

*Home* (1918) Department.  
*Education*

*Ordinary* SERIES.

G.O. No. 74

DATED 21. 1. 18

INDEXED

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Madanapalle college.

Recording notes on the points raised in an article in 'New India' dated the 21st November 1917 regarding G.O.No. 558, dated the 1st May 1917, and those on the activities of the Professors and students of the ———

Home (Edy)

DEPARTMENT.

# CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper - New India
2. Published at - Madras
3. Dated - November 21, 1917.

## G. O. 559

THE PRESIDENCY OF MADRAS, IN WHICH there were no serious troubles regarding the students, was suddenly, last spring, thrown into a turmoil, by the issue of the now famous G. O. 559, which deprived College students of the right they had enjoyed since English education began here, a right which was confirmed by the Risleigh Circular, of attending political meetings. The Order was published and enforced by the Police at the Provincial Congress at Cuddalore, all the Student Volunteers, who were engaged in serving the delegates, being swept away.

It was holiday time, so the blow was unexpected, and as very many of the delegates were the fathers, guardians and elder brothers of the young Volunteers—who for very many years have thus been trained to serve their elders—a good deal of vexation was expressed. So much discussion arose in the Presidency that H. R. the Governor called a Conference of the heads of institutions, and the result of the sharp criticism offered, even by these, and the complaints of some as to the ill effect the Order would have on the relations of teachers and students, was that the matter was left to the discretion of the Principals, and, with this sensible conclusion, we all hoped that things would go smoothly.

But while institutions in Madras were left free, and the students continued to attend lectures, a different policy was adopted towards the schools managed by the Theosophical Trust, doubtless in pursuance of the policy that an end was to be put to all Mrs. Annie Besant's activities.

In answer to a letter from the Director of Public Instruction to Madanapalle, enquiring what steps were being taken to enforce the Order, M. A. Besant, then interned, wrote, as President of the Trust to which the School and College belonged, that she regarded the G. O. as an interference with the parents' and guardians' duties towards their boys, and she could give no promise. This was in July. No further step was then taken. But suddenly, on November 6th, the Director wrote that the recognition of the School will be withdrawn from January 1st, 1918, and no grants given to any schools under the Trust. This action is within the rights of the Department, and we do not complain. If we want freedom from Government rules, we must not take Government money, even though that money comes from ourselves. Further,

the Department cancels the purchase of a building and land, at a price which had been fixed by their Superintendent Engineer; this also is possibly within their right. But since they knew the position of the institution in July last, it is not fair to have done nothing until now, so that boys who have been studying since July, are suddenly deprived of the right to appear at their examination, within three months of its date. Such action cannot be morally justified. It should have been taken at the beginning or at the end of the school year.

Fortunately Mrs. Besant stated publicly that students reading in the institution should know that recognition and affiliation might be withdrawn. But that does not make the action of the Department less unfair.

The School and College at Madanapalle have become the centre of the life of the town; the Masters and Professors give historical and literary lectures which are much enjoyed; the boys have started four or five schools in the neighbouring villages and give their leisure to helping the children of the poor; they also help with a magic lantern in village lectures; the Boy Scouts are praised by the police of the town, and in several fires have rendered great service, in one case a Scout Master dashed into a burning house and saved a child who was left there. The Scouts and Cadets were of the greatest use in Madras in the great crowd which welcomed Mrs. Besant. But this good and useful work has not injured study, for the school came out exceptionally well in last year's examination. It is admittedly one of the best schools in the Province for study, discipline and good manners. And the boys and young men are happy, the best relations existing between teachers and taught.

The Director demands that we shall change our Principal and make changes in the staff, who have brought about such admirable results, because we do not obey an order which is disregarded all over the Presidency, and which was left by H. R. the Governor to the discretion of the Principals.

On the whole, we cannot regret their action, for Indians must be free from Government control in Education, if it is not to continue on the present lines; we want more scientists, more wealth-producers, more captains of industry, and we prefer to attract boys who will help in creating prosperity for the country, instead of swelling the ranks and driving down the wages of the overcrowded profession of Govern-

G.O. 1996-526  
11-10-17

## DEPARTMENT.

## CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper—

2. Published at—

3. Dated—

ment clerks. We had therefore decided to notify the Department, at the end of the school year, that we did not desire to remain under it. But, it is probably better for us that they have taken the initiative. We wish they had chosen a better time, for the sake of the boys. But, on the other hand, the action is useful just now as an object-lesson, as it will help Mr. Montagu to understand one of the reasons for which we want Home Rule, and why it is necessary that Legislative Councils should have some real power over the Executives.

Six members of the Legislative Council put down resolutions against the Order, but they were all withdrawn on their being told by H. E. the Governor that he would do the best he could. His Excellency is Chancellor of the University, and has the Education portfolio in his own hands, so that he has all power in his hands. It is sad that the Madras Government shows no sign of wishing to make the calm atmosphere that we were all exhorted to create and maintain. The students at Palghat are left unhelped, and all through the Presidency the student population is in sympathy with them. It is clear that all patriots must help the National Board of Education in which alone our hope must rest. The action of the Madras Government will lend a stimulus to its useful work.

(H. refers to the subject in L.M.)

PTO



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
Madras,

23rd November 1917

My dear Ramachandra Rao,

Will you please refer to the article

on G.O. 559 in the issue of the 'New India' of Nov. 21.

His Excellency would like to have a note showing the facts as to the activities of the professors and boys etc. etc. in and about Madanapalle to which the article refers, and also wishes that the other points raised in the article should be examined.

Yours sincerely,

*K. M. S.*

The Hon'ble

Diwan Bahadur R. Ramachandra Rao Aml.,

Secretary to Government, Home Dept.,

Fort St. George.

Home (Est) Department.

Please see the Cuttings from the New India on page 1 and 2 and the P.S.G's d.o. on page 3 ante.

2. As regards the portion marked (1) in the cutting about the conference of Principals at which the effect of G.O. no. 559 of the 1-5-17 was discussed affd. (C) is solicited to para. 6 of the proceedings of the Conference at Ship (P). H.E. the Governor then said that - for its enforcement the Govt. looked with confidence to the Principals of colleges, recognizing that the practical ~~working~~ <sup>working</sup> of the order for which rigid rules are not at present appropriate, must be left to experience". H.E.'s statement does not warrant the presumption of the New India that the enforcement of the G.O. was left to the discretion of Principal. Please see in this connection question no. 69 asked at the meeting of the leg. Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1917 and the answer given thereto.

3. The Director's letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1917 referred to at (2) in the cutting about the withdrawal of recognition of the school <sup>or discontinuance of grants & funds</sup> is in accordance with the recent decision of Govt. - vide

(T) paras 12 of G.O. no. 1296 of the 12-10-17.

4. The statement at (3) in the cutting is mistaken <sup>and incorrect</sup> inasmuch as it leads one to believe that the Govt. had once sold the land & building to the school authorities but that they have now

Cancelled

NOTES.

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(P.W.D. Gov. not available)

Cancelled the sale. As a matter of fact there was no sale. In 1895 the Govt. leased the land & building to the school authorities for a period of 20 years. On the expiry of that period in January 1915 they decided to renew the lease for another 20 years. The renewal deed has, however, not yet been registered as the school authorities failed to comply with certain suggestions of the Registration Department. It is proposed to postpone further action in the matter. The land and buildings ~~will be resumed~~ <sup>will be resumed</sup> ~~if the recognition of the school is withdrawn~~ <sup>if the recognition of the school is withdrawn</sup>. Cf. para 3 of Govt. No. 12968, 12.10.17.

An application has, however, been received by the Govt. in the P.W.D. from the authorities of the Madanappalle college offering to purchase the building. The Superintendent Engineer has valued the building and recommended the adoption of his valuation. This department has suggested in that file also that ~~the application should not be considered for the future~~ <sup>the application should not be considered for the future</sup>.

5. With regard to (4) in the cutting, it is submitted that the Director's demand for changes in the staff of the school is also in accordance with the decision of Govt. The original of Govt. No. 12968, 12.10.17 which contains the discussions on the subject, as well as information about the activities of the professors and students of the Madanappalle college, and other papers bearing

hearing on the subject are now in the Pub (War) Department. These notes may be forwarded to that department with the request that the file may be completed and submitted to H. E. the Governor with reference to the P.S.G. 100 on page 3. The question as to which of the members of the staff participated in undesirable political activities. To <sup>29. 11. 17</sup> ~~be considered in Political Section~~ <sup>29. 11. 17</sup> under reference to "Public." After the selection had been made by the Govt., the D.P.I. would have to communicate the names to the Govt. and Authorize Govt. removal of those persons from the staff. The removal of the President has already been decided upon.

⑥ One other point brought forward prominently in the Article is that, though Mrs. Besant's refusal to give an undertaking to carry out the order in fo. no 559, 8/5/17, had been given in July, no action was taken until November 1917 and that the order might have been issued in July alone, saving the students from the difficulty of losing a full year's course in the school. This presumes that the order of the Govt. was solely based on Mrs. Besant's letter refused to above. Apparently

no such drastic action seemed to have been contemplated on Mr. Besant's letter. Subsequent reports of the active participation of students in political activities brought about the fo. (no 1296 Es. & 12.10.17) & these <sup>included</sup> ~~constituted~~ the Inspector report & Mr. Pattabhirama Rao's letter to the Col. Mr. Nathan having come to a head in Madanapalle & elsewhere, it was thought necessary to take ~~any~~ drastic measures, and the date 1<sup>st</sup> January 1918. was the earliest date which would cause the minimum of disturbance to students' course, seeing that it is the date of reopening of the institution after a vacation & is the beginning of a school term.

CA  
30/11/17

Most of the facts in connection with which comments are made are already within H.E.'s knowledge.

The P.S.G.'s D.O. wants information about the activities of the professors and boys; see extract sidelined A. Has D.P.I. any information?

Re portion marked B, as it will take time to pass final orders,

2 suggested by the D.P.I.  
himself (?)

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is it advisable to extend the concession period to the end of the school year?

D. P. I. (17)

30/11/17

4/17 23.12.17

I think it may wait till I have had reply from Ludlow which I expect soon. I shall see that whatever happens the boys are not prevented from taking the H.C. & I will ensure that they should be. E.C. 3141 is mentioned to minimise delay in settling the matter.

3.12.17

Submitted for orders whether the file may be submitted to H. E. or whether it may await the communication promised in the Director's note.

The case may be sent to H. E.

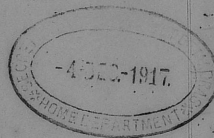
4.12.17

4.12.17

Regarding the activities, the further report promised will be submitted on receipt.

3/12/17

5.12.17



Confidential  
(Note above)

3557a-1  
30/11

NOTES.

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Submitted that the file may lie over pending receipt of the further report promised by Mr. S.P. in his note on the previous page.

7.12.17.  
Te  
8/17

Ca  
u. 2/17



CONFIDENTIAL.

D.O.No. 30 /1917.

The Old College, .

20th Dec. 1917.

My dear Diwan Bahadur,

I have been waiting to hear from the Theosophical Trust about the withdrawal of recognition from the Madanapalle High School and the Correspondent has promised me a letter on the subject from Mrs. Besant. If the existing order stands I am afraid a good many pupils will leave the school after the Christmas holidays and a good deal of dislocation of educational machinery will result. I propose therefore to do what was suggested in a file I said U. O. some time ago, i.e., postpone the date to April 15, 1918. I shall issue a Proceedings to that effect unless I hear from you that Government disapproves of my doing so in the course of to-morrow.

Yours sincerely,

*L. S. S. S.*

To

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. Ramachandra Rao Ayl.,  
Secretary to Govt. Home (Idn.) Dept.,  
Fort Saint George, Madras.

p. 9 ante

See Hanni official dated 20 Dec since received. I had a talk with Mr Davidson + Mr Stone.

Mr Resauk has replied + Mr Stone intends to withdraw recognition for 1 January. Regarding the boys, Mr Stone proposes to notify that in the case of the boys in the Madanapalle High School <sup>on the 31 Dec 1917,</sup> absence from a recognised school from 1 Jan to the end of the first term in 1917 will be condoned. It will be left to the boys to seek attendance elsewhere or to be quiet or to attend Madanapalle itself. The exact wording of the notification will be settled by the D. P. I. who is competent to pass orders. He does not require formal orders on the D. O.

For information Muy  
21/12/17

HE



I am back since Mr Brank's reply referred to in the Secretary's note is. It does not appear to be on the file. Let him  
/s/ 22/12/17

## NOTES.

Page 11

No. It is not on the file.  
 Mr. Stone had just received the reply  
 + will submit it in due course in  
 connection with the main file

May  
 23/12/17

P.S.

Returned with Mr. Stone  
 14/12/17  
 (P.S.) 23/12/17



The report of the S.P.D. as to the result of  
 the action taken by him in accordance with his  
 d.o. on page 9 auto may be awaited.

P.D.

3-1-18

See  
 1st 18

This file may be closed. ~~any~~  
 report which Mr. Stone may  
 submit on Mr. Beant's reply  
 may go into the main file.

At  
 5/1/18  
 den

Revised

A report on 'further activities' is not due.  
 S.P.D. may see the file May 7/1/18

S.P.D. (no)

Home (no)  
 103557A-2  
 7-1-18.

NOTES.

Class of 1884 10.1.18

As regards the withdrawal of recognition no further action is at present necessary. I shall in due course submit proposals for the provision of a secondary school for Walsingham. I think it may be taken that the Massachusetts

St. Trust has no desire to have any educational institutions there under local inspection and control.

I spoke to Mr. Galleney about the measures mentioned in 1884 letter and understood that Mr. Galleney did not wish further reference to be made to Walsingham for interests of ship and students.

10.1.18.

Home (200) Department.

These papers may be order 10.7/4 of the 21.1.18. This. Recorded after passing

to the Public Dept. CR 10.1.18

CR 15.1.18 Chief Clerk for personal

17/1/18

Pub.

15/18

See Home (200) 10



Serial 3557A-3 18.1.18



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191

READ AGAIN G.O. No.  
191

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTS

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