

Home (1917)) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1003

DATED 3 8. 17

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Mass movement.

Recording copy of papers received from the Government of India regarding a conference of missionary societies on the educational needs of ----- in India.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (=O) or spare copy (= S.C.).	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department

Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S. C.).	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

No. 569

P. 1654/17 Government of India.

Department of Education.

(Education).

Simla, the 29th June 1917.



Received in this Department regarding a Conference of Educational Societies on the Education of 'Mass Movements' in India.

From Secretary, Continuation Committee of World Missionary Conference, April 1917, and enclosures. A copy of the undermentioned papers is forwarded to the Government of M. A. D. R. A. S. for information.

As explained in the memorandum, is not very clear but it aims at giving Indian villagers education of the kind that will keep them in their villages and make them more competent agriculturists by instructing them in agricultural matters, co-operative banks etc. It will be observed that it is in contemplation to send a deputation to India to study matters further.

By order,
Asst. Secretary to the Government of India.

Letter from the Secretary, Continuation Committee of the World Missionary Conference, dated the 12th April 1917 and enclosures.

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Education Department.

Continuation Committee
of the
World Wide Missionary Conference, Edinburgh 1910.
1, Charlotte Square,
Edinburgh.
12th April 1917.

M.C. Seton, Esq., C.B.,
India Office,
Whitehall,
London S.W.

H.U. Dear Mr. Seton,

I enclose a copy of the Minute of the Conference of Missionary Societies on the Educational Needs of the Mass Movements and of the Memorandum of the subject which was considered by the Conference.

I hope to write to you in a few days about the other matter which Sir Andrew Fraser and I discussed with you.

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J & P. 1654/17.

India Office,
Whitehall,
London, S.W.1.

26th April 1917.

Dear Sir,

I am sending, for information, copy of papers received in this Department regarding a Conference of Missionary Societies on the Educational Needs of 'Mass Movements' in India.

The precise nature of the projected educational institution,

as explained in the memorandum, is not very clear but it aims at giving Indian villagers education of the kind that will keep them in their villages and make them more competent agriculturists by instructing them in agricultural matters, co-operative banking etc. It will be observed that it is in contemplation to send a deputation to India to study matters further.

Yours faithfully

Sd/- MC.Seton,

Secretary, Judicial & Public Department.

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Education Department.

Continuation Committee
of the
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I am etc.
Sd/- J.H. Oldham.

MEMORANDUM ON AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR MEETING
THE NEEDS OF THE MASS MOVEMENTS IN INDIA.

A conference of representatives of British missionary societies was held in London on September 28th to consider primarily the situation set forth in the following statement by the Bishop of Madras:-

"According to the government census of 1911 83 per cent of the total Indian Christian population was then illiterate. Separate figures are not given to show the exact percentage of illiteracy in the different churches, but, assuming that the Protestants are rather better educated than the ~~Indian~~ Roman Catholics, it must still be true that at least 75 per cent of the Protestants, that is 1,350,000 out of 1,800,000 can neither read nor write. And it must be remembered that we are adding to this mass of ignorant people at least 60,000 illiterates every year. I need not spend time in proving the grave dangers of an illiterate church in India. It would be a ~~prey~~ prey to superstition and division and would never rise much above the low moral level of the class from which it has sprung. The only alternative to education would be a dominant priesthood, and I do not imagine that any of my readers would be willing to accept this alternative. And apart from the danger to the church itself, an ignorant and illiterate church will never be able to play the great part that the Indian church ought to play in the conversion and regeneration of India. If we gather the outcasts into the church and then elevate them by education and Christian teaching, they will be a powerful witness for Christ and their conversion will be a sure stepping-stone to the conversion of the caste people above them. On the other hand if we leave them in their ignorance they will prove a fatal barrier to the progress of Christianity."

In the course of the discussion the opinion was expressed by an Indian missionary and supported by other missionaries that "to talk about meeting the educational needs of the mass movement by anything that existed at present was to make a grave mistake". Doubts were expressed whether the education

now being given is rightly adapted to the needs of the people. It was suggested that this lack of proper adaption was the reason why in some districts the people showed so little desire for and appreciation of education; and that the most urgent problem at the present time is not so much a rapid extension of villages education as the discovery of what that education ought to be. Reference was made by several speakers to the remarkable results which have been achieved by the Hampton Institute, Virginia, in transforming the life of the negro community, and it was urged that the greatest contribution which could be made to meet the needs of the mass movements in India would be to establish an educational experiment on similar lines. The following resolution was passed unanimously by the Conference :-

"That the Education Committee of the Continuation Committee be asked to consider and discuss with the Boards the question of establishing an institution for the creation of truer educational ideals and methods in meeting the needs of those who are being brought in by the mass movements in India".

The Education Committee has met and considered the matter referred to it. The Committee felt the need of a fuller and clearer definition of what was desired. It was recognised that what is required is not any exact reproduction or copy of the work of the Hampton Institute in the entirely different conditions of India, but the application to Indian conditions of the principles which have enabled the Hampton Institute to achieve such remarkable results. The most important of these principles appeared to the Committee to be three.

(1) The Hampton Institute has succeeded in an extraordinary degree in implanting in its students the ideal of service. Hundreds of its graduates scattered over the Southern States are not content merely to earn their own living but are devoting their energies to the elevation of the community around them. The Hampton Institute remains in close touch with these men and women and assists them in

many ways to carry ^{on} ~~out~~ their efforts for the good of the community. It is scarcely necessary to point out how vital a contribution would be made to the progress of Christianity in India if the Christian community drawn from the mass movements could be imbued in a high degree with the spirit of service. The large ^{number} of catechists in mission employment and the organization of missionary activities on a paid basis have to a large extent quenched the spirit of voluntary service. The Christians brought in by the mass movements are for the most part poor and therefore exposed to the temptation to selfishness, and they tend to set before themselves as their aim the standards and ways of life of the higher castes instead of finding new standards of their own.

(2) The whole of the educational work of the Hampton Institute has in every detail been carefully thought out in relation to the economic and social needs of the ~~XXXXXX~~ negro community. In particular, Hampton has been one of the most effective exponents of the value of industrial training as an influence in the formation of character. Its firm and sure grasp of the principle that the end of education is to prepare boys and girls for the actual life which they have to live has enabled the institution to influence in an extraordinary degree the life of the negro community. If a strong and healthy Christian community is to be built up in India, it seems essential that the relation between education and the actual conditions of India village life should be worked out with the same thoroughness as the corresponding problem has been dealt with at Hampton. It is now generally recognised that education in India has been too literary, and a wise move in the direction of an education on more practical lines might have a far-reaching influence on the whole of Indian education.

(3) It has been a fundamental element in the policy of the Hampton Institute to aim in everything at the very best. This has necessitated a large staff and heavy expense. But no one who has studied the work which has been accomplished will doubt that the expenditure of money has seldom yielded larger

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returns. Through the quality of its educational work the Hampton Institute has exerted a world-wide influence. It has been the parent of Tuskegee and other institutions for the education of negroes modelled on similar lines. It has further led to the starting of many institutions not only in the Southern but also in the Northern States for the education of poor whites, in which the principles of the Hampton Institute have been adopted. Visitors have come to study the work of the Hampton Institute from almost every country in the world. Among these have been official representatives of various Governments. If an institution doing work of similar quality were started in India it might be expected to exert a profound influence not only upon the educational work of missions in all parts of the country but also upon the whole future of Indian education. When an ideal has been clearly set forth it is impossible to escape from its influence.

It was the general opinion of the Conference that the institution should be primarily, if not exclusively, for Christians. Further, while the training of teachers might suitably be part of the work of the institution, its main purpose would be to train the pupils in varied capacities to serve the community to which they belong and to live useful and unselfish lives.

It was pointed out at the Conference that education in its highest achievements is a matter of personality. The Hampton Institute is the creation of General Armstrong and Dr. Frissell, the present Principal. It appears to the Education Committee that it is vital to the success of the proposed institution in India that the right men and women should be found to take charge of it, and in particular that the best available man should be at its head. The Committee is of opinion that it would not be wise for any home committee to attempt to elaborate details with regard to the institution if the general principles which have already been stated are accepted. The right course in the view of the Committee would be to choose someone who might be a suitable head of the institution if it were decided to proceed with

with the plan; to ask him to visit India accompanied by an Indian colleague for the purpose of conferring with missionaries and Indian Christians in the various provinces; to report in which language area the experiment could with most advantage be made; and to submit a plan for the starting of the institution. The selection of the staff should be left to the head of the institution subject to the approval of whatever body may be ultimately responsible for its management.

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CONTINUATION COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

MINUTE OF CONFERENCE ON THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE MASS

MOVEMENTS. JANUARY 18th 1917.

A Conference of Representatives of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland having work in India was held, at the invitation of the Education Committee of the Continuation Committee, at the Bible House, 146 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., on January 18th 1917, at 2.30 p.m.

Present. Sir Andrew Fraser (in the Chair); the Rev. F. Lenwood, Miss Roberts, Miss Shann, Rev. E.F.E. Wigram, J.H. Oldham (Education Committee); Bishop Montgomery; Archdeacon Brook Deeds (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel); Miss Drury, Principal A.G. Fraser, Rev. C.G. Mylrea, Rev. C.A.C. Streatfield (Church Missionary Society); Miss Bradford, Rev. F. Lamb (Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society); Miss Angus, Rev. John Drake, Rev. George Hill, Rev. C.E. Wilson (Baptist Missionary Society); Rev. F. Ashcroft, Miss Ethel Mackenzie, Rev. A. Miller, D.D. (United Free Church of Scotland); Rev. J.N. Ogilvie, D.D. (Church of Scotland); Miss Outram, Miss Parry (Church of ~~Scotland~~ England Zennana Missionary Society); Rev. E.S. Carr (Zenana Bible and Medical Mission); Rev. H.R. Scott (Irish Presbyterian Missionary Society); Mr. Kenneth MacLennan (Continuation Committee).

The meeting was opened with prayer by Dr. Ogilvie.

Mr. Oldham made a statement explaining the steps which have led up to the holding of the present Conference and emphasised the chief points in a Memorandum, which had been previously circulated to those attending the Conference.

A discussion followed, in which the following took part:- The Rev. J. Drake, the Rev. E.F.E. Wigram, the Rev. C.A.C. Streatfield, Miss Roberts, Principal A.G. Fraser, the Rev. F. Lenwood, the Rev. C.G. Mylrea, the Rev. F. Lamb, the Rev. C.E. Wilson, Sir Andrew Fraser, Dr. Ogilvie, and Dr. Alex. Miller.

Mr. Oldham submitted on behalf of the Education Committee of the Continuation Committee, a resolution which with a few verbal amendments, was adopted in the following form.

The Conference approved generally the statement of the present position in India, and of the objects to be aimed at, contained in the Memorandum. They were, however, of opinion that no attempt should, at the present moment, be made to formulate a scheme, but that a deputation should be sent to India without delay to make full enquiry into all the circumstances of the case, to consult with the Missionaries and Indian Christians through the National Missionary Council and Provincial Missionary Councils and to submit a report as to the action to be taken, with as precise a statement as possible of the cost of their proposals.

The Conference were of opinion that the great development of village work and the Mass Movements, to which special attention has been drawn, indicate two main objects to be aimed at. These are

- (1) The rapid extension of such sound village education, on Christian lines, as may be best suited to elevate the village communities. The object would be not ordinarily to attract the young Christian villagers away from their villages by education, but to make them good villagers; so to educate them that they would be fitted to remain in their villages, better equipped for useful work and for exercising an elevating influence on their community.
- (2) The securing of a class of Indian Christian Leaders filled with the ideal of service, fully understanding the conditions and requirements of village life, and fitted to help forward the economic and social elevation of the Christian community and to make it powerful for good throughout the mufassal.

Already some work has been done by certain Missionaries in adapting education to village needs, and in arousing, by such means as Co-operative Banks, a spirit at once of self-help

and of brotherliness among Indian Christians. Already also it has become clear to many how important it is to have Indian Christians fit to lead; and some attempt has been made to secure them. But what has been done in these directions is as nothing beside what the present circumstances and opportunity demand. At the present moment, while the situation in the Indian Mission field is hopeful in an unprecedented degree, it is in some respects full of anxiety if not danger to the Christian Church, and demands earnest and prayerful effort.

At the same time Government has begun to move, in its own sphere, on lines similar to those just indicated; and, unless Missions are to abandon the position which they have hitherto held, they cannot afford to lag behind, but must make a great advance, - and that rightly early.

What it is desired that the proposed deputation should do is to make full enquiry into what is being done at present and the success that has attended existing efforts, to see how a further advance can be made, and to ascertain by what means its requirements can best be met. The deputation should not be sent out with any scheme even adumbrated, but with a free hand to make effective enquiry, and, by the blessing of God, to place before the Societies the best means possible for embracing the present opportunity and for helping forward the cause of Christ in the evangelisation and elevation of the people of India.

Mr. Oldham proposed, on behalf of the Education Committee that the Church Missionary Society should be asked to release the Rev. Principal A.G. Fraser to be Leader of the proposed deputation; that Dr. S.K. Datta be asked to accompany him; that the Standing Committee of the Conference of British Missionary Societies, through Dr. Mott, be asked to arrange for an American to be third member of the deputation.

At this point Sir Andrew Fraser left the Chair, which was taken by Bishop Montgomery.

The Resolution proposed was carried nem con.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

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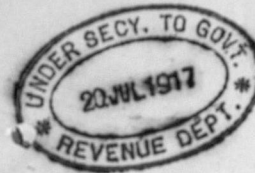
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Home Education Dept

No. 2407A from the Govt. of India, no 562 of 29.6.17
[Subject. - Educational needs of mass movements in India.]



The ~~documents~~ papers may, it is submitted, be sent ^{first} to the D.I. and the Rev Dept for perusal before they are recorded. after perusal by H.E.

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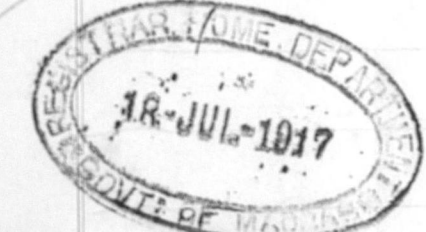
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D.P.I. - u.o. }
Rev u.o }

No 121 of 16-7-17



Home (Ed.) Dept

The papers may now be sent to Revenue u.o. for perusal

19-7-17
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20-7-17

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Rev-u.o. 1399F

Regd 21/7/17

To S.S



Rev u.o.

May be perused & returned to Home Sec Home (Ed.)
Returned with thanks 22-7-17

Home Education Dept.

The papers may now be submitted to H.E. for perusal.

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H.E. the Governor.

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31.7.17.



Box 3
enc 30.7.17
Ref. 31.7.17

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Recording paper received
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regarding a conference
of missionary societies
on the educational needs
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The papers may now be
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REAP AGAIN G.O. No.
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ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTS.

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