

Home (Education) (1917) Department.

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 173.

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INDEXE

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council.

Recording resolution No.XXIV moved by the Hon'ble Mr.G.Pittendrigh
in the ----- held on the 21st November 1916 regarding the claims of
India to the Rhodes' scholarships formerly granted to Germany.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH RESOLUTION ON MATTERS OF
GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

[SUBJECT.—*Rhodes' scholarships.*]

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The Hon'ble the Rev. G. PITTENDRIGH :—

XXIV. That the Government take the necessary steps to urge on the Trustees of the Rhodes' Scholarships the claims of India to be allotted the scholarships formerly granted to Germany.

Please see the extracts below which contain full particulars as regards the Rhodes' scholarships referred to in the resolution. From the account given in the newspapers it appears that since the outbreak of war with Germany the trustees have sought the authority of Parliament for the revocation, with effect from the commencement of the war, of the codicil made by Cecil Rhodes authorizing the German Emperor to nominate Germans for a certain number of the scholarships and for the substitution, as soon as practicable, of four scholarships of the value of £300 each tenable at any college in Oxford for three consecutive years by students "of or from such Colonies, Dependencies or places within the British Empire as the trustees may from time to time in their discretion determine." The Rhodes Estate Bill appears to have passed both Houses of Parliament. It also appears that the

P.R.—9-11-16.

Secretary of State has already brought the claims of Indians to the notice of the Rhodes Trustees and that there is every hope that those claims will be favourably considered. The Secretary of State has

however neither asked for nor received assurances that such scholarships for Indians will be established within a definite time. The question raised in the resolution is

P.R.—9-11-16.

one which affects the whole of India and any representations which this Gov-

ernment may desire to make will have to be submitted through the Government of India.

2. Orders are solicited whether the resolution will be discussed in Council, whether further particulars should be called for and as to who should be in charge of the resolution.

A.S.—8-11-16.

N.K.—8-11-16.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—8-11-16.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—9-11-16.

Would Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar take this?

The Trustees are unlikely to admit any "claims" and the Secretary of State is already attending to the matter. No further information seems necessary.

P[ENTLAND]—10-11-16.

Extract from Encyclopædia Britannica, 11th edition, Volume 23, page 257.

The Rhodes' scholarships.—The scholarship system founded by the will of Cecil Rhodes provides in perpetuity for the support at Oxford, for a term of three years each, of about 175 selected scholars. Each scholar from the colonies and the United States has an allowance of £300 per annum during the continuance of his scholarship; those from Germany, as being nearer to Oxford, an allowance of £250 each. In each province of Canada, in each state of Australia, in the four collegiate schools of Cape Colony (Rondebosch, Stellenbosch, South African College and St. Andrew's College, Grahamstown), in the dominion of New Zealand, and in the colonies of Natal, Jamaica, Bermuda and Newfoundland, a scholar is elected each year. Three scholarships annually are assigned to Rhodesia. Each state and territory of the American Union is entitled to have two scholars in residence, so that an election takes place in two years out of three. Five scholarships are provided annually for scholars from Germany.

In his will Rhodes mentions the object he had in view in founding the different scholarships—

(1) *Colonial.*—"I consider that the education of young colonials at one of the Universities in the United Kingdom is of great advantage to them for giving breadth to their views, for their instruction in life and manners, and for instilling into their minds the advantage to the colonies as well as to the United Kingdom of the retention of the unity of the Empire."

(2) *American.*—"I also desire to encourage and foster an appreciation of the advantages which I implicitly believe will result from the union of the English-speaking people throughout the world, and to encourage in the students from the United States of North America who will benefit from the American scholarships to be established for the reason above given at the University of Oxford under this my will an attachment to the country from which they have sprung, but without, I hope, withdrawing them or their sympathies from the land of their adoption or birth."

(3) *German.*—"I note the German Emperor has made instruction in English compulsory in German schools. I leave five yearly scholarships at Oxford of £250 per annum to students of German birth, the scholars to be nominated by the German Emperor for the time being. Each scholarship to continue for three years, so that each year after the first three there will be 15 scholars. The object is that an understanding between the three Great Powers will render war impossible and educational relations make the strongest tie."

He defines as follows the principles on which he wished his scholars to be selected—

"My desire being that the students who shall be elected to the scholarship shall not be merely bookworms, I direct that in the election of a student to a scholarship regard shall be had to (1) his literary and scholastic attainments, (2) his fondness for and success in manly outdoor sports such as cricket, football, and the like; (3) his qualities of manhood, truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship; and (4) his exhibition during school days of moral force of character and of instincts to lead and to take an interest in the schoolmates, for those latter attributes will be likely in afterlife to guide him to esteem the performance of public duties as his highest aim."

The trustees named in the will for the management of the trust were Lord Rosebery, Lord Grey, Lord Milner, Sir Lewis Mitchell, Dr. L. S. Jameson, Mr. Alfred Beit and Mr. Bouchier F. Hawksley.

After consultation with the educational authorities of all the communities to which scholarships are assigned, the trustees arranged a system for the selection of scholars. This system which is subject to such changes as experience suggests may be summarised as follows. Every candidate in order to become eligible is required to pass the Responsions Examination of the University of Oxford, or some examination accepted by the University as an equivalent. In the case of communities possessing Universities or colleges in affiliation with Oxford, a certain standing at those Universities is accepted in lieu of Responsions. Examinations are held in two years out of three in each state of the American Union, and annually in colonies which do not have the affiliated Universities or colleges referred to. German scholars are nominated by His Majesty the Emperor of Germany. Candidates must be unmarried—must be between the ages of 19 and 25 (in Jamaica and Queensland 18 to 25; in Newfoundland, 18—21; in Western Australia 17—25), and they must be, in the colonies, British subjects; in the United States and Germany, subjects of those countries. In each British colony electing scholars and in each state of the union there is a committee of selection, composed commonly of leading educational authorities or high public officials. To these committees all candidates who have passed the qualifying tests submit their claims. The committees are entrusted with the power of selection, but are expected to exercise this power, as closely as circumstances permit, in accordance with the suggestions made by Rhodes. The trust arranges for the distribution of the elected scholars among the colleges of Oxford each of which has agreed to receive a limited number of approved candidates.

Extract from Hazell's Annual, 1916.

RHODES' SCHOLARSHIPS.

Under the will of Mr. Cecil Rhodes a number of Colonial, American and German scholarships were established in order to instil into the minds of young colonials the advantage to the colonies as well as to the United Kingdom of the retention of the unity of the Empire; to

encourage in the students from the United States of North America an attachment to the country from which they have sprung; and to further a good understanding between the British Empire, Germany and the United States.

There are 78 colonial scholarships of £300 per annum tenable at any college in the University of Oxford for three consecutive academical years. These are allotted as follows:—9 to Rhodesia, 12 to Cape Province, 3 to Natal, 18 to Australia, 3 to New Zealand, 24 to Canada, 3 to Newfoundland, 3 to Bermuda, and 3 to Jamaica; also 96 similar American scholarships 2 to each State and territory of the United States tenable for three years and before the war there were 15 German scholarships each of £250 tenable at Oxford for three years the holders being nominated by the German Emperor.

Extract from the "Hindu," dated the 9th October 1916.

THE RHODES' SCHOLARSHIPS.

The great fight for freedom from Teutonic domination has provided a welcome opportunity to bring India within the range of the beneficent Imperialism of Cecil Rhodes in founding the Oxford scholarships which bear his name.

In the academic year 1913-14 there were in residence at Oxford 76 Rhodes scholars from British Colonies, 88 from the United States, and 13 from Germany. The latter were nominated by the Kaiser, in accordance with a codicil to Mr. Rhodes's will leaving five yearly scholarships of £250 (all the others are fixed at £300) to students of German birth, tenable for three years. Mr. Rhodes was led to make the codicil by the unsuspecting pleasure he derived from the Kaiser's decision to make English compulsory in German schools. His object was clearly stated:—"An understanding between the three Great Powers (Britain, America, and Germany) will render war impossible, and educational relations make the strongest tie." So even this far-sighted Imperialist mistook what was inspired by a spirit of destructive rivalry for an indication of German amity. When the last annual statement of the Trust was prepared early in the year, no less than 167 Rhodes scholars and ex-Scholars had joined in the fight against her; and there may well have been some tragic meetings between them and German ex-beneficiaries of the Trust.

The founder's anticipations having "failed to be accomplished or realised" (to quote the preamble of the private Bill), the Trustees are seeking the authority of Parliament for the revocation of the codicil from the date of our declaration of war, and the substitution as soon as practicable of twelve scholarships of £300 tenable at any Oxford college for three consecutive years by students "of or from such Colonies, Dependencies, or places within the British Empire as the Trustees may from time to time in their discretion determine." The Bill has passed through the Upper House, but has been blocked in the Commons by Mr. Joseph King, and the second reading has been held over until the autumn. To judge from a newspaper interview, Mr. King's action is inspired by a misplaced zeal for his 'Alma Mater' since he wishes the proceeds of the German scholarships to be handed over for University purposes, Oxford having been so hard hit by the war. There would be no more moral justification for this act of confiscation than for the Hebdomadal Council to claim Mr. King's salary as a member of Parliament.

In submitting to the Trustees the grounds for Indian participation in this great Imperial endowment, Mr. Chamberlain has had a strong case, and it is understood that Lord Rosebery and his colleagues, without definitely committing themselves as to the exercise of powers Parliament has not yet conferred, have responded sympathetically to the suggestions of the Secretary of State. It would be most fitting that the privileges of the Trust should be extended to the great Asiatic dominion after a war in which she has so earnestly and helpfully participated. The founder expressly enjoined that no student should be disqualified on account of race or religious opinions; and accordingly the Trustees have accepted some nominations from the United States of men of negro birth. Facilities for admission to Oxford are highly prized by Indians, as previous articles have shown, and they are suspicious of collegiate rules, however reasonable, having regard to other obligations, for the restriction of their number. In this connexion it may be noted that the desire of Mr. Rhodes that the scholars should be generally distributed throughout the University, and not resort in undue numbers to one or more colleges, entirely accords with Oxford aims and wishes as to Indian students. The idea of their participation is understood to have originated with Mr. Burrows, the local adviser there. The creation, with him as secretary, of the Oriental Delegacy, referred to in the last "Supplement," will facilitate action in this direction; since it has provided for the Indian a definite and recognised status. The "domiciled" European and the man of mixed descent—now officially designated "Anglo-Indian"—are "statutory natives" of India, and should be eligible equally with British subjects of unmixed Asiatic descent.

In two important directions the moral effect of the proposed participation would be very valuable. First and foremost, it would strongly appeal to educated sentiment as another and spontaneous step towards the ideal it strongly cherishes of equality of treatment between citizens of the Indian Empire and those of the self-governing Dominions. In the second place, it would help to counteract the short-sighted tendency of Indian educationists to lower the standards, and would stimulate a sense of proportion. We all recall Cecil Rhodes's direction that the scholars were not to be "merely book-worms," but were to be selected partly for literary

and scholastic attainments, partly for fondness of and success in manly outdoor sports, and partly for qualities of manly character and moral force which he enumerated. These requirements will necessitate not only care in selection, but some attention to aspects of true education liable to be lost sight of under the secular Indian system.—*Times*.

Extract from the "Madras Mail", dated the 21st October 1916.

RHODES ESTATES BILL.

Second Reading.

London, October 20.—In the House of Commons on the second reading of the Rhodes Estate Bill providing for the dis-establishment of the German scholarships, Mr. King moved the rejection of the measure, criticising the method of the Trustees for carrying out the object in view. He admitted that reversion to pre-war conditions was impossible.

Colonel Yate suggested that the Trustees should be invited to consider the allocation of one of the proposed forfeited scholarships to India.

Mr. Mackinder, speaking on behalf of the promoters of the measure, said that the House would agree that a long time would elapse before the Germans would again be acceptable at Oxford.

Mr. King subsequently withdrew his opposition to the Bill which was read a second time without division.

Extract from the "Hindu", dated the 22nd October 1916.

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

Amendments adopted.

London, October 20.—During the discussion on the Rhodes Estate Bill last evening, Mr. Mackinder stated that the Trustees proposed to make the scheme apply to portions of the British Empire which had been omitted from Rhodes's original plan. There was nothing in the Bill to prevent the Trustees giving a scholarship to India or establishing scholarships for foreigners including allies eventually. After the Bill had been read a second time an amendment by Lord Hugh Cecil was adopted, empowering the Committee if it should think fit to make those scholarships substituted for German ones available for students within or without the British Empire as the Trustees might determine.

Extract from the "Madras Mail", dated the 27th October 1916.

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

Claims of Indians.

London, October 25.—In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. King, Mr. Roberts announced that Mr. Chamberlain has recently brought the claims of Indians to the notice of the Rhodes Trustees. While he was hopeful that these would be favourably considered he has not asked for nor received assurances that such scholarships for Indians would be established within a definite time if the Rhodes Estate Bill passed.

Extract from the "Hindu", dated the 4th November 1916.

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

Bill in Committee.

London, November 3.—Before the Committee of the Commons on the Rhodes Estate Bill, Counsel explained that the Trustees proposed to abolish the German scholarships and establish instead twelve scholarships of three hundred sterling yearly each tenable by students from colonies, dependencies or places within the Empire. He referred to Lord Hugh Cecil's suggestion which the House had adopted that the scholarships should be available to persons without as well as within the Empire, but said that the Trustees felt that the Empire should have the first claim. Lord Milner, who was one of the Trustees, hoped that the new scholarships would be a going concern next autumn. There would be only four scholarships annually. The Trustees had already fifty applications from educational bodies and it would only cause disappointment if all the world was invited to apply. The Committee decided to accept the view that the scholarships were needed within the Empire and the Bill was accordingly reported without amendment.

Extract from the Proceedings of an Adjourned Meeting of the Council of the Governor of Fort St. George assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament, 5 & 6 Geo. V, Ch. 61.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 24th day of November 1916.

RESOLUTION *RE* REPRESENTATION IN REGARD TO THE CLAIMS OF INDIA FOR THE RHODES' SCHOLARSHIPS FORMERLY GRANTED TO GERMANY.

Resolution No. XXIV was as follows:—

"XXIV. That the Government take the necessary steps to urge on the Trustees of the Rhodes' Scholarships the claims of India to be allotted the scholarships formerly granted to Germany."

The Hon'ble the Rev. G. PITTENDRIGH:—"Your Excellency, so far as the substance of this resolution goes, I believe I should have the support of the whole of the Council. I do not propose however to press the matter for reasons that I shall explain. Members of the Council are doubtless aware that the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes by his will left a very large sum of money for the purpose of founding scholarships to be held at Oxford by students from the Colonies, the United States and Germany. The trustees by legislation have now secured power to allot those given to Germany to dependencies or places within the Empire as the trustees may from time to time determine. They are thus in a position to allot these scholarships to India. Some weeks ago I saw that no fewer than fifty applications for them had already been received by the trustees, and it seemed to me that if India did not urge her claims, and that both speedily and vigorously, other more persistent claimants might supersede us. Now it is a very valuable gift to any land, and it would be a specially valuable one to India—twelve scholarships of three hundred pounds a year for three years, and India has a right to very special consideration not because of what she has done in the war, but because of what she is, because of her place in the Empire. Apart from that general consideration I felt that an effort should be made to secure the scholarships for the sake of many most excellent students who long to complete their studies at an English University but are debarred by want of means. With certain brilliant exceptions it is not our best men that go to England to study. Reasons such as these led me to take action. However, I find there is a technical difficulty. It is a matter for the Supreme Legislative Council and for the Government of India rather than for a Provincial Council, and further since this resolution has accepted, it has been announced that the Secretary of State for India has already moved the trustees in behalf of India. It seems therefore less necessary on that account to press this matter. I therefore withdraw the resolution."

With the permission of His Excellency the President, the resolution was withdrawn.

R. A. GRAHAM,
Acting Secretary to Govt., L. & M. (Legislative) Dept.

House (Est.) Dept.

The Secretary of State for India is reported to have already moved the Rhodes trustees in behalf of India (Vide the concluding portion of the honorable Mr Pittendridge's speech on page 5 ante). No further action seems to be necessary. The papers may it is submitted be

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