to the above regulations and as there will be no B.L. class in the college in July next under the revised regulations, Government have, in their order No. 1217, Educational, dated 12th November 1915, sanctioned the opening of a B.L. class in the college under the old University Regulations during 1916-17 for those who having passed the F.L. are eligible to appear for the B.L. under the old regulations.

Though the revised rules of the college have not yet been sanctioned as a whole, that portion of the rules which relates to the term fees payable by students under the new regulations required urgent settlement and so Government in their order No. 1415, Educational, dated 14th December 1915, fixed the following fees :—Rs. 90 for the first term and Rs. 60 for the second term or a total of Rs. 150 for each year of the three years' course.

4. *College Council.*—In Order No. 1198, Educational, dated 8th November 1915, His Excellency the Governor in Council was pleased to appoint the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim to be a member of the Law College Council, in the place vacated by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Faiz Hasan Budruddin Tyabji. The new member will hold office for a period of five years. The Council consists of a President and seven other members as in the previous year. During the year under report the Council considered further alterations in the Law College rules owing to the lengthening of the B.L. course to three years, and especially the scale of term fees to be levied for the new law course. Their views were duly communicated to you, and were considered when G.O. No. 1415, Educational, referred to above was passed.

5. *Strength.*—The number of students on the rolls on the 31st March 1916 was 472 against 500 on the same date in the previous year. The total number of students including "special" students admitted during the year was 501 and they joined the various classes in the following proportions :—B.L. 174, F.L. (new course) 218, and Pleaders 109. Of these as many as 29 students :—B.L. 5, F.L. 19 and Pleaders 5 dropped out during the year for various reasons. Thirteen discontinued their studies apparently owing to illness, 7 "special" students left the College at the beginning of the spring term, 3 left to take up appointments, 3 left to join the Trivandrum Law College, 1 who had paid the college fee and been formally admitted never actually appeared at all, while 2 died in hospitals. I think that the number of admissions in the F.L. class seems to show that the popularity of Law as a profession has not been seriously affected by the introduction of the new three years' course. The decrease in the number of admissions in the B.L. class is due to the low percentage of passes in the F.L. examination. The Pleaders class has considerably increased and this increase may be confidently ascribed to the idea current that the days of the Pleaders examination are numbered.

The figures for the four preceding years are given below for comparison :—

	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
B.L. class	151	183	183	233	169
F.L. class	233	285	256	213	199
Pleaders class	71	88	62	54	104
Total	455	556	501	500	472

Figures regarding the distribution of students according to the classes of the community to which they belong, the occupation and financial status of their parents or guardians, and the facts as to their vaccination, appear in appendices A and B.

The district distribution of the students is given in appendix C.

6. The following table gives the number of hours of instruction each student had in the several subjects dealt with in the college during the academic year 1915-1916.

F.L. class (New Regulations).		B.L. class.		Pleadershp class.	
Subjects.	Number of hours of instruction.	Subjects.	Number of hours of instruction.	Subjects.	Number of hours of instruction.
1. Jurisprudence	79	1. Law of Property	177	1. Civil Procedure and Law of Landlord and Tenant.	83
2. Roman Law	152	2. Hindu and Muham- madan Law.	69	2. Criminal procedure	63
3. Contracts	155	3. Criminal Law	60	3. Torts	59
4. Torts	15	4. Law of Evidence	26	4. Contracts	67
5. Indian Constitutional Law.	38	5. Indian Constitutional Law.	26	5. Hindu Law	81
				6. Criminal Law	61
				7. Law of Property	63
				8. Law of Evidence	31

It may be noted that, as the working days of the year amount to 160 altogether, this means that each student of the F.L. class had on an average about three lectures a day to attend—of the B.L. class $2\frac{1}{2}$ lectures a day—of the Pleadershp class $3\frac{1}{2}$ lectures a day.

7. *Results of examinations—I. University Law examinations—(a) B.L. Degree examination, April 1915.*—The number of students appearing direct from the college was 228. Of these 159 passed, with 2 in the first class and 43 in the second class—a percentage of 69.7 as against 59.4 of the previous year.

(b) *First Examination in Law, April 1915.*—For this examination 207 students appeared from the college. Of these 117 passed, with 3 in the first class and 26 in the second class—a percentage of 56.5 as against 56.1 of the previous year.

Appendix D gives the figures for the three preceding years.

II. *The High Court Pleadershp examination, April 1915.*—For the Pleadershp examination conducted by the High Court under the provisions of the Legal Practitioners Act, 53 candidates appeared direct from the college. Of these 25 passed—a percentage of 47.1 as against 43.6 of the previous year. This examination was held on the 19th April 1915 and on the following days during the year under report.

III. *Class examinations.*—There were two examinations held during the year under report, one in each term. And at one or other or at both students were examined in all the subjects in which instruction was given. Attendance at these examinations was satisfactory, and they are being taken more seriously by students, as they now realise that the grant of the certificates required by the University Regulations depends upon the progress made in the several subjects of study as tested by these examinations. The certificates of four students of the F.L. class were withheld on the ground of insufficient progress.

8. *Library and reading room—(a) Library.*—All the three sections of the library, the consulting, the lending and the class libraries, and the method of issuing books still continue as in previous years. Government having sanctioned an increased grant of Rs. 5,000 for the purchase of books, the usual amount was spent in keeping the library up to date in the ordinary text books and books of reference, while special efforts were made to strengthen that section of the library which is devoted to such subjects as Jurisprudence, Constitutional Law, Political Science and Legal History. The number of volumes added to the library during the year under report was 565 and the total number on the 31st March 1916 was 5,009. A few M.L. students, old members of the college, have, with my permission, been regularly using the library—occasionally too vakils have come to consult works of reference and the most recent authors on certain subjects. It is to be hoped that this really first rate library may become more and more used by old members of the college, and become a centre not so much perhaps of forensic law as of the law of the academic, legal and political student.

The library catalogue is being revised and reprinted.

The following table gives an abstract of the record as to the use of the three sections:—

	Consulting.		Lending.		Class Libraries.	
	1916-1916.	1915-1916.	1916-1916.	1914-1915.	1915-1916.	1914-1915.
Students	14,289	13,719	607	954	7,913	8,758
Staff	1,416	1,090	12	13	215	204
Total	15,704	14,809	619	967	8,128	8,962

(b) *Reading room.*—The students continue to make good use of the reading room in their leisure hours to study the current Indian, English and American Legal periodicals and the law lexicons and statutes and other works kept here for ready reference. When the long-desired lighting arrangements are made, I believe this room will become a regular evening place of resort for many of the students.

The usual moot meetings were held in the reading room with hired lights.

9. *Scholarships—(1) Morehead Law scholarship.*—This scholarship was awarded to T. L. Venkataraman, the student who stood first in the first class in the F.L. Examination held in April 1915, and the scholarship of Rs. 224 is being paid to him in two instalments payable on the 15th November and 15th May.

(2) *College scholarships.*—Of the two Government scholarships of Rs. 100 each per term, one was awarded to P. S. Narayanan who stood second in the first class in the F.L. Examination held in April 1915 and the other Government scholarship which is reserved for a Muhammadan or Uriya student was awarded to G. Bhima Rao Patnaik, an Uriya student of the B.L. class.

(3) *Scholarship under the Code of Regulations for European Schools.*—One scholarship of the monthly value of Rs. 40 is being awarded to B. A. D'Quental of the F.L. class with effect from 1st July 1915 to 30th June 1916.

10. *Lectures and classes.*—The "class" system could not be introduced into the college during the year under report owing to the very limited number of the staff. It is however hoped that before the college resumes its work in July next the full strength of the staff will be sanctioned thus enabling us to bring the "class" system into full play.

11. *Hostel and kindred matters.*—The question of providing hostel accommodation for the college is under the consideration of Government. Government have, in their order No. 1133, Educational, dated 11th October 1915, informed the authorities of the colleges in Georgetown including myself that the Government as at present advised propose to reserve the existing General Hospital buildings, when they are vacated, for the purpose of providing hostel accommodation for the students of these colleges. The authorities of these colleges have, therefore, been advised to consult Government before embarking on any scheme for increasing their hostel accommodation otherwise. It seems probable that some years will pass before the General Hospital scheme fructifies. Meanwhile we must possess our souls in patience, never forgetting, however, the crying need that exists for a hostel, emphatically shown to us for instance this year by the 13 students who had to give up study altogether because of illness and of a large number unrecorded whose studies have been seriously hampered by the recent small-pox epidemic.

12. *College associations and athletics.*—The students' representative council with its sub-committees—the moot, the athletic and the library sub-committees—has as usual been very useful during the year by its willing co-operation in those branches of the college life with which it is concerned.

(a) The moot club has held three meetings during the year, the first meeting presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Victor Murray Coutts Trotter, the second by the Hon'ble the Advocate-General, M.R. Ry. A. Krishnaswami Ayyar Avargal, B.A., B.L. High Court Vakils and myself, and the third by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bakewell. The attendance was very large at these meetings and the students took

great interest in the discussions. This club will be far more flourishing when it is able, as it is hoped it may shortly be, to conduct its proceedings in a properly lighted hall.

(b) The athletic sub-committee had the management of funds amounting to about Rs. 970 collected as athletic fees together with the Government grant of Rs. 490 for subsidising games; and the major part of these amounts was spent in the purchase of materials and amenities of various sorts and in repairing the tennis grounds. For the second time a tennis competition among the students of the college was held and two medals were awarded to the winners, one for the singles and doubles to P. Markandeyalu and the other for doubles to V. Suryanarayana, students of the B.L. class.

As usual the college entered into a number of the competitions organised by the Madras collegiate athletic association, and this year "the Baliah Nayudu's silver cup and clasp for tennis (singles)" was for the eighth time won by this college represented by Mr. P. Markandeyalu, while "the Travancore Trophy" for doubles was for the seventh time won by this college, represented this year by Messrs. P. Markandeyalu and V. Suryanarayana. In the inter-collegiate sports Mr. A. Rama Ayyar of the B.L. class (Football captain) won two medals for long jump and for throwing the cricket ball.

13. Financial summary.—

Year.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.	Remarks.
From 1892 to 1915	Rs. 18,12,067	Rs. 8,69,102	Rs. 4,43,965	Subject to verification by the Accountant-General.
From 1915 to 1916	73,769	41,065	32,704	
Total ..	13,86,836	9,10,167	4,76,669	

The increased charges were mainly incurred in the purchase of library books

14 *The college day.*—A number of students past and present of the college expressed a desire that we like other similar institutions should celebrate a college day: and with some hesitation I consented to the experiment being tried. There was some initial difficulty in fixing a convenient date, but at last it was decided to hold it on Friday the 18th February 1916: and invitations were sent out rather hurriedly and late to a number of gentlemen. I mention this by way of personal apology to those who should have been invited but were by accident omitted and also to those who though invited only received their invitations when it was too late to accept. Apart from this matter, I believe I may say the day was a great success. There was a large and representative gathering. There was refreshment and a certain amount of entertainment—the committee having arranged a lively programme of music, drama and recitation which lasted altogether for about an hour and a half, the open quadr—, or rather oct—, angle of the college forming an excellent auditorium. Credit for the evening's success is to be given to the committee and especially to the two honorary secretaries, Messrs. K. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil (old student), and T. Sundara Rao (present student), for the way in which all arrangements were made. But our greatest thanks are due to the Hon'ble Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, K.O.S.I., C.I.E., who at the shortest notice very kindly consented to inaugurate this new departure by presiding over the gathering and at the end of the evening, giving an address full of reminiscence and good practical advice to students past and present. It is hoped that this may be the first of many Law College days, as I feel sure that they may play a really useful part in the education of youth for the high and noble profession of the law.

15. *General.*—(1) For the second time a first aid class in connection with the Saint John's Ambulance Association was opened in October 1915—twenty-seven students joined from the various classes. Lectures were very kindly delivered by Dr. U. Rama Rao. Of these 27 only 15 students presented themselves for the examination on 24th November 1915 before Doctors Ankleseria and Venkata Rao, but all of them were awarded certificates. One of the college teams (four members) competed for the Madras Ambulance competitions held on the 15th and 16th February 1916, but was not fortunate enough to win any prize.

(2) Another new feature of the college life which demands notice is the series of lectures held from 4 to 5 p.m. on topics of educational value to students of law but belonging to a wider sphere than that prescribed for University examination purposes. Three gentlemen very kindly acceded to my request to help us with these special lectures—Dr. Nayar gave a series on municipal self-government in India, Mr. Macphail on the British Empire, Mr. Candeth on the political ideals of ancient Greece and Rome. Special thanks are due to these gentlemen. It is hoped that lecturers of a similar type will be available during the coming years.

(3) The Madras University has prescribed new text-books for the law courses under the revised regulations.

(4) Owing to the severity of the small-pox epidemic prevalent in various parts of the town, arrangements were made to get the establishment and a large number of the students vaccinated in the college. The Health Officer was kind enough to send a vaccinator and a sub-assistant surgeon for this purpose.

(5) The establishment have continued to work efficiently and well and I have once more to thank the staff for the excellent work they have done.

APPENDIX A.

DISTRIBUTION of students according to class or community.

Class of community.	B.L. class	F.L. class.	Pledership class	Total for 1915-16.	Total for 1914-15.
Europeans or Eurasians	..	1	..	1	2
Indian Christians	4	10	4	18	6
Muhammadians	..	2	1	3	1
Hindus (Brahmans	133	160	86	369	391
Non-Brahmans	32	36	13	81	100
Total ..	169	199	104	472	500

APPENDIX B (1).

DISTRIBUTION of students according to occupation of parents or guardians.

Classes.	Officials.	Petty officials.	Land-holders.	Traders.	Others.	Total.
B.L. class	80	..	77	12	..	169
F.L. class	96	2	88	12	1	199
Pledership class	41	2	65	6	..	104
Total for 1915-16 ..	217	4	221	29	1	472
Total for 1914-15 ..	236	1	239	28	1	500

APPENDIX B (2).

DISTRIBUTION of students according to the financial status of their parents or guardians.

Classes.	Richer classes.	Middle classes.	Poorer classes.	Total.
B.L. class	10	159	..	169
F.L. class	11	182	6	199
Pledership class	4	97	3	104
Total for 1915-16 ..	25	438	9	472
Total for 1914-15 ..	42	467	1	500

APPENDIX B (3).

VACCINATION.

Classes.	Vaccinated.	Small-pox marked only.	Unprotected.	Total.
B.L. class	168	11	..	169
F.L. class	195	4	..	199
Pleadership class	89	5	..	104
Total for 1915-16 ..	452	20	..	472
Total for 1914-15 ..	488	12	..	500

APPENDIX C.

DISTRICT distribution of students.

District.	B.L. class.	F.L. class.	Pleadership class.	Total for 1915-16.	Total for 1914-15.
Ganjam	4	4	3	11	10
Vinayapatam	6	5	4	15	18
Godavari	15	10	5	30	34
Kistna	10	6	5	21	32
Guntur	4	3	5	12	8
Nellore	1	1	5	7	8
Madras	4	8	7	19	19
Chinglepat	4	5	5	14	25
North Arcot	5	1	1	7	11
Chittoor	1	2	4	7	8
South Arcot	6	8	4	18	12
Trichinopoly	13	13	8	30	28
Tanjore	28	20	19	66	66
Madura	8	8	..	16	19
Ramanad	4	2	2	8	8
Thiruvellay	8	7	6	20	17
Coimbatore	10	13	5	28	16
Salem	4	8	6	18	11
Cuddapah	..	..	1	1	5
Kurnool	1	..	..	1	6
Bellary	..	..	4	5	4
Anantapur	1	7	..	8	1
South Canara	10	7	1	18	23
Malabar	12	23	4	39	37
Travancore	3	4	..	7	10
Cochin	9	7	..	16	24
Mysore	1	1	..	2	7
Bangalore	..	2	..	2	1
Puduchottah	1	4	..	5	7
Hyderabad	..	..	..	1	2
Ceylon	..	..	..	..	1
The Nilgiris	..	..	1	1	..
Pondicherry	..	..	..	..	..
Coorg	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	169	199	104	472	500

APPENDIX D (1).

RESULTS of the B.L. degree examination, April 1915.

—	Number of students examined.	Number of students passed.	Percentage.
1912 { From Law College	152	88	57.9
Other candidates	275	88	31.9
Total ..	427	176	41.1
1913 { From Law College	179	104	58.1
Other candidates	288	105	36.8
Total ..	467	210	44.9
1914 { From Law College	180	107	59.4
Other candidates	274	85	31.0
Total ..	454	192	42.2
1915 { From Law College	228	159	69.7
Other candidates	284	126	44.3
Total ..	512	285	55.6

APPENDIX D (2).

RESULTS of the First Examination in Law, April 1915.

—	Number of students examined.	Number of students passed.	Percentage.
1912 { From Law College	230	130	56.5
Other candidates	299	119	39.8
Total ..	529	249	47.1
1913 { From Law College	288	144	50.3
Other candidates	284	85	32.2
Total ..	550	229	41.6
1914 { From Law College	244	137	56.1
Other candidates	318	132	41.5
Total ..	562	269	47.8
1915 { From Law College	207	117	56.5
Other candidates	296	73	24.6
Total ..	503	190	35.5

APPENDIX D (3).

RESULTS of the Pleadership Examination, April 1915.

—	Number of students examined.	Number of students passed.	Percentage.
1912 { From Law College	67	35	52.2
Other candidates	93	37	39.7
Total ..	160	72	45.0
1913 { From Law College	85	52	61.2
Other candidates	85	34	40.0
Total ..	170	86	50.5
1914 { From Law College	55	24	43.6
Other candidates	77	18	23.3
Total ..	132	42	31.8
1915 { From Law College	53	25	47.1
Other candidates	102	30	29.4
Total ..	155	55	35.4

R. C. No. 3246/16, dated 6th June 1916.

Recorded with the following remarks.

2. There was a fall in the strength of the F.L. and B.L. classes, while the number of Pleadership students had nearly doubled. The Principal's comments on these variations are noted.

3. The results of the University and Pleadership examinations held in April 1915 compared favourably with those of the previous year and must be pronounced to have been good.

4. Government have in their Order No. 611 W., dated 14th April 1916, approved the provision of additional electric lights and fans in the college at a cost of Rs. 6,100.

5. The noteworthy features of the year were the formation of the first F.L. class under the extended course, the introduction of a revised scale of tuition fees and the celebration under the presidency of the Hon'ble Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar of the first College Day.

6. Since the close of the year sanction has been accorded to the scheme of reorganization of the college which had been long pending and which will, it is expected, be introduced at the opening of the new session in July next.

7. The efficient condition of the college during the year reflects credit on the Principal and the professorial staff.

(True Extract)

J. H. STONE,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Law College, with twenty spare copies.
" Principals of other Government Colleges.
Copy to the President, Law College Council
" " Hon'ble the Chief Justice
" " Hon'ble the Advocate-General
" " Directors of Public Instruction of
other Provinces.
Government, with covering letter.

Order—No. 722, Educational, dated 30th June 1916.

Recorded.

(True Extract)

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
Editors' Table.

ORDINARY.

PRESS SLIP.

PREFACE.

URGENT (a).

Septs. II—38—2-15.

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