

Home (1917) Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1419.

DATED 12-11-1917

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Mr.G.Matthai.

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction and the
Syndicate of the University of Madras copy of the papers received
from the Government of India on the subject of ———.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (= O) or spare copy (= S.O.).	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. O.).	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. 931 *Em A*
 Government of India, 3282
 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.
 (Education.) *Regd. 1917*
 the 26th October 1917.

A copy of the undermentioned papers is forwarded to
 the Government of Madras for information, in
 continuation of this Department letter no. 615,
 dated the 18th July 1917. It is suggested that a copy may
 be forwarded to Madras University for information.

By order,

Kingsmill Mahan

Offg. Asst. Secretary to the Government of India.

Letter from the India Office no. J. & P. 3007/17, dated
 the 9th August 1917 and enclosures.

H.U.

Edu. 5.

J. & P. 3007-17, dated London, the 9th August 1917.

From—M. C. SETON, Esq., *C.B.*

To—SIR E. D. MACLAGAN, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India,
Education Department.

With reference to my letter of the 9th July, J. & P. 2664-1917, I forward,
for information, copy of the papers noted
in the margin, on the subject of Mr. George
Matthai.

Letter from Dr. Giles, dated 3rd July.
Letter to Dr. Giles, dated 30th July.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE LODGE.

CAMBRIDGE,

July 3rd, 1917.

SIR,

I venture to bring to your notice a matter which seems to me and to others very important in connexion with the development of the higher education of Indian students. That it is I who bring it before you merely arises from the fact that the first of these students who has attained special eminence in a branch of research happens to be member of my College. But there is no doubt that the question will arise presently with regard to other students.

Six years ago George Matthai came to this College as a Research Student in Zoology. He was a student of the Christian College at Madras and has taken a degree in the University. His special subject was the investigation of Coral, and in the course of his research work he was able to advance the knowledge of the structure of Coral so much that Professor Stanley Gardiner of Cambridge, and Professor Bourne of Oxford (to whom his dissertation was referred by the College for a report when it was submitted for an important prize open to Bachelors of Arts) informed me that though they themselves had investigated the structure of Coral they were satisfied that Mr. Matthai had gone far to overthrow all previous theories on the subject. So important was the dissertation recognised to be that it was published by the Linnaean Society, and a special ~~grant~~ was made by the Royal Society towards the expense of the plates. The Royal Society, convinced of the value of Mr. Matthai's work, has for three years running elected him to the Mackinnon Studentship, an honour to which no former student of any country has attained. Mr. Matthai has also been helped by studentships and by grants at various times from Emmanuel College, for example, to enable him to pursue his studies in America when the important continental museums were practically closed to him by the outbreak of war. In America Harvard University gave him special advantages in connexion with their stations for the study of marine life.

A time has now come, however, when it is impossible for him to be further endowed in this country. It is unlikely that the Royal Society will continue his studentship for a fourth year, and as he will be in January of standing to take his Master's Degree, he can no longer receive further endowments from the College. Moreover, it is high time that he were turning his really remarkable gifts in zoological research to account, and he is ambitious to do something for the development of the natural resources of India.

Six months ago Mr. Matthai sent in an application for an appointment, but beyond an acknowledgment nothing has happened, and it has been said, I believe, that nothing can be done till after the war. No doubt far-reaching schemes are as impossible in India as they are in the meantime in this country. But I would submit that special cases are deserving of consideration. The part of India where the fisheries are, I am told, likely to be developed with most advantage is Madras, and probably no man could be found who is better qualified to pursue research in connexion with the development of India fisheries than Mr. Matthai. I recognise that the hardships of individuals cannot be considered when they would

stand in the way of some great national purpose. But there are a considerable number of students from India now in this country who are engaged in research in various branches of learning, and the failure to do anything to encourage such men when they have finished the period for which study in this country is useful will, I venture to suggest, be highly detrimental to the future of education in India, and also to the belief that the Government of India is willing to do its best to foster the development of Indian Education.

It has to be remembered that, unlike students of similar standing in this country, their services for the war have been declined by the Government, and therefore they have been left to pursue their studies without interruption. At the beginning of the war I saw with my own eyes twenty-four Indian students, amongst whom was Mr. Matthai, present themselves at the Head Quarters of the Officer's Training Corps in Cambridge, for the purpose of offering to take any part in the war which might be assigned to them, and their disappointment was great when they were told that they could not be accepted.

Since Lord Morley interfered some nine years ago in order to improve the conditions under which Indian students came to Cambridge, a very marked change for the better has taken place in the character of the students who have come to study here. A larger proportion of them are already graduates in their own country, and it is this type of student who, I venture to suggest, is most deserving of encouragement and is the type for which a period of special training in England is most necessary. But if the belief spreads amongst such students that there are no openings for them when they have taken a position, as in Mr. Matthai's case, which would be remarkable for a student of any country, it will be a serious discouragement to the cause of learning.

I enclose a copy of Mr. Matthai's application which was forwarded about six months ago and shall be glad to render any further assistance I can in order that his case may be fully considered.

I am, etc.,
(Sd.) P. GILES,

Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for India,

India Office,

Whitehall, S.W., 1.

J. & P. 3007-17.

INDIA OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, S.W., 1,
30th July 1917.

SIR,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant enclosing a statement of Mr. George Matthai's educational career with his testimonials. I am to convey to you Mr. Montagu's thanks for having drawn his attention to a subject of great interest and importance, though in the present stage of India's educational and industrial development it may not be capable of a very satisfactory solution.

I am to forward a copy of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Public Services in India, and to say that you will find the question of the openings at present existing in the Indian Educational Service and in the Universities of India for research students discussed at some length in the IVth Annexure, dealing with the Education Department. It may be some time before action can be taken upon the recommendations of the Commission contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 on page 96 of the Report. Meanwhile, as regards Mr. Matthai, his application

supported by his very striking testimonials has been laid before the Board of Education, on whose advice and recommendation the Secretary of State mainly relies in making appointments to vacancies; and full consideration will be given to his candidature and to his exceptional qualifications whenever a suitable post becomes vacant.

Mr. Matthai's name has also been brought to the notice of the Government of India with advertence to your suggestion that it may be possible to turn to account his gifts in zoological research and his ambition to do something for the development of the natural resources of India. Your view that Mr. George Matthai is admirably qualified to pursue research in connection with the development of Indian fisheries will be kept in mind.

The Secretary of State for India trusts that this may serve to reassure you that the general consideration which in your letter you have pressed with force and justice are not overlooked by him, and that he is in full agreement with you that so far as opportunities permit no effort should be spared to turn to the best advantage in the service of India the trained ability and enthusiasm of gifted students of that country.

I am, etc.,

(Sd.) T. W. HOLDERNESS.

Dr. GILES,

Master of Emmanuel College,
Cambridge.

5

C. No 3919A

Regarding the Services of of Mr G. Muthai

Credit No 3919A Dated 30.11.17

Referred to the Honorary Director of
Fishes for remarks.DP (1)
29.11.17

The Honorary Director of Fishes

J.P.D.
29.11.17

K. 11.17

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

C.F.—79

Received 1-2 1918. Registered 1-2 1918.

Subject.



ENCLOSURES	
No.	
Spare copies	

Dio No. 55

Station Madras, Dated the 1st January 1918

From (Name) Sir F. A. Nicholson, K.C.I.E.,

(Designation) Honorary Director of Fisheries.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
REVENUE Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the remarks called for in
Endorsement No. 3919 A/17-1, Revenue, dated 30th November 1917,
regarding Mr. George Matthai.

2. This young gentleman appears to be a zoological student of more than ordinary promise and actual attainments who has made research in matters of marine biology which have commended respect and reward. The Master of his college expressly recommends him as probably qualified to pursue research in connection with the development of Indian fisheries. Naturally it occurs to one that this young man might be suitable for the post of Assistant Marine Biologist recently recommended for appointment; if entirely suitable,

several

2.

several difficulties would be solved such as the early filling up of the post.

3. As Assistant to Mr. Hornell he could relieve him of a great amount of detailed work now falling on him, or likely to fall on him should Krusadai be sanctioned; e.g. the Assistant could take charge of the lagoon farm at Tuticorin, and of other experimental or private farms which would then become possible in other parts of the coast, farms of very great importance in developing the food supply of the country; he could supervise, under Mr. Hornell's tuition, the special work of the proposed Krusadai pearl oyster farm so that there would be a fairly constant instead of occasional skilled superintendence; he could make a practical and paying thing of the edible oyster and mussel business which may do much for food supplies and perhaps develop a shell button industry; his tours both on land and sea would double Mr. Hornell's collection of data; he could control the preparation of the collections of marine fauna which Mr. Hornell has initiated for distribution to educational institutions; after some years he would be able to take Mr. Hornell's place when on leave, &c. In other ways also, at present unforeseeable, he could be abundantly useful. The fact that he probably knows both Malayalam and Tamil intimately, and also the character of the people, is no small makeweight in his favour.

4. Whether he is suitable for other marine work it is impossible to say. In my Note of 8th June 1917 on the re-organization of the Department and on the position of Mr. Hornell whom Government desired to relieve of routine in favour of scientific work, I have given my opinion on the class of Assistant Biologist whom I thought and think desirable, but it is of course a question whether under the conditions of the Department and the difficulties caused by the War, we may not have to put up with a man of less wide fishery experience than I desire; presumably he would readily adapt himself to applied science.

5. Should Government decide to invite him I consider that

3.

in great Britain
that he ought to obtain some first hand knowledge of practical marine work both in the capturing and curing departments, and also make himself acquainted with the best fresh water piscicultural work.

6. His physique and health are not unimportant matters. I presume that he would, at first, only be appointed on a three year contract. *The matter of his pay may require reconsideration, as he is a non-British.*

7. I suggest that since he would have to work under Mr. Hornell and since Mr. Hornell is himself a marine biologist as well as a practical man in fishery industries, it would be well to consult him on the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

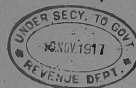
Your most obedient servant,

F. A. V. V. V.

Honorary Director,
Madras Fisheries.

A.K.S.

*b. 12/11/17 the m. l. k.
h. 30. m. 3018-9
23-10-17
R*



Home Education Dept
CNo. 3282A from the Govt. of India, no 731/36 (1917)
[Subject - Re Mr G. Matthai]

Let this go: in addition to Res. Dept
w/o. with a suggestion if Mr. Matthai's
services can be utilised in the Fisheries Dept.
On return, file should go to H. E. for
information

R.R.R. - 12. 11. 17

The Govt. has issued. The file may now
be sent to Revenue w/o.

18. 11. 17

17. 11. 17

Revenue

Con 3282A



3919A

Recd 20/11/17

To my Secretary

The remarks of the Honorary Director of
Fisheries may be invited. A draft endorsement is
submitted for approval.

21/11/17
3.23
21.11.17

Issue.

The general question is
rather interesting & I am
inclined to think that

NOTES.

Page 2

Something might be done to
 give readers the research
 work of Indian Students
 in England more purpose-
 ful. I do not know what
 the existing conditions are
 in which Indian Students
 go to Oxford or Cambridge
 some go "in spec" in the
 hope of securing a degree with
 the less any haphazard
 subjects that may bring
 in marks. But what Indian
 wants is men who know
 that scientific research is
 no easy effort made to pick
 out students who have in
 India shown special apti-
 tude for scientific work of
 a specialized character
 in special lines, & send them
 to England for research at
 some university in the special
 line in which they have
 shown aptitude?

It seems to me that, if
 research work by Indians is

to be made a success of it is necessary first to ascertain

(1) In what special line research is required for the development of India's resources

(2) Whether the I.I.T. is able to pick out students who are really likely to succeed in such lines of research

(3) What facilities the English universities afford for the prosecution of such research work by Indian students if sent there to England

(4) What arrangements can be made to send such students to England and what can be done for them if they prove their efficiency.

I do not believe that it is possible in India for any student to ^{attain} ~~attain~~ the research spirit; there is too little research going on (even at the Indian Institute of Science) to create a

NOTES.

Page 4

I dare say that all I have written above is stale & that full machinery exists already. Only, we do not see very useful results so far.

One caution is absolutely necessary & that is that you should make sure that University Professors give an honest opinion of the quality of work turned out. In the case of the Hon. Reddi it is clear that one Professor (a ~~disputed~~ ^{well known} ~~author~~ ^{author} of an English University) did not give an honest opinion, & if any suggestions on the line above indicated ~~are~~ are ever submitted to the G. or S. of S., this case should be quoted (without giving names or places) & the importance of honesty in University circles pressed. India wants first class & not tenth rate men.

29.11.14

So far as Mr. Nathan
is concerned I fear that
there is very little that we
can do further in the
Des Dept. I very much
doubt if Sir J. Moir
could utilize him: and
it is quite out of the question
to put any pressure on,
any head of a department
in a matter like this.

13/12/17

To Deputy Secy

Orders are solicited as to whether the
Hon'g Director may be informed by D.O.
that no action need be taken on Part
No. 3919 A/17-10-30-11-17.

17-12-17 The H.D. reply may be awaited
H.M. has not noticed the withdrawal
of this now committed D.M.

M. P. M.

(O.M. No. 3919 A/17-10-30-11-17)

12

To Dy. Secy.

Please see the Hon. Director's letter
replied to this day at pp. 6-8 to the O. M.
As suggested in para. 7 of the Hon. Director's
letter Mr. Hornell may, it is subd. be con-
sulted on the 7th inst.

J.R.D.
5.2.18.

Yes
62

I have discussed this with Mr
Hornell. He points out that Mr
G. Malthais is a "systematic
zoologist" & that at present
the Forest Dept. wants a
man of practical experience. It
will be a good many years before
the Dept. will be able to pro-
vide useful work for a systematic
zoologist. Mr G. Malthais offers
pride place as he is the result
of the Zoological Survey of India
under Dr. Annandale.

* This is under the control
of the Govt. of India (S.P. 47/18)
Date 5.2.18

(E)

12
10

~~CURRENT~~ No. 170 A

From Sir Frederick Nicholson K.C.S.D.

Received 12 2 1918 Registered 12 6 2 1918

Subject

Confidential 19
Dir. of Fis. 2 (a)-500-4-15.
Fisheries Bureau,
Chesapeake, dated 31-1-1916.

My dear Richards

I am this day sending
an official answer to you
and E of 30 Nov. about Mr.
George Matthai. As mentioned
a few days ago I had drafted
long ago, but kept the matter
then off.

In this case there is a
question which I could not
discuss in my official letter
since it involves the con-
fidential matter of the
directorate and of my pro-
posals in Hornell. If
Hornell becomes Director
Matthai would be his Asst
Biologist but would not

To Dy. Secy
above Phase see Hon. Director's letter abpp. 6-8 of c. 6 and
the ~~DO~~ Attention is also solicited to Dy. Secy's note on p. 6
supra. The file may now be returned to the EDC. Dept. with
the remark that Mr. George Mathers' services are not required
in the Fisheries Dept.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{J.R.7} \\ \hline 18.2-18 \end{array}$$

Home (245) 10.

22 FEB 1918

72.2.18

is suitable as understudy
to Hornell quā Director,
either when he might go
on leave or when he might
retire. Hornell may want
leave shortly, and in any
case would probably retire
not later than 9 years
hence when he will be 60.
Matthai would still be a
junior officer; e.g. junior
to Sundera Raj Isth in
age & service.

*6.12.92. Letter to
R.O. No. 3318-9.12.
23.6.17*
I mention this because in
my Note of 8th June last,
I expressly recommended a
European of rather wide &
practical training in order
to provide an understudy
who could succeed to the

directorate on Hornell's vacating
it.

Still, Gov^t can of course,
when Hornell does retire,
fall back upon the former
~~plan~~ plan of obtaining a
European or Canadian &c.
scientist as Director, or can
select a Civilian or other
man out here: & 4 years
hence that may be possible
risk does not seem so now.

As for a further vacancy,
Gov^t could appoint a Civilian
&c. temporarily, or the Director
of Agriculture or Industries.
Hence it will be quite
possible to appoint Matthai,
if otherwise suitable,
in direct reference to the

directorate question.

I think that you
must count me out of
the directorate by 30th
April, or at latest by
30th June.

Yours sincerely,
F. A. Nicholson.

Home (Dr) Dep^t

The Fisheries Dept^t is not in need of Mr Matthai's services. For orders as to circulation to H.E. the Governor (Vide Secy's remarks on the draft)

25.2.18
 Th

26.2.18
 Ca

for perusal

27/2/18

Revenue Dept.

To Dy. Secy.

This file was sent down by the P.S. by with a cypher telegram received by His Excellency from the India office relating to ~~Mr~~ John Matthai. The ~~file~~ telegram has been added to the connected file for separate action. This file may be returned to the P.S. by. as it relates to Mr. George Matthai.

RP
24.3.18
4.3.18

V.S.G.

Letter to be kept in Dr John Matthai's file for perusal

5.3.18

Home (Dr) V.O.

The V.S.G. (speaking on telephone regarding Dr John Matthai, has asked me to refer this back to Home

Spf
5/3

Rev W 039194

5-3-18

(Ld) with the suggestion that the
D.P. should be consulted before the
case is resubmitted to the
Governor

7.3.18
5.3.18



Home (Est) Dept

A copy of the papers received from the
Govt of India has already been communi-
cated to the D.P.D. ^{Vice R. is not open below} ~~the D.P.D.~~
~~woodstock~~. He stated on a previous
occasion that there was no prospect of a vacancy
which Mr George Mathai could fill. Vice
P.H. of G.O. no 571 Home (Est) of 2.5.17. ^{W.O.} ~~W.O.~~
The D.P.D. may however be consulted ^{W.O.} again
as to whether there is any vacancy now.

7.3.18

Th
5.3.18

CR
7.3.18

D.P.D. (W.O.)

Ld
16.3.18

13/13 of 23.2.18

There is still no prospect of any vacancy in
which Mr Mathai should qualify
under his value. We have only one post of
the kind and that filled by Mr. ...



12.11.18

Home (202) Dept.

Please see the Deputy Secretary's note dated the 5th March 1918 on pages 8 & 9 supra. The file may now be submitted to H.E. the Governor.

SK
26/3/18.
N.K.
27/3/18

Q
28.3.18
L

He me Governor
LWS
30.5.18

To the best of my recollection the cypher telegram referred to on page 8 requested an immediate answer. I am bound if that telegram has been disposed of. Let him (B.) 1.4.18.

The telegram referred to was received and is being dealt with in the Res. Dept. The Dept. may be asked to answer the Atg's question above.

Q
N.K.
3/4/18
L

Rev. (u.o.)
LWS
3.4.18

p. 8 ante

Rev. u.o. 597 F

Regd 346

100/346

Revenue Dept.To D. Secy.

The telegram referred to by the P.S. G. on the previous page is at p. 4 of notes in the linked file. The question of Dr. John Matthai's appointment is dealt with in that file.

RP

5-4-18

16/4/18

5-4-18

HE to Govt

This case deals with Mr. George Matthai

y
k
16/4/18Revenue Dept.To D. Secy.

Submitted that the file may now be returned to the Home (Education) Dept. no.

RP

12-4-18

15/4/18

16-4-18

Home (Ed.) VO

y
k
16/4/18Home (Ed.) Dept.

No further action is necessary on this file. The notes may be stitched with G.O. No. 1419 of 12-11-17 (placed below).

SK

18/4/18

19-4-18

19/4/18

y
k
19-4-18

20/4/18



Mr. L. Matthaei.

Home (Educ) DEPARTMENT.

Communicating to the D.P.I. and the Syndicate of the University of Madras papers received from the Govt. of India on the subject of _____

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 1004 Home (Educ) dated 3-8-1917. (H)

READ ALSO:-

C. No. 3282 From the Govt. of India, Dept. of Edu., No. 931, dated 26-10-1917.

ORDER.

mix

No. 1419, dated 12.11.1917.

Let this go: in accord
to Rec Dept u.o. with
a request if Mr. Mallan's
services can be utilised
in Fisheries Dept. On
return, file this to Mr. L.
for information 11/11/17

Communicated to the
D.P.I. and the Syndicate
of the University of Madras.

CR 4.11.17
CR 8.11.17
my 12/11/17
CR 12/11/17
CR 12/11/17

To The D.P.I.
Registrar, University of
Madras
(d. Encls to)

for copying

d

ned

191

O. No.
101

, DATED

REPT No.

REPORT TO C.

RE OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ENTER NOT FILED UP, BEING WANT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.-

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.