

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 521, 23rd April 1918

Precis-writing Test

tion of the — as a qualifying test for appointments in the Public Service.

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Precis-writing Test

Directing the abolition of the — as a qualifying test for appointments in the Public Service.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated 13th September 1916.

ABSTRACT.—Inviting the views of the Board of Revenue and other heads of departments on certain proposals for the amendment of the rules embodied in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on certain proposals made by the Board of Revenue and other heads of departments with reference to G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated the 13th September 1916, relating to the amendment of the rules in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

II

Official Memorandum No. 2473-1, Financial (Separate Revenue), dated 10th October 1917.

With reference to the correspondence ending with its Proceedings R. No. 537, Salt, dated the 19th February 1917, and paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, the Board of Revenue is requested to examine and report (1) whether any of the *departmental* tests now prescribed for the officers of the Salt and Abkari Departments might be simplified or abolished and (2) for which of the appointments they should be prescribed.

(By order)

R. H. COURTENAY,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

III

Official Memorandum No. 1977-1, Public (Political), dated 12th October 1917.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, communicated to him with Endorsement No. 1663-1, Public, (Political), dated the 29th idem, the Resident in Travancore and Cochin is requested to report whether the account test prescribed as a qualifying test required for the posts of the manager and treasury officer and the head accountant in his office may be abolished, as the working of the treasury has been taken over by the Bank of Madras.

(By order)

R. H. COURTENAY,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

IV

Letter—from H. L. BRAIDWOOD, Esq., I.C.S., Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

To—the Chief Secretary to Government.

Dated—Trivandrum, the 28th October 1917.

No.—R.O.C. 2937.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 1977-1, Public (Political), dated 12th October 1917, I have the honour to inform you that I am of opinion that the account test should certainly be continued as a qualifying test for the post of treasury officer and head accountant of the Resident's treasury.

Though the working of the treasury has been transferred to the Branch Bank of Madras, Trivandrum, that has not divested my treasury officer and the head accountant of the responsibility for the correct preparation and compilation of the numerous accounts and returns prescribed by the Civil Account Code and the Madras Treasury Manual. The bank is merely the custodian of the cash and notes and does not receive or pay money without a written order from my treasury officer. The examination of claims presented at the treasury is exclusively the work of my treasury officer and the head accountant, and without a good knowledge of the rules of the Civil Service Regulations, the Account Code and the Treasury Manual, it would be impossible for them to do the work satisfactorily.

V

Reference from the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue),
No. Gt. R. 418/Salt, dated 7th November 1917.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. G. TODDUNTER, I.C.S.,

Acting Third Member, Board of Revenue, and Commissioner of Salt, Atkari and Separate Revenue.

In reply to Government Memorandum No. 2473-1, Financial (Separate Revenue) Department, dated 10th October 1917, the Board begs to submit that after a careful examination of the question in consultation with Deputy Commissioners it came to the conclusion that no change can be made with advantage in the tests prescribed for officers of the Salt, Atkari and Customs Department.

E. GRAHAM,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial (Separate Revenue) Department.

VI

G.O. No. 1492, Home (Education), dated 26th November 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Directing that it is no longer necessary to prescribe any of the special tests for any office or appointment in the Police Department and requesting the Commissioner for Government Examinations to submit a draft of the necessary alterations in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

G.O. No. 1093, Revenue, dated 19th March 1918.

ABSTRACT.—Directing the abolition of the Translation Test (Lower Grade) and the Précis-writing test in respect of certain appointments in the Revenue Department and passing orders on the question of simplification of certain Special tests relating to the Survey and Settlement Departments.

Order—No. 521, Home (Education), dated 23rd April 1918.

The suitability of the special tests prescribed for the various appointments in the Public Service has been recently under examination by the Government, and the question was considered whether a pass in the Précis-writing test is in any way an essential qualification for any of the appointments.

In G.Os. No. 1492, Home (Education), dated the 26th November 1917, and No. 1093, Revenue, dated the 19th March 1918, the Government directed that the Précis-writing test would cease to be a qualifying test for ministerial appointments in the Police Department and in respect of Deputy Collectors and uncovenanted assistants of the Board of Revenue. On further consideration the Government are of opinion that the test is also unnecessary in the case of the other appointments in the Public Service for which it has been prescribed. The Précis-writing test will accordingly be expunged altogether from the schedule of special tests.

2. The Commissioner for Government Examinations is requested to submit a draft of the consequential alterations in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner for Government Examinations.
" Revenue Department.
" Home (Official) Department.
" Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Public Department.
" Financial Department.
" Public Works Department.

Editors' Table.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 521, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 23RD APRIL 1918

[SUBJECT.—Revision of the Public Service and Special Test notifications.]

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The following points require further examination:—

- * Dealt with on page 3 infra.
- † Dealt with on pages 2-3 infra.
- ‡ (1) Article 3, Public Service notification.—Prescription of tests for special appointments—cf. also schedule to "Special Test examinations."
- (2) Article 4.—Powers of exemption.
- † (3) Simplification of Special Test examinations.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—6-8-17.

Please see paragraph 3 on page 14 of notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The points still for consideration are dealt with below:—

(a) Attention is solicited to clause (b) of paragraph 2 on page 3 of the notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, in which it is suggested that the new rule requiring the incumbents of posts on Rs. 20 to possess a completed secondary school-leaving certificate should not have retrospective effect—cf. also Mr. Ellis's note on page 8 of the same notes. This proposal is only reasonable and may be approved. If so, a note may be subjoined to that effect in article 1 of the revised notification called for from the Commissioner for Government Examinations in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 1021, dated the 6th August 1917.

(b) Again in clause (c) on page 3 of the notes, the Superintendent, Government Museum, considers it inexpedient to extend this new rule to posts on an incremental pay with a maximum of Rs. 20. This proposal may also be accepted and a second note be similarly subjoined.

(c) Orders have also to be passed in regard to the eligibility of Middle school first-class men to appear for the special tests—vide page 9 of the note to the Government Order—cf. also the Legislative Council question and answer recorded in G.O. No. 229, Home (Education), dated 22nd February 1917.

2. Powers of exemption (article 4 of the Public Service notification).—The present powers of exemption possessed by the Government, the heads of departments and other officers are enumerated in article 4 of the notification. The Secretary has directed that they should be considered and overhauled in consultation with the several officers concerned. The Superintending Engineer, V Circle, proposes to exempt Bellary, Anantapur and Ganjam from the operation of the new rule insisting upon the possession of a secondary school-leaving certificate for posts on Rs. 20 per mensem. The Inspector-General of Police also suggests that the rule should not be made applicable to the Ceded Districts (paragraph 3 on page 4 of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1916). Again the Board of Revenue recommends that Collectors may be empowered to exempt unpassed men to posts up to Rs. 30 provided passed men are not available. Further the views of the Public Works Department are given in Mr. Molesworth's note on page 8 of the notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917. Extracts of this paragraph together with a copy of the notes to the Government Order may be sent un-officially to the departments of the Secretariat with the request to state whether they agree to be above suggestions. They may also be requested to consult their heads of departments if necessary to see whether any further changes are required in the existing rules regarding powers of exemption.

3. Attention is also solicited to the Secretary's note, dated the 18th June 1917, on page 9 of the notes to the Government order in which he stated that he would separately note upon the question of securing for the higher posts persons with higher educational qualifications. Please see in this connexion Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar's note in paragraph 2 on page 9 and Sir Alexander Cardew's note on page 12 of the notes to G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated the 13th September 1916.

As this particular point has not been referred to by the Honourable Member, it may be dropped for the present.
R.R.—13-9-17.

E.A.V.—4-9-17.
T.K.—5-9-17.

Special tests.

Already received?
R.R.
Presumably the proceedings on pages 39-41 of G.O. 1021, Home (Education), 6th August 1917.

This subject arose at the Collectors' Conference as an outcrop from subject No. 12. Apparently a resolution from the Board of Revenue is on its way, and the report of the sub-committee of the Conference has also to be dealt with.

I should like the file noted on *briefly* and circulated to me at an early date. It should not be buried in office notes.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—26-8-17.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Printed on pages 2 to 6 of the notes to G.O. 1492, Home (Education), 26th November 1917.

Copies of note on the discussion and the recommendation of the sub-committee are attached.

F. J. RICHARDS—28-8-17.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Treat as urgent.

Deal separately with—

- (1) Nature of special tests: subjects, etc.
- (2) Qualifying tests—article 3 of the Public Service Notification.
- (3) Sub-committee's report.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—29-8-17.

The simplification of special tests is one of the subjects which were left over for separate consideration when general orders regarding the Public Service and Special tests notifications were passed—cf. paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917.

2. The points referred to by the Secretary above are dealt with below:—

(1) *Nature of Special tests, subjects, etc.*—Article 1 of the Special test notification gives a list of the Special tests prescribed for the several offices, and article 5 deals with the scope of the examination in each of these subjects. The schedule appended to the notification gives the offices or appointments in the public service for which they have been from time to time prescribed by the Government. Recently the opinion has been expressed that some of the existing tests are unnecessarily elaborate and that the number of appointments for which others are prescribed might safely be curtailed (paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated 13th September 1916). The remarks of heads of departments who were consulted on the point will be found summarised on pages 10-11 of the notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917. Of these the following are in the direction of simplifying the tests:—

(a) *General.*—It was stated by Mr. Young, the Superintendent of Stationery, that greater importance should be assigned to the papers that have to be answered with the aid of books which might be made longer than the papers

“without books” and allotted twice the marks. Mr. Schmidt however would allow candidates to use books throughout in answering question papers. It is for consideration whether Mr. Schmidt's suggestion may be approved.

(b) *Criminal Judicial test.*—Mr. Innes, the Second Presidency Magistrate, and the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, would take away Medical Jurisprudence from the list of subjects for the Criminal Judicial test. There seems no objection to the acceptance of this suggestion.

(c) *Revenue test.*—The Second Presidency Magistrate thought that it was unnecessary to set a separate paper on the stamp, income-tax and excise manual for the Revenue test, but that the Acts embodied in those manuals might be included in the list of Revenue Acts and Regulations prescribed for that test. That officer also recommended the omission of the special Funds Code and the Manuals of Village and Taluk Accounts from the list of subjects for the Revenue test. If this is agreed to, there will be only two main subjects of examination, viz., Revenue Acts and Regulations and the Board's Standing Orders, for the Revenue test as against the present seven subjects.

Orders are requested whether the above suggestion will be approved.

(d) *Pricing-writing test.*—There is a general consensus of opinion that this test may be abolished altogether. It is for orders whether the Government will agree to this proposal.

(2) *Qualifying tests (Article 3 of the Public Service Notification).*—On page 11 of the Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, the Secretary observed as follows:—

“Article 3 of the Public Service Notification which prescribes qualifying tests is a voluminous article and I think ought to be considered and overhauled in consultation with the offices concerned.”

It may be noted that the opinions of heads of departments on this question have already been obtained and these will be found summarised on pages 10-11 of the notes to the above Government Order. It is for consideration whether it will suffice if relevant extracts of such opinions are taken and forwarded to the administrative departments concerned separately for remarks. In that case a separate u.o. note and a tabular form exhibiting the points at issue and the opinions of heads of departments thereon will be prepared and submitted for approval.

(3) *Sub-committee's report.*—In the sub-committee's report, two alternative schemes are put forward—(i) complete abolition of the Special tests and the substitution in their place of special periods of training in various branches of administrative work to be given to selected men, these periods being followed by probationary periods of actual service during which the men's work would be specially watched. The Hon'ble Sir Robert Clegg has also appended a note indicating several serious practical objections to the above scheme and the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew seems also very reluctant to adopt it. It does not therefore seem necessary to proceed with the further examination of this point and refer it to the Board of Revenue for their remarks. Further this scheme is defective since it does not take into consideration the requirements of departments other than the Revenue Department.

The alternative scheme, viz., the one for the simplification of special tests and the reduction of their scope, appears to commend itself to the Hon'ble Sir Robert Clegg and the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew. A few suggestions in this direction have been dealt with in paragraph 2 (1) ante. It is for consideration whether the suggestion in paragraph 13 of the note by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes may be communicated to the Board of Revenue and they be asked to submit a revised syllabus for the Revenue and the Criminal Judicial tests. The syllabus for the remaining tests hardly calls for any change.

E.A.V.—3-9-17.

T.K.—5-9-17.

PUBLIC (ECCLIASTICAL) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Home Department Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, at the top of page 4 supra. The proposals regarding simplification of special

* Pay from Rs. 50 to Rs. 12.

tests do not affect this department as no tests are prescribed for clerical posts * in

the offices of the Bishop, the Archdeacon and the Presidency Senior Chaplain, Church of Scotland. With these remarks the file may be returned to Home (Education).

V.P.E.M.—8-10-17.

A.J.J.—10-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—11-10-17.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL (LEGISLATIVE) DEPARTMENT.

Please see Home (Education) Registrar's note on page 4 ante.

Point (1).—This department is concerned only with the Translation (Higher) and the Translation (Lower) tests which are prescribed as the qualifying tests for the posts of munshi and first clerk, respectively, in the offices of the Translators to Government—vide paragraph 57 of the "Abstract of the rules relating to Public Service Examination" and table on page 73 of the pamphlet.

The examinations comprise

(i) the translation of an official paper from English into the candidate's vernacular language and

(ii) the translation of an official paper from the candidate's vernacular language into English,

and have been prescribed for the posts in question even long before the Translators' department was reorganized in 1910. As these examinations serve "to test the ability of the candidate to translate accurately and rapidly" (page 79 of the pamphlet) it does not seem to be expedient to abolish these tests so far as the posts of munshi

I agree.

V.T.K.—13-10-17.

R.A.G.—18-10-17.

and first clerk are concerned; nor do they appear to admit of any simplification.

Point (2).—The only post in the Translators' department for which no special test is prescribed is that of the second clerk (pay Rs. 25—3—40). The minimum general education qualification required for this post is the possession of a completed school-leaving certificate (G.O. No. 42, Legislative, dated 7th March 1914). As the duties of the second clerk are, however, mainly of the mechanical order, such as

V.T.K.—13-10-17.

We cannot take in men without any education at all.

R.A.G.—18-10-17.

maintaining registers, correcting proofs, arranging office records, etc. (cf. notes on page 1 of G.O. No. 42, Legislative, dated 9th March 1914), no special test need, it is submitted, be now prescribed for this post.

Point (3).—The Senior Translator does not exercise any powers of exemption from the examination rules. All cases of exemption are to be referred to and dealt

V.T.K.—13-10-17.

with by the Secretary to Government, Legislative Department. No modification in regard to this matter is called for.

C.S.—6-10-17.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

The only officer under the administrative control of this department is the Sanitary Commissioner. No tests included in the Public Service notification have been prescribed for any of the establishments employed under him. So far as the Secretariat is concerned, clerks on Rs. 75 and upwards in Local and Municipal are

So far as Special tests and the orders regulating their prescription are concerned, Educational collate them and issue the orders in respect of them. The initial examination of the question of the desirability of prescribing Special tests or simplifying them is made in the administrative departments. It is therefore submitted

R.R.—13-9-17.

that the papers may be circulated to the

will consider (1) which of the Special tests should be simplified or abolished, (2) to which of the appointments under them the special tests should be prescribed, (3) whether the powers of exemption exercised by the officers under them should be modified and if so why. The question of substituting special training and probation for special tests proposed by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes relates chiefly to appoint-

I agree, and probably after the Collectors' Conference report is received.

R.R.—13-9-17.

ments under the Revenue Department and has therefore primarily to be considered in that department. It is doubtful whether Educational can further examine the questions at this stage.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—12-9-17.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL (MEDICAL) DEPARTMENT.

No Special tests have been prescribed for appointments in the Medical department—vide schedule to the Special Test Notification. The Home (Education) Department may therefore, it is submitted, be informed that this department has no remarks to offer on the points raised in that department note at A above.

V.V.—29-9-17.

V.S.—1-10-17.

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARI—2-10-17.

PUBLIC (MARINE) DEPARTMENT.

Please see at A in Home (Education) Registrar's note above in which several points for consideration are given.

Points (1) and (2).—Which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished; to which of the appointments the Special tests should be prescribed.—In the Presidency Port office the manager, the head clerk and second clerk are required to pass the Accounts test examination—vide under 'Marine Department' on page 74 of Abstract of Rules relating to Public Service Examination in the Madras Presidency. The Presidency Port Officer has already expressed the opinion that the number of

* Paragraph 4 of the Presidency Port Officer's letter on page 12 of G.O. 1021, Home (Education), 6th August 1917.

† The candidates have been permitted to answer papers with the aid of books and their indexes.

of any further simplification. There seems no necessity to call for any remarks from the Presidency Port Officer in this respect. For orders.

Point (3).—Whether the powers of exemption exercised by officers should be modified and if so why.—The Presidency Port Officer has been authorized to sanction exemption from the provisions of article 1 of the Public Service Notification (viz., with regard to general educational qualification), provided that bona fide efforts have been made without success to obtain passed candidates, but not in respect of Special test examinations—vide articles 4 and 5 of the Public Service Notification. It is submitted that no modification seems required to the existing orders.

2. The file may be returned to Home (Education) u.o.

S.D.S.—8-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—10-10-17.

required to pass the Account test (page 6 of the Public Service Notification). Submitted that a pass in this test has been found useful as evidencing a knowledge of the Account Code and the Civil Service Regulations which is necessary for dealing with many of the papers coming up for disposal. Submitted that there is no necessity to simplify or abolish this test, or to prescribe that or any other test to any of the remaining appointments in this Secretariat. The power of granting exemption from passing the Account test rests with Government (Home Department) and no change seems necessary in this regard.

N. CHENGAL RAO—11-10-17.

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARI—13-10-17.

R. A. GRAHAM—13-10-17.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

As this department is not concerned with the questions raised in the preceding notes, the Home Department may be informed that this department has no remarks to offer.

A.H.—20-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—22-10-17.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

The following are the appointments with which this department is concerned for which special tests have been prescribed:—

Assistants to the Hindustani Translator to Government—Translation test, higher grade.

Clerks in the office of His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Pondicherry and Karikal—Account test.

The simplification of the Translation test does not appear to be contemplated. No remarks are therefore required on this point. As regards the Account test, it will be observed that Mr. Legh has suggested the abolition of the test. Submitted that this test has been prescribed mostly for officers of the Revenue and Judicial Departments. In case they consider that the test may be abolished, this department need raise no objection to their decision. With these remarks the file may be returned u.o. to Home (Education).

T.C.N.—9-10-17.

P.D.R.—10-10-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—10-10-17.

Please note how far the Account test, if retained, is necessary for the clerks in the Consulate office. Is it necessary for all the clerks there?

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—11-10-17.

Submitted that excluding the temporary clerk on Rs. 15 per mensem recently sanctioned for a year, there are only two clerks in the office of His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Pondicherry and Karikal, one on Rs. 30—2—50 at Karikal and another on Rs. 50—2—70 at Pondicherry. The reasons for prescribing the Account test for these clerks will be found in General McLeod's letter No. 28, dated the 21st February 1894, at page 1 of G.O. No. 317, Educational, dated the 9th May 1894. Submitted that these reasons would appear to hold good even now. If however other departments decide that the Account test may be abolished on the ground that it is only an examination on paper and of very little practical value, no objection need be taken in this department to their decision.

T.C.N.—19-10-17.

P.D.R.—22-10-17.

The conditions noted by General McLeod in 1894 have not altered presumably. It is still necessary to test a clerk's knowledge for account work. It is difficult to see how this can be done better than by the present system. Mr. Legh has not offered any suggestions.

HILTON BROWN—25-10-17.

Whatever be the future of the test itself, I think that the quantity of work in the Consul's office is not such as to justify the prescription of the test. With a little experience the clerk will learn all he need know. Better abolish the test as a qualification for the posts.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—26-10-17.

HOME (JUDICIAL) DEPARTMENT. (B SECTION).

Please see the preceding notes, especially the Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 4 ante. The points for consideration are—

(a) which of the Special tests should be simplified or abolished;

(b) to which of the appointments under Judicial the special tests should be prescribed; and

(c) whether the powers of exemption now exercised by the officers should be modified and, if so, why.

For particulars of appointments for which special tests have been prescribed, reference is invited to the portions marked in the schedules appended to the 'Special tests and Public Service Notifications.'

2. From paragraphs 4 and 6 of G.O. No. 969 (Educational), dated the 13th September 1916, it will be seen that items (a) and (b) referred to above are matters upon which the opinions of the various heads of departments have already been invited. The opinions thus received are summarized below against each of the three items referred to in paragraph 1 ante.

Item (a).—The High Court, the Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes, the Administrator-General and Official Trustee, the Government Pleader, the Public Prosecutor, the Crown Prosecutor and the Sheriff of Madras have not offered any suggestions as regards the nature of the special tests themselves. The Second Presidency Magistrate alone is of opinion

I am not in favour of this.

K.R.—30-10-17.

that Medical Jurisprudence might be omitted from the subjects prescribed for

the Criminal Judicial test, but this has not been endorsed by the Chief Presidency Magistrate (vide paragraph 4 of the Second Presidency Magistrate's letter printed on page 9 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917). The Chief Justice and Bakewell, J., are in favour of the retention of the Préis-writing test, whereas Sadasiva Ayyar, Napier, Kumaraswami Sastri and Srinivasa Ayyangar, JJ., are for its total abolition; Spencer and Seshagiri Ayyar, JJ., for its abolition in the case of Judicial officers and Oldfield, J., in the case of executive officers only. Home (Education) will doubtless decide the matter with reference to the opinions received from other heads of departments—vide minutes printed at pages 38 and 39 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

Item (b).—So far as his office is concerned, the Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes, has put forward the following suggestions:—

(1) that the Translation test, higher grade, in both Tamil and Telugu prescribed for the Translators and Interpreters of his court may well be altered into the higher grade in one language (Tamil or Telugu) and lower grade in the other,

(2) that the Translation test prescribed for the record-keeper may be done away with—paragraphs 5 and 6 of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1917,

(3) that the head accountant of his court who has been omitted in the Special Test Notification might be required to pass Account test, as laid down in paragraph 5 of G.O. No. 211, Judicial, dated the 6th February 1908, and

(4) that for the Persian and Hindustani Interpreter, Translation test, Higher grade, in Hindustani may be prescribed.

It is for consideration whether the above suggestions may be approved.

The Chief Presidency Magistrate considers that the Précis-writing test may be abolished from the tests prescribed for the chief clerk's place in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, and that a colloquial test in Hindustani may be prescribed for the posts of interpreters in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts—vide paper marked XIX on page 9 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. These suggestions may, it is submitted, be commended for the consideration of Educational.

[The Second Presidency Magistrate alone has suggested that the Criminal Judicial test, higher grade, may be altogether dispensed with in the case of accountants in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, as their work does not require any knowledge of Criminal Law, and that the Translation test may likewise be done away with in the case of the chief clerks in view of the existence of two duly qualified interpreters in each court—vide paragraph 4 of his letter, dated 6th November 1916, printed on page 9 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The Fourth Presidency Magistrate states that, if possible, the chief clerks might also be qualified in the Revenue tests, so as to be eligible for appointment as sub-magistrates—vide paragraph 6 of his letter, dated 17th November 1916, on page 10 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The Chief Presidency Magistrate, however, has not supported the above suggestions which therefore do not require, it is submitted, any consideration.]

The Government Pleader has pointed out that under the existing rules Indian barristers who are not graduates are disqualified from appearing for the Précis-writing test and hence for appointment as District Munsif or Subordinate Judge and that, as this is inconvenient to Indian barristers and to the public service, the test should be thrown open to the former. The decision to be come to on the Government Pleader's suggestion will doubtless depend upon whether the test itself will be retained or abolished—vide notes under item (a) above.

The High Court, the Administrator-General and Official Trustee and other heads have not suggested any changes in respect of the tests already prescribed for the appointments under them. Presumably they have no changes to propose.

Item (c).—So far as Judicial (B) Section is concerned, the High Court and District Judges alone exercise certain powers of exemption and these are particularized at pages 16 and 18 of Public Service Notification. It does not seem

R.R.—30-10-17. | necessary that the existing powers should
| in any way be modified.

3. With the above remarks the file may be returned u.o. to Home (Education).

K.V.S.—13-10-17.

C.R.—22-10-17.

The suggestions as to the abolition of the Précis writing test may perhaps be specially commended to Educational. The remarks of the Second Presidency Magistrate as to the abolition of the Criminal Judicial test (higher) in the case of Presidency Magistrates' accountants may perhaps be reconsidered, though it lacks the support of the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

HILTON BROWN—21-10-17.

So far as Judicial (B) is concerned, the recommendations are as follows:—

(a) Abolish Précis-writing test as a qualification for any appointment in this section.

(b) In any case where one has to pass Translation test in two languages it is enough if one of the tests be passed in the lower grade.

(c) Record-keeper in all courts—Translation test not necessary.

(d) Registrar and Deputy Registrar in all courts—Translation test not necessary.

(e) Head clerks in all courts—Translation test not necessary.

(f) Chief clerk or Manager, Presidency Magistrates' Courts—Criminal Judicial test not necessary.

(g) Accountants in Presidency Magistrates' Courts—Criminal Judicial test not necessary.

(h) Second clerk and shroff, Administrator-General's office—Account test not necessary.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—30-10-17.

HOME (JUDICIAL) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the preceding notes especially the Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 4 ante. The points for consideration are:—

(1) which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished,
(2) to which of the appointments under the section the special tests should be prescribed, and

(3) whether the power of exemption now exercised by the officers should be modified and, if so, why.

2. For particulars of appointments for which special tests have been prescribed reference is invited to the schedules appended to Special Tests and Public Service notifications. (For special tests required for Jail and Registration Departments, please see pages 12-13 of the pamphlet.)

3. The departments under Judicial (C) section which may be considered in connexion with the question of special tests are Jails, Registration and Factories.

4. *Factories.*—No special tests have been prescribed for this department and none need be prescribed. The Factory staff consists of one Chief and one Assistant Inspector and their establishment, consisting of a few clerks.

5. *Jails.*—From paragraphs 4 and 6 of G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated 13th September 1916, it will be seen that the opinions of the heads of departments had already been invited on points (i) and (ii) referred to in paragraph 1 above. As regards the Jails Department the Inspector-General of Prisons replied as follows [vide Inspector-General's letter G. No. 442, dated 24th October 1916, on pages 2-3 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Judicial), dated 6th August 1917]:—

"Regarding the proposal to curtail some of the existing tests, I beg to state that the only special test now required for higher appointments in the Jail Department is the Jail test. It is very essential that deputy jailers and jailers should qualify in this test. The portions prescribed for this test are not elaborate and therefore do not require curtailment. The other special tests are not required to be passed by the officers of the Jail Department."

6. The subjects of the Jail test are—

(1) The Penal Code—chapters II, III, IV and IX and sections 128-30 and 217-225.

(2) The Code of Criminal Procedure—Parts I, II and IV (omitting chapters IX to XIII) and chapters XXVIII, XXIX, XXXI, XXXIV and XXXIX.

(3) Laws, rules, regulations and orders relating to jails—

(a) Prisoners Act,

(b) Prisons Act,

(c) Regulation II of 1819,

(d) Lunacy Act portions relating to jails,

(e) Part II of Jail Manual,

(f) Appendix II of Jail Manual.

(4) The Civil Account Code—chapters I, III, IV, V, VI and XV (articles 245 to 248 only).

7. Submitted that we may agree with the Inspector-General that this test is

H.B.—6-11-17.

R.R.—7-11-17.

necessary for the Jail Department and that none of the subjects prescribed for the test can be curtailed or abolished. As stated by the Inspector-General the portions prescribed are not elaborate and none of them is unnecessary. The Inspector-General also states that Indian jailers and assistant jailers employed in the five special sub-jails at Russellkonda, Koraput, Nellore, Calicut and Mangalore and the chief and reserve head wardens in all jails on

Rs. 20 per mensem and above should be excluded from the operation of article 1 of the Public Service notification, i.e., they need not be required to possess the minimum educational qualification prescribed for appointments on Rs. 20 and above. Chief and reserve head warders are already excluded from the operation of article 1 of the Public Service notification (vide schedule B under article 2 (2) of that notification) and it is for consideration whether the Indian jailers and assistant jailers of the five special sub-jails referred to should also be similarly excluded. The Inspector-General has not given any reasons for his recommendation. It is not clear whether the Inspector-General bases his recommendation on the ground that no educational qualifications are required for these posts or on the ground of any difficulty felt in recruiting for these posts from passed candidates. The pay of the

H.B.—6-11-17

The proposal need not be further considered.

R.R.—7-11-17.

posts ranges from Rs. 30 to Rs. 60 and the duties of the jailers are such that passed men will be necessary. Submitted that the Inspector-General may be asked for the reasons for his recommendation.

8. As regards the powers of exemption of the Inspector-General of Prisons, please see rule 4 (3) of the Public Service notification. According to this rule the Inspector-General of Prisons and certain other heads of departments have been empowered to sanction the employment of unpassed candidates in acting and sub. *pro tem.* vacancies and in temporary posts without limit of time when the sanctioned pay of the appointment is not more than Rs. 30 per mensem and for a period not exceeding 12 months when the sanctioned pay of the appointment is not more than Rs. 50 per mensem. The Inspector-General has not expressed any opinion on this point in his reply on pages 2-3 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917. It may be left to the Educational Department to decide whether any modification of these powers is required on the analogy of the powers of other heads of departments of similar status.

9. *Registration.*—The tests mentioned below have now to be passed by the officers of this department.

The Civil Judicial Test without Civil Rules of Practice and Insolvency Act—District Registrars.

The Account Test—District Registrars and Managers and Accountants on Rs. 50 and above in the Inspector-General's office.

10. Attention is requested to the letters of Mr. Schmidt as Inspector-General of Registration and as Registrar of Joint Stock Companies on pages 19—21 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, from which it will be seen that the Inspector-General would like certain modifications in the Civil Judicial Test as prescribed for District Registrars and would add the Account Test as compulsory for certain additional posts in his office—

(a) The Civil Judicial Test at present comprises the following subjects:—

- (1) Code of Civil Procedure, Limitation Act, and Civil Rules of Practice.
- (2) Evidence Act.
- (3) Contract and Negotiable Instruments Acts.
- (4) Transfer of Property Act.
- (5) Insolvency Act.
- (6) Stamps, Court Fees and Suits Valuation Acts.

(b) Of these six papers District Registrars are not now to answer a portion of (1) and paper (5).

(c) The Inspector-General wishes now that a paper on "Companies Law" should be added to the test as prescribed for District Registrars. The reasons for his suggestion are in his letter on page 21 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated

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6th August 1917, and the proposal may be accepted.

(d) If this view is concurred in, candidates who appear for the Civil Judicial test paper will have to be told not to answer one paper on "Companies Law" which will be paper 7. Instead of having this confusion, it is for consideration whether the

test for District Registrars may not be christened "Registration test," the papers for this test being the same as those "for the

* Civil Rules of Practice and Insolvency Act being subtracted.

This seems to be a good idea and should be pursued.

R.R.—7-11-17.

the Civil Judicial test, there being only a special paper for this test on "Companies Law." This is, however, a minor matter on which the Commissioner for Government Examinations may have to be consulted.

11. As regards the Account test, the Inspector-General says he would prefer it for all posts in his office on Rs. 60 and above instead of a differentiation being made between Accountants and clerks for the reason that in a numerically limited establishment it is not easy to carry such a differentiation into actual practice (page 29 of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1917). The persons in the Inspector-General's office who have now to pass the test are Manager (150), and Accountants on Rs. 125, 80 and 50—4. If the Inspector-General's recommendation is accepted, the following

H.B.—6-11-17.

I do not agree. Let those who care qualify themselves for the special posts.

R.R.—7-11-17.

have to pass the test: Manager (150), Accountant (125), clerks 1 (100), 1 (90), Accountant (80) and clerks 1 (70) and 1 (60)—7. Submitted that the Inspector-General's recommendation may be accepted for the reasons mentioned by him.

12. The powers of exemption of the Inspector-General of Registration are similar to those enjoyed by the Inspector-General of Prisons and referred to in paragraph 5 above and may be left to the Educational Department for decision.

13. A draft memorandum to the Inspector-General of Prisons is submitted for approval with reference to paragraph 7 of the note above. After issue of the memorandum the case may be forwarded to the Educational Department. The Inspector-General's reply to the memorandum can be forwarded to the Educational Department when received.

M.V.V.—3-11-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—5-11-17.

HILTON BROWN—6-11-17.

Not necessary.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—7-11-17.

PUBLIC (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Home Department Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 4 *supra*. Account test is prescribed for the posts of the manager and the head accountant in the office of the Resident in Travancore and Cochin. Now that there is a branch of the Bank of Madras in Trivandrum, the treasury work is practically done by the Bank, there is no longer any need to prescribe the Account test as a necessary qualification for the posts of the manager and the head accountant. The Resident may be consulted. Draft official memorandum submitted for approval (G.O. No. 80, Political, dated the 25th February 1916).

A.J.J.—10-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—11-10-17.

[Official memorandum to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, No. 1977-1, dated the 12th October 1917.]

From the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, R.O.C. No. 2937, dated the 28th October 1917.

Please see the Resident's letter. In the circumstances stated therein the

D.N.S.—7-11-17.

Account test may be continued as a qualifying test for the posts of Treasury officer and head accountant of the Resident's treasury.

2. Please see the Home Department Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 4 supra. This department is unable to offer any remarks on item (1), and as regards item (3), it is submitted that none of the Political officers as such exercise any powers of exemption.

3. With the above remarks the file may be returned to Home (Education) n.o. V.P.R.M.—6-11-17.

D. N. STRATHIE—7-11-17.

F. J. RICHARDS—8-11-17.

FINANCIAL (SEPARATE REVENUE) DEPARTMENT.

Please see Home (Education) Department's notes at A on page 4 ante. Action has to be taken in this department as regards the simplification, etc., of the 'departmental' tests prescribed for the officers of the Salt and Abkari departments.

2. The nature and scope of these tests and the officers who are required to pass these tests are set out in notification No. 462, dated 25th August 1910 (as subsequently amended) printed on pages 105-110 of the pamphlet of rules relating to Public Service examinations.

3. In 1913 Salt test "C" which corresponds to the General Account test was simplified—vide G.O. No. 370, Revenue, dated 5th February 1913. Submitted that the Board of Revenue may now be asked to consider and report in the matter of the simplification, etc., of the Salt and Abkari tests.

Draft official memorandum submitted for approval. Point (3) in Home (Education) note at A on page 4 supra has not been specified in the draft, as the Board has reported thereon in February last—vide paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings on page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

[The question of abolishing the 'Criminal Judicial' and 'Translation' tests for the post of income-tax inspector, Madras, recommended by the Board of Revenue in paragraph 6 of its Proceedings on page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917, and noted on pages 9-10 of Notes to Government Order ibid will be submitted for the Honourable Member's orders on receipt of the Board's reply to the present reference.]

C.V.R.—4-10-17.

K.C.V.—6-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—9-10-17.

[Official memorandum to the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), No. 2473-1, dated 10th October 1917.]

Reference from the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), No. G.T. 413-R., Salt, dated 7th November 1917.

Please see the reply received from the Board of Revenue. This department

may agree with the Board that no change can be made with advantage in the tests prescribed for Salt, Abkari and Customs officers—vide Notification No. 462, dated 25th August 1910 (as subsequently amended) printed on pages 105-110 of the pamphlet of the rules relating to Public Service examination. As regards point (3) in Home (Education) note at A on page 4 supra, the Board has already reported that it would restrict to Deputy Commissioners the power of employing unpassed candidates to vacancies which do not exceed six months [page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917]. This was already agreed to and the file may now be forwarded to Home (Education) Department—Financial (Separate Revenue) Department notes on pages 9-10 of Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. That department may also be requested

F.J.R.—20-11-17.

to take the Honourable Member's (Separate Revenue) orders on the question

abolishing the 'Criminal Judicial test' and 'Translation test' for the post of Income-tax Inspector, Madras—vide pages 9-10 of Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

K.C.V.—17-11-17.

D. N. STRATHIE—19-11-17.

F. J. RICHARDS—20-11-17.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Please see the portion marked A in the printed notes on page 4 supra. Of the three items on which remarks are called for, items 2 and 3 have already been discussed in this department and the recommendation thereon will be found at pages 7 and 8 of the Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. No further remarks seem called for now on these items. As regards item 3—which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished—it is submitted that this item needs no consideration in this department, as no special test examinations have been prescribed for appointments in this department nor are any considered necessary.

2. With these remarks the file may be returned to Home (Education) n.o.

P. RAT—9-11-17.

A.S.N.—17-11-17.

W. G. MOLESWORTH—19-11-17.

S. B. MURRAY—20-11-17.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

The Home (Education) Department request that the following points may be considered in connexion with the question of the desirability of prescribing special tests or simplifying them. They are accordingly examined below:—

(1) Which of the special tests should be abolished or simplified.—No special tests

We are really not concerned with these. are prescribed by this Government for the subordinates in the offices of the Accountant-General and the Postmaster-General.

This department need therefore consider only the cases of the subordinates in the Government Press, the Stationery office and the Madras Record office. In the last office also there is no appointment for which any special test is prescribed—vide the schedule at pages 89-95 of the pamphlet put up. From the same schedule it will be seen that Account test is the only test prescribed for the subordinates in the offices under this department and the appointments are those of

(1) the Accountant in the Government Press, and

(2) Accountants on Rs. 50 and upwards in the Stationery office.

The Superintendent, Government Press, has already stated that the passing of this test by the Accountant of the Press is desirable—vide paragraph 3 of his letter at page 11 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The Superintendent of Stationery has also not recommended the abolition of any tests—see his letter at pages 18-19 of the above Government Order—and the opinion of the Board is against the test being dispensed with altogether—paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings at page 40 of the above Government Order. This view may,

it is submitted, be supported in this department. The only question then is of simplification. The test has already

been considerably simplified. The latest orders are in G.O. No. 145, Home (Education), dated 8th February 1917. It does not appear that the test is capable of further simplification and no suggestions on this point need perhaps be called for from the Superintendent of Stationery, and the Superintendent, Government Press. For orders.

L.E.K.—20-10-17.

(2) *To which of the appointments under this department the special tests should be prescribed.*—There do not appear to be any appointments for which the special tests should be prescribed other than those already referred to above.

(3) *Whether the powers of exemption exercised by the officers under them should be modified and if so why.*—Please see paragraphs 4 (3) and 5 (7) on pages 76–79 of the pamphlet. No modification of the powers enumerated therein appear to be necessary.

The Registrar may see the case as regards assistants in the Chief Secretariat.

T.H.R.—8-10-17.

Then why has it not been sent to him to be dealing with it separately?

L.E.K.—10-10-17.

C.K.—8-10-17.

T.H.R.—8-10-17.

As regards this, I do not see why Secretaries to Government should not have full powers to appoint unpassed men. Recruitment for the Secretariat is governed by a number of considerations, and while it might be advisable occasionally to bring in an 'unqualified' man who nevertheless has other qualification, no Secretary is likely to abuse the power vested in him and make his Secretariat the dumping ground for unpassed men.

As regards Chief Secretariat clerks, I place below a statement showing the tests clerks are required to pass in the several departments of the Secretariat. The only test which need be made compulsory in the Chief Secretariat is the Accounts test. As regards the other examinations, it may be left to such clerks who aspire to appointments outside the Secretariat to pass them. They need not be made compulsory.

As a matter of fact a reference to the establishment list will show that the rule regarding the passing of the special tests has been honoured in the breach. In future, I think the Accounts test should be insisted on—the Chief Secretary having power of exemption in any case in which he desires to exercise it.

L. E. KERSHAW—20-10-17.

So far as the Chief Secretariat, as now constituted, is concerned, only the Account test is required.

It does not seem to me that it is necessary to extend the Chief Secretary's powers of exemption.

L. DAVIDSON—22-10-17.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Home (Education) Department note on pages 2–4 ante. The following questions have to be considered so far as the special tests concerning the Revenue Department are concerned:—

(1) which of the special tests may be simplified or abolished;

(2) for which of the appointments in the Revenue Department the special tests should be prescribed;

(3) whether the powers of exemption exercised by the officers under this department should be modified; and

(4) whether the special training and probation proposed by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes may be substituted for the special tests (a) Revenue test (Higher and lower grades), (b) Criminal Judicial test (higher and lower grades) and Account test.

The above questions are noted on below so far as the several departments under Revenue are concerned.

K.S.N.—19-11-17.

This case (which from the first appears to have been rather unmanageable) has been further complicated by the introduction of a new issue, namely, the proposals of Messrs. Campbell and Stokes and of the Committee which considered the question of special tests during the last Collectors' Conference.

2. I gather from the Home Department note on page 4 that the intention is to transfer the report of the Committee to Revenue for disposal. Messrs. Campbell and Stokes themselves asked that their scheme should be referred to Collectors for remarks (vide paragraph 3 on page 4 of the notes) and this should, I think, be done at once.

We have already lost six months. Will the Secretary kindly separate paragraphs 1 and 2 and resubmit soon to me for separate note? I have passed orders below on the two self-contained points.

A.G.C.—21-2-18.

3. In the meantime it will considerably simplify matters if orders are now passed in connexion with two points which are self-contained. The first is in regard to the Survey and Settlement departments which stand on a somewhat different footing from the rest of the Revenue Department. The second is in regard to the *Translation* and *Precis-writing* tests which are not affected by the proposals of Messrs. Campbell and Stokes. I have therefore removed a large volume of somewhat inadequate notes from this file and now submit only those relating to these points.

4. So far as the Revenue Department is concerned, the *Translation test (lower grade)* is required of the following:—

Sarishtadar.	} In Collectors' offices
English headclerk.	
Vernacular headclerk.	
Record-keepers.	
Tahsildars.	
Deputy tahsildars.	
Divisional office head-clerks.	
District Forest office clerks over Rs. 50.	
Taluk head-Accountants and Sarishtadars.	
Clerks on Rs. 80 and upwards in the Revenue Secretariat.	
Translators in Collectors' offices (and an entry which I do not quite understand).	
All appointments (not being Secretariat appointments) to which salaries of Rs. 50 and upwards are attached in the office of the Board of Revenue.	
Translators in the office of the Board of Revenue.	

5. As regards district appointments it will be seen from paragraph 5 (iii) of the Board's Proceedings at page 40 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917, that as Collector of the Nilgiris I proposed the abolition of this test for members of the Revenue Department with certain exceptions. The Board accepted this recommendation and proposed to dispense with the translation test in the case of persons serving in a district the vernacular of which is their mother tongue. I do not think I need enlarge on this recommendation. It may be that to abolish the Translation test would result in our clerks gradually losing the small facility for reading vernacular manuscripts in their own language which they now possess. But

Quite so. The existing rules are quite wrong and merely represent one item in an 'obstacle race.'

A.G.C.—21-2-18.

so far as this point is concerned, if we want by means of this test to encourage the reading of vernacular manuscripts we should insist on it as a qualification not for the higher appointments but for the lower ones.

6. The application of the Translation test (lower) to clerks on Rs. 80 and upwards in the Revenue Secretariat evidently has reference to the fact that the same test is required as a qualification for the deputy tahsildar's post. If, as I recommend, it is abolished for the latter it may also be abolished in the case of the Secretariat clerks. The post of translator in the Collector's office has now disappeared except in Ganjam. I am inclined to think that for the special post in that Collectorate the higher grade should be required instead of the lower grade. I think a reference on this point might be made. I would also propose to ask the Board whether the retention of the Translation test is necessary in the case of item (16) at page 10 of the pamphlet.

I think we may leave it to the Collector to deal with individual cases. He will probably know whether it is necessary for any individual to pass the test. Probably it will usually be unnecessary.

A.G.C.—21-2-18.

Similarly the Board can deal with individual cases.

A.G.C.—21-2-18.

7. The formula used by the Board in its recommendation, namely, that the test should no longer be required in the case of persons serving in a district the vernacular of which is their mother tongue leaves out of account the districts which have more than one vernacular. I do not think that this matters. Even as it is, clerks in the bilingual districts have the choice of applying for this test in either of the languages and as they would usually appear for it in their mother tongue their position, if the test is abolished, will be just as it is now. If the Board's proposal is accepted it may be made clear that the exemption applies in bilingual districts to any person whose mother tongue is either of the recognized languages.

A. R. KNAPP—17-1-18.

I think that orders may at once issue abolishing the liability in respect of any office in the Revenue Department, to have passed the translation test, lower grade, unless required to do so by the head of the office on the ground that the individual officer in question has an inadequate acquaintance with the vernacular language of the district in which he is employed. It will then be open to a Collector, Divisional officer, or Tahsildar, etc., to say that a particular clerk must pass the translation test and to decline to promote him until he does so, but in the absence of a definite order applicable to that officer individually, there will be no obligation to pass.

2. The above will apply only to the Revenue Department including the Revenue Secretariat and the Board of Revenue * and orders can issue therefore without consulting all other departments.

3. Items numbered (3) Deputy Collectors and (7) Unconvicted Assistants, Board of Revenue, may at the same time be struck out of the list of offices for which the *Precis-writing* test is prescribed.

4. When the Government Order (since issued as G.O. No. 1093, Revenue, dated 19th March 1918) carrying out the above has issued, will the Secretary kindly send me a copy of it with note files so that I may consider whether any further steps are required in regard to the Translation and *Precis* tests. It is only by attacking the problem in detail that any progress can be attained. If one attempts to deal with a particular Special test as a whole it affects so many departments that it gets stuck in inter-departmental discussions.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—21-2-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The questions raised in this file are three in number :—

- (i) which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished;
- (ii) whether special test qualification should be prescribed afresh for any appointment and whether such qualification may be dispensed with in any of the cases in which it is now necessary; and
- (iii) whether the powers of exemption now exercised by heads of departments and others should be modified, and if so, why.

2. Most of the Secretariat Departments consulted in the matter have no remarks to offer either because no special test qualification is prescribed for appointments under them or because they do not feel the need for any change in the existing rules concerning them. Separate orders have already been issued dispensing with the need for officers in the Police Department to pass any of the special tests (G.O. No. 1492, Education, dated 26th November 1917). Revenue have issued separate orders on some of the points concerning them. The rest of the recommendations are dealt with below under each appropriate head :—

(i) *Simplification or abolition of Special tests.*—No useful remarks have been received in this direction. The matter is also intertwined with a scheme formulated at the last Collectors' Conference by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes for the substitution of a course of training and probation for special tests. Honourable Member, Revenue,

proposes to deal with this separately—vide Honourable Member's marginal orders, 21st February 1918, at page 15 ante. This scheme, however, covers only the Revenue, Criminal Judicial and Account tests. Of the remaining tests there is practically a consensus of opinion for the abolition of the *Precis-writing* test;

- (1) Sub-Judges.
- (2) District Mansifs.
- (3) Deputy Collectors.
- (4) Chief Clerk or Manager in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts.
- (5) Managers in the offices of the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police.
- (6) Head clerks in the office of the Inspector-General of Police.
- (7) Unconvicted Assistants, Board of Revenue.
- (8) Manager, office of the Administrator-General.

this test is at present a qualifying test for the marginally-noted appointments: officers specified in items (5) and (6) have already been relieved of the liability to pass the test; vide G.O. No. 1492, dated the 26th November 1917. Judicial have proposed that those mentioned in items (1), (2), (4) and (8) need not pass it (vide (a) in the Secretary's note at page 8 ante) while Revenue have removed the liability of Deputy Collectors and unconvicted assistants to qualify by passing the test. This exhausts the list and the test may therefore be abolished.

Attention is in this connexion solicited to the Legislative Council question and answer recorded in G.O. No. 218, Home (Education), dated the 22nd February 1918, in which the Government have stated that, in connexion with the question of the simplification of special tests, the rules that prevent a partial pass will be examined. It cannot now be said what the future of these tests will be until the scheme proposed by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes has been examined by Revenue; perhaps the question of introducing compartmental system in the special tests may stand over till then.

(ii) *Applicability of special tests to particular appointments.*—The following are the recommendations in this regard :—

Home (Miscellaneous).—Abolish the Account test for clerks in the office of His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Pondicherry and Karikal.

Home (Judicial) B.—(1) Abolish Translation test for Record-keeper, Registrar and Deputy Registrar and head clerk in all Courts, Criminal Judicial test for chief clerk or manager and accountants in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, and the Account test for second clerk and shroff, Administrator-General's office.

1. Translators in the City Civil Court (except the Hindustani translator).

2. Interpreters in the High Court and the Court of Small Causes, Madras, other than Persian, Hindustani and Guzarati interpreters.

3. Interpreters in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts.

(2) It is also proposed that if in any case the Translation test has to be passed in two languages it is enough if one of the tests be passed in the lower grade. (This would affect the marginally noted appointments).

Home (Judicial) C.—Propose the institution of a separate test called the 'Registrar's test' for District Registrars, the subjects for which being those at present

* With the exception of the civil Rules of Practice and the Provincial Insolvency Act.

A covered by the * Civil Judicial test with the addition of the 'Companies Law'.

Financial.—The only proposal is that which affects the Chief Secretariat establishment. It is recommended that instead of the marginally noted tests which are at present required to be passed by clerks on Rs. 100 and above the Account test alone need be a qualifying test in future. It is presumed that this has to be passed only by clerks in the Chief Secretariat establishment on Rs. 100 and above as at present.

The foregoing recommendations may, it is submitted, be accepted. Financial (Separate Revenue) desire that the orders of the Honourable Member in charge may be taken on the question of abolishing the Criminal Judicial test and the Translation test for the post of Income-tax inspectors, Madras. Attention is in this connexion invited to the Board's Proceedings at pages 34-35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home

(Education), dated the 6th August 1917, in which it recommended the abolition of those tests so far as the appointment in question was concerned and Financial (Separate Revenue) note thereon at pages 9 and 10 of the notes therewith.

The Director of Public Instruction has already proposed the abolition of the Account test for sub-assistant inspectors and inspectresses. He has suggested instead that examination in such knowledge of the Civil Account Code and the Civil Service Regulations as is necessary for the ordinary discharge of their duties may be made part of the Departmental test (Sub-assistant Inspector's test) prescribed for these officers (Paragraph (2) of the Director of Public Instruction's letter at page 7 of G.O. No. 1021, Education, dated 6th August 1917. For orders whether this suggestion may be approved.

The question whether any special test qualification should be prescribed for the clerical staff of the Home Secretariat is for orders. Perhaps the Criminal Judicial test (lower) may be prescribed for clerks on Rs. 100 and above.

(iii) *Powers of exemption.*—The suggestions under this head are:—

(a) Financial (Separate Revenue) supports the Board's recommendation to restrict the power of temporary exemption to Deputy Commissioners of Salt, Abkari and Customs and that only for a period of six months as against the present twelve—paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings at page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Education, dated 6th August 1917, Financial (Separate Revenue) note at page 16 ante and article 4 (6) of the Public Service notification. This involves also withdrawal of the powers now exercised by Assistant Commissioners under article 4 (7) of the Public Service notification. The suggestion may, it is submitted, be accepted.

(b) The Public Works Department recommend (i) that Superintending Engineers may be given the same powers as Collectors in the matter of exemption; and (ii) that the Chief Engineer may be given powers to sanction permanent exemption from general educational qualification for posts on Rs. 20 per mensem and temporary exemptions for professional appointments of Lower Subordinates, etc., the latter presumably without limit of time—page 8 of notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917, see also notes with G.O. No. 52, Revenue, dated 2nd March 1918.

The powers exercised by Collectors are for the present purpose those defined in articles 4 (5) and 5 (5) of the Public Service Notification. On this analogy there is no objection to investing Superintending Engineers with the power to grant temporary exemption to unpassed candidates up to Rs. 30 per mensem and for a period of twelve months (Superintending Engineers' present powers are given in articles 4 (12) and 5 (11) of the Public Service Notification). Similarly they may be given temporary powers of exemption in respect of professional qualifications up to six months as against the present three, the limit of pay being Rs. 50 as at present.

In respect of the recommendation numbered (ii) on the previous page, it is submitted that the power to grant permanent exemption from the provisions of article 1 of the Public Service Notification and from professional qualifications rested for a long time with the Government. In 1914 as a result of Mr. Francis' proposals for reduction of work in the office, the Board of Revenue was given powers of permanent exemption up to Rs. 30 per mensem in respect of general educational qualification and up to Rs. 50 per mensem in respect of professional tests—vide G.O. No. 839, Educational, dated the 18th July 1914.

Later on, owing to the special character of the Registration Department where an unusually large number of unpassed candidates are employed in the subordinate ranks and with a view to giving effect to the recent reorganization of the clerical establishment of the department, the Government delegated in 1916 power to the Inspector-General of Registration to employ unpassed candidates permanently up to Rs. 25 per mensem—vide G.O. No. 836, Home (Education), dated the 2nd August 1916. In the case of the Chief Engineer there does not appear to be any special need to give him powers of permanent exemption from the provisions of article 1 of the Public Service Notification. In fact from the Public Works Department office note at page 7 of the Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, it is evident that the main argument in support of the present proposal is the prescription of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate as a qualification for 20 rupee

appointments. But in view of the fact that the rule is not to have retrospective effect and the case of acting incumbents is proposed to be otherwise disposed of, there is no ground for the grant of the power asked for. The power of granting temporary exemption from professional qualification seems to stand on a different footing and in fact if the Chief Engineer is given the power, it will save a very large number of references to this department which at present invariably accepts the Chief Engineer's recommendation on applications for temporary exemptions from the qualification prescribed for lower and upper subordinates. It is therefore for consideration whether this part of the proposal may be approved and a period fixed, say 12 months. Similar powers may be given to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation also (cf. Public Works note at page 5 of G.O. No. 52 (R), dated the 2nd March 1918).

E.A.V.—12-3-18.

C.R.—15-3-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—20-3-18.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—22-3-18.

This is a file of the Educational Department and should therefore under the rules go first to His Excellency the Governor who has charge of that department. So far as I am concerned, if I am told what the points are relating to the departments of which I am in charge, on which my views are required, I shall be glad to note them. I do not propose to offer any remarks on the questions raised in these papers in regard to departments not in my charge. If it could be managed, I would suggest that the question of tests be dealt with separately in the different departments, orders of the Honourable Member in charge taken, and then communicated to Home (Educational) for issuing a consolidated Government Order if such a one is considered necessary.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—26-3-18.

H. F. W. GILLMAN—26-3-18.

I agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar as to the desirability of dealing with the liability to special tests separately in the different departments, but it may be better not to issue a consolidated order but separate orders as points are settled. The Commissioner will consolidate the results in a revised notification.

There is, however, one point on which I think orders might issue at once, viz., the abolition of the Précis test as there are no longer any appointments for which it is to be required.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—27-3-18.

P[ENTLAND]—28-3-18.

A draft order directing the abolition of the Précis-writing test is submitted. After issue thereof these notes may be printed and circulated to Secretariat Departments for requisite action in regard to the special tests with which they are concerned. If any branch of the Secretariat should decide on any changes in the Public Service or Special Test notification such changes will have to be notified in that department.

E.A.V.—15-4-18.

T.K.—15-4-18.

C.R.—16-4-18.

And a copy of the Government Order should be sent to Home (Education) for revising the Public Service and Special Test notifications.

Issue draft.

See that Home takes action on all departments under the Home Secretary.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—28-4-18.

[G.O. No. 521, Home (Education), dated 23rd April 1918.]

prescribed. The Precis-writing test will ^{accordingly} be expunged altogether from the schedule of special tests.

2. The Commissioner for Government Examinations is requested to submit a draft of the consequential alterations in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

WV
+ 5.4.18.
JL
15.4.18

CR
16/4/18
23/4/18

To the Commissioner for Govt. Examinations,

Revenue Department,
Home Department,
Judicial Department,
M. S. Department,
P. W. D.

E. T.

Depos without notes
CO
25.4.18

CO
25/4
Copy
25.4.18. Note dep
by sec.
CO
11.5.18

G.O. No. 521, 23rd April 1918
Precis-writing Test

Directing the abolition of the — as a qualifying test for appointments in the Public Service.

READ—the following papers :—

I
G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated 13th September 1916.

ABSTRACT.—Inviting the views of the Board of Revenue and other heads of departments on certain proposals for the amendment of the rules embodied in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on certain proposals made by the Board of Revenue and other heads of departments with reference to G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated the 13th September 1916, relating to the amendment of the rules in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

II
Official Memorandum No. 2473-1, Financial (Separate Revenue), dated 10th October 1917.

With reference to the correspondence ending with its Proceedings R. No. 537, Salt, dated the 19th February 1917, and paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, the Board of Revenue is requested to examine and report (1) whether any of the departmental tests now prescribed for the officers of the Salt and Abkari Departments might be simplified or abolished and (2) for which of the appointments they should be prescribed.

(By order)

R. H. COURTNEY,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

III
Official Memorandum No. 1977-1, Public (Political), dated 12th October 1917.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, communicated to him with Endorsement No. 1663-1, Public, (Political), dated the 29th idem, the Resident in Travancore and Cochin is requested to report whether the account test prescribed as a qualifying test required for the posts of the manager and treasury officer and the head accountant in his office may be abolished, as the working of the treasury has been taken over by the Bank of Madras.

(By order)

R. H. COURTNEY,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

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2

Discreting that it is no longer necessary to prescribe any of the special tests for any office of appointment in the Police Dept: and requesting the Commissioner for Govt: Examinations to submit a draft of the necessary alterations in the

IV
Letter—from H. L. BRAIDWOOD, Esq., I.C.S., Resident in Travancore and Cochin.
To—the Chief Secretary to Government.
Dated—Trivandrum, the 28th October 1917.
No.—R.O.C. 2937.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 1977-1, Public (Political), dated 12th October 1917, I have the honour to inform you that I am of opinion that the account test should certainly be continued as a qualifying test for the post of treasury officer and head accountant of the Resident's treasury.

Though the working of the treasury has been transferred to the Branch Bank of Madras, Trivandrum, that has not divested my treasury officer and the head accountant of the responsibility for the correct preparation and compilation of the numerous accounts and returns prescribed by the Civil Account Code and the Madras Treasury Manual. The bank is merely the custodian of the cash and notes and does not receive or pay money without a written order from my treasury officer. The examination of claims presented at the treasury is exclusively the work of my treasury officer and the head accountant, and without a good knowledge of the rules of the Civil Service Regulations, the Account Code and the Treasury Manual, it would be impossible for them to do the work satisfactorily.

V
Reference from the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue),
No. Gt. R. 418/Salt, dated 7th November 1917.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. G. TODHUNTER, I.C.S.,
Acting Third Member, Board of Revenue, and Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue.

In reply to Government Memorandum No. 2473-1, Financial (Separate Revenue) Department, dated 10th October 1917, the Board begs to submit that after a careful examination of the question in consultation with Deputy Commissioners it came to the conclusion that no change can be made with advantage in the tests prescribed for officers of the Salt, Abkari and Customs Department.

E. GRAHAM,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial (Separate Revenue) Department.

VI
G.O. No. 1492, Home (Judicial), dated 26th November 1917.

ABSTRACT—

G.O. No. 1093, Revenue, dated 19th March 1918.

ABSTRACT—

Order—No. 521, Home (Education), dated 23rd April 1918.

The suitability of the special tests prescribed for the various appointments in the Public Service has been recently under examination by the Government, and the question was considered whether a pass in the Précis-writing test is in any way an essential qualification for any of the appointments.

In G.Os. No. 1492, Home (Education), dated the 26th November 1917, and No. 1093, Revenue, dated the 19th March 1918, the Government directed that the Précis-writing test would cease to be a qualifying test for ministerial appointments in the Police Department and in respect of Deputy Collectors and unconvicted assistants of the Board of Revenue. On further consideration the Government are of opinion that the test is also unnecessary in the case of the other appointments in the Public Service for which it has been prescribed. The Précis-writing test will accordingly be expunged altogether from the schedule of special tests.

2. The Commissioner for Government Examinations is requested to submit a draft of the consequential alterations in the Public Service and Special Test Notifications.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner for Government Examinations.

- " Revenue Department.
- " Home (Judicial) Department.
- " Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
- " Local and Municipal Department.
- " Public Department.
- " Financial Department.
- " Public Works Department.
- " Editors' Table.

Discreting the abolition of the translation test (lowest grade) and the Practising test in respect of certain posts in the Revenue Dept: and falling on the question of simplification of certain special tests relating to the Survey and Settlement depts:

7-15
For apples
7-18
In
83

[SUBJECT.—*Revision of the Public Service and Special Test notifications.*]

The following points require further examination :—

- Please see paragraph 3 on page 14 of notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The points still for consideration are dealt with below :—

(a) Attention solicited to clause (b) of paragraph 2 on page 1 of the above-mentioned G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, in which it is suggested that the new rule requiring the incumbents of posts on Rs. 20 to possess a completed secondary school-leaving certificate should not have retrospective effect. Cf. also Mr. Ellis's note on page 8 of the same notes. This proposal is only reasonable and may be approved. If so, a 'we' may be substituted to that effect in article 1 of the revised notification called for from the Commissioner for Government Examinations in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 1021, dated the 6th August 1917.

(b) Again in clause (c) on page 3 of the notes, the Superintendent, Government Museum, considers it inexpedient to extend this new rule to posts on an incremental pay with a maximum of Rs. 20. This proposal may also be accepted and a second note be similarly subjoined.

(c) Orders have also to be passed in regard to the eligibility of Middle school first-class men to appear for the special tests—vide page 9 of the note to the Government Order—cf. also the Legislative Council question and answer recorded in G.O. No. 229, Home (Education), dated 22nd February 1917.

2. Powers of exemption (article 4 of the Public Service notification).—The present powers of exemption possessed by the Government, the heads of departments and other officers are enumerated in article 4 of the notification. The Secretary has directed that they should be considered and overhauled in consultation with the several officers concerned. The Superintending Engineer, V Circle, proposes to exempt Bellary, Anantapur and Ganjam from the operation of the new rule insisting upon the possession of a secondary school-leaving certificate for posts on Rs. 20 per mensem. The Inspector-General of Police also suggests that the rule should not be made applicable to the Ceded Districts (paragraph 3 on page 4 of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1916). Again the Board of Revenue recommends that Collectors may be empowered to exempt unpassed men to posts up to Rs. 30 provided passed men are not available. Further the views of the Public Works Department are given in Mr. Molesworth's note on page 8 of the notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education) dated the 6th August 1917. Extracts of this paragraph together with a copy of the notes to the Government Order may be sent un-officially to the departments of the Secretariat with the request to state whether they agree to be above suggestions. They may also be requested to consult their heads of departments if necessary to see whether any further changes are required in the existing rules regarding powers of exemption.

2 NOTES to G.O. No. 521, HOME (EDUCATION), 23RD APRIL 1918

3. Attention is also solicited to the Secretary's note, dated the 18th June 1917, on page 9 of the notes to the Government order in which he stated that he would

As this particular point has not been referred to by the Honourable Member, it may be dropped for the present.

R.R.—13-9-17.

and Sir Alexander Cardew's note on page 12 of the notes to G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated the 13th September 1916.

E.A.V.—4-9-17.

T.K.—5-9-17.

Special tests.

Already received ?

This subject arose at the Collectors' Conference as an outcrop from subject No. 12. Apparently a resolution from the Board of Revenue is on its way, and the report of the sub-committee of the Conference has also to be dealt with.

R.R.

Presumably the proceedings on page 39-41 of G.O. 1021, Home (Education), 6th August 1917.

I should like the file noted on *briefly* and circulated to me at an early date. It should not be buried in office notes.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—26-8-17.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Copies of note on the discussion and the recommendation of the sub-committee are attached.

F. J. RICHARDS—28-8-17.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Treat as urgent.

Deal separately with—

- (1) Nature of special tests: subjects, etc.
- (2) Qualifying tests—article 3 of the Public Service Notification.
- (3) Sub-committee's report.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—29-8-18.

The simplification of special tests is one of the subjects which were left over for separate consideration when general orders regarding the Public Service and Special tests notifications were passed—cf. paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917.

2. The points referred to by the Secretary above are dealt with below:—

(1) *Nature of Special tests, subjects, etc.*—Article 1 of the Special test notification gives a list of the Special tests prescribed for the several offices, and article 5 deals with the scope of the examination in each of these subjects. The schedule appended to the notification gives the offices or appointments in the public service for which they have been from time to time prescribed by the Government. Recently the opinion has been expressed that some of the existing tests are unnecessarily elaborate and that the number of appointments for which others are prescribed might safely be curtailed (paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated 13th September 1916). The remarks of heads of departments who were consulted on the point will be found summarised on pages 10-11 of the notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917. Of these the following are in the direction of simplifying the tests:—

(a) *General.*—It was stated by Mr. Young, the Superintendent of Stationery, that greater importance should be assigned to the papers that have to be

answered with the aid of books which might be made longer than the papers "without books" and allotted twice the marks. Mr. Schmidt however would allow candidates to use books throughout in answering question papers. It is for consideration whether Mr. Schmidt's suggestion may be approved.

(b) *Criminal Judicial test.*—Mr. Innes, the Second Presidency Magistrate, and the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, would take away Medical Jurisprudence from the list of subjects for the Criminal Judicial test. There seems no objection to the acceptance of this suggestion.

(c) *Revenue test.*—The Second Presidency Magistrate thought that it was unnecessary to set a separate paper on the stamp, income-tax and excise manual for the Revenue test, but that the Acts embodied in those manuals might be included in the list of Revenue Acts and Regulations prescribed for that test. That officer also recommended the omission of the Special Funds Code and the Manuals of Village and Taluk Accounts from the list of subjects for the Revenue test. If this is agreed to, there will be only two main subjects of examination, viz., Revenue Acts and Regulations and the Board's Standing Orders, for the Revenue test as against the present seven subjects.

Orders are requested whether the above suggestion will be approved.

(d) *Précis-writing test.*—There is a general consensus of opinion that this test may be abolished altogether. It is for orders whether the Government will agree to this proposal.

(2) *Qualifying tests (Article 3 of the Public Service Notification).*—On page 11 of the Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, the Secretary observed as follows:—

"Article 3 of the Public Service Notification which prescribes qualifying tests is a voluminous article and I think ought to be considered and overhauled in consultation with the offices concerned."

It may be noted that the opinions of heads of departments on this question have already been obtained and these will be found summarised on pages 10-11 of the notes to the above Government Order. It is for consideration whether it will suffice if relevant extracts of such opinions are taken and forwarded to the administrative departments concerned separately for remarks. In that case a separate n.o. note and a tabular form exhibiting the points at issue and the opinions of heads of departments thereon will be prepared and submitted for approval.

(3) *Sub-committee's report.*—In the sub-committee's report, two alternative schemes are put forward—(i) complete abolition of the Special tests and the substitution in their place of special periods of training in various branches of administrative work to be given to selected men, these periods being followed by probationary periods of actual service during which the men's work would be specially watched. The Hon'ble Sir Robert Clegg has also appended a note indicating several serious practical objections to the above scheme and the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew seems also very reluctant to adopt it. It does not therefore seem necessary to proceed with the further examination of this point and refer it to the Board of Revenue for their remarks. Further this scheme is defective since it does not take into consideration the requirements of departments other than the Revenue Department.

The alternative scheme, viz., the one for the simplification of special tests and the reduction of their scope, appears to commend itself to the Hon'ble Sir Robert Clegg and the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew. A few suggestions in this direction have been dealt with in paragraph 2 (1) ante. It is for consideration whether the suggestion in paragraph 13 of the note by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes may be communicated to the Board of Revenue and they be asked to submit a revised syllabus for the Revenue and the Criminal Judicial tests. The syllabus for the remaining tests hardly calls for any change.

E.A.V.—3-9-17.

T.K.—5-9-17.

So far as Special tests and the orders regulating their prescription are concerned, Educational collate them and issue the orders in respect of them. The *initial* examination of the question of the desirability of prescribing Special tests or simplifying them is made in the administrative departments. It is therefore submitted

R.R.—13-9-17.

that the papers may be circulated to the departments with the request that they will consider (1) which of the Special tests should be simplified or abolished, (2) to which of the appointments under them the special tests should be prescribed, (3) whether the powers of exemption exercised by the officers under them should be modified and if so why. The question of substituting special training and probation for special tests proposed by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes relates chiefly to appointments under the Revenue Department

I agree, and probably after the Collector's conference report is received.

R.R.—13-9-17.

and has therefore primarily to be considered in that department. It is doubtful whether Educational can further examine the questions at this stage.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—12-9-17.

m.g.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL (MEDICAL) DEPARTMENT.

No Special tests have been prescribed for appointments in the Medical department—vide schedule to the Special Test Notification. The Home (Education) Department may therefore, it is submitted, be informed that this department has no remarks to offer on the points raised in that department note at A on page 7 ante.

V.V.—29-9-17.

V.S.—1-10-17.

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARI—2-10-17.

PUBLIC (MARINE) DEPARTMENT.

Please see at A in Home (Education) Registrar's note on page 7 ante in which several points for consideration are given.

Points (1) and (2)—Which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished; to which of the appointments the Special tests should be prescribed.—In the Presidency Port office the manager, the head clerk and second clerk are required to pass the Accounts test examination—vide under 'Marine Department' on page 74 of Abstract of Rules relating to Public Service Examination in the Madras Presidency. The Presidency Port Officer has already expressed the opinion that the number of appointments in his department for which the Accounts test is prescribed is not * susceptible of curtailment. Again, the test has considerably been simplified †—

* Paragraph 4 of the Presidency Port Officer's letter on page 12 of G.O. 1021, Home (Education), 6th August 1917.

† The candidates have been permitted to answer papers with the aid of books and their indexes.

vide paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 145, Home (Education), dated the 8th February 1917. It does not appear that the test is capable

of any further simplification. There seems no necessity to call for any remarks from the Presidency Port Officer in this respect. For orders.

Point (3)—Whether the powers of exemption exercised by officers should be modified and if so why.—The Presidency Port Officer has been authorized to sanction exemption from the provisions of article 1 of the Public Service Notification (viz., with regard to general educational qualification), provided that bonâ fide efforts have been made without success to obtain passed candidates, but not in respect of Special test examinations—vide articles 4 and 5 of the Public Service Notification. It is submitted that no modification seems required to the existing orders.

2. The file may be returned to Home (Education) u.o.

S.D.S.—8-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—10-10-17.

PUBLIC (ECCLIESIASTICAL) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Home Department Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, at the bottom of page 7 supra. The proposals regarding simplification of special tests do not affect this department as no

† Pay from Rs. 50 to Rs. 12.

tests are prescribed for clerical posts † in the offices of the Bishop, the Archdeacon and the Presidency Senior Chaplain, Church of Scotland. With these remarks the file may be returned to Home (Education).

V.P.E.M.—8-10-17.

A.J.J.—10-10-17.

R.H.C.—11-10-17.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL (LEGISLATIVE) DEPARTMENT.

Please see Home (Education) Registrar's note on page 4 ante.

Point (1).—This department is concerned only with the Translation (Higher) and the Translation (Lower) tests which are prescribed as the qualifying tests for the posts of munshi and first clerk, respectively, in the offices of the Translators to Government—vide paragraph 57 of the "Abstract of the rules relating to Public Service Examination" and table on page 73 of the pamphlet.

The examinations comprise

(i) the translation of an official paper from English into the candidate's vernacular language and

(ii) the translation of an official paper from the candidate's vernacular language into English,

and have been prescribed for the posts in question even long before the Translators' department was reorganized in 1910. As these examinations serve "to test the ability of the candidate to translate accurately and rapidly" (page 79 of the pamphlet) it does not seem to be expedient to abolish these tests so far as the posts of munshi

I agree.

V.T.K.—13-10-17.

R.A.G.—18-10-17.

Point (2).—The only post in the Translators' department for which no special test is prescribed is that of the second clerk (pay Rs. 25—3—40). The minimum general education qualification required for this post is the possession of a completed school-leaving certificate (G.O. No. 42, Legislative, dated 7th March 1914). As the duties of the second clerk are, however, mainly of the mechanical order, such as

V.T.K.—13-10-17.

We cannot take in men without any education at all.

R.A.G.—18-10-17.

Point (3).—The Senior Translator does not exercise any powers of exemption from the examination rules. All cases of exemption are to be referred to and dealt

V.T.K.—13-10-17.

with by the Secretary to Government, Legislative Department. No modification in regard to this matter is called for. C.S.—6-10-17.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

The only officer under the administrative control of this department is the Sanitary Commissioner. No tests included in the Public Service notification have been prescribed for any of the establishments employed under him. So far as the Secretariat is concerned, clerks on Rs. 75 and upwards in Local and Municipal are required to pass the Account test (page 6 of the Public Service Notification). Submitted that a pass in this test has been found useful as evidencing a knowledge of the Account Code and the Civil Service Regulations which is necessary for dealing with many of the papers coming up for disposal. Submitted that there is no necessity to simplify or abolish this test, or to prescribe that or any other test to any of the remaining appointments in this Secretariat. The power of granting exemption from passing the Account test rests with Government (Home Department) and no change seems necessary in this regard.

N. CHENGAL RAO—11-10-17.

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARIYAR—13-10-17.

R. A. GRAHAM—13-10-17.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

As this department is not concerned with the questions raised in the preceding notes, the Home Department may be informed that this department has no remarks to offer.

A.H.—20-10-17.

R. H. COURTNEY—22-10-17.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

The following are the appointments with which this department is concerned for which special tests have been prescribed :—

Assistant to the Hindustani Translator to Government—Translation test, higher grade.
Clerks in the office of His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Pondicherry and Karikal—Account test.

The simplification of the Translation test does not appear to be contemplated. No remarks are therefore required on this point. As regards the Account test, it will be observed that Mr. Legh has suggested the abolition of the test. Submitted that this test has been prescribed mostly for officers of the Revenue and Judicial Departments. In case they consider that the test may be abolished, this department need raise no objection to their decision. With these remarks the file may be returned u.o. to Home (Education).

T.C.N.—9-10-17.

P.D.R.—10-10-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—10-10-17.

Please note how far the Account test, if retained, is necessary for the clerks in the Consulate office. Is it necessary for all the clerks there?

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—11-10-17.

Submitted that excluding the temporary clerk on Rs. 15 per mensem recently sanctioned for a year, there are only two clerks in the office of His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Pondicherry and Karikal, one on Rs. 30—2—50 at Karikal and another on Rs. 80—2—70 at Pondicherry. The reasons for prescribing the Account test for these clerks will be found in General McLeod's letter No. 28, dated the 21st February 1894, at page 1 of G.O. No. 317, Educational, dated the 9th May 1894. Submitted that these reasons would appear to hold good even now. If however other departments decide that the Account test may be abolished on the ground that it is only an examination on paper and of very little practical value, no objection need be taken in this department to their decision.

T.C.N.—19-10-17.

P.D.R.—22-10-17.

The conditions noted by General McLeod in 1894 have not altered presumably. It is still necessary to test a clerk's knowledge for account work. It is difficult to see how this can be done better than by the present system. Mr. Legh has not offered any suggestions.

HILTON BROWN—25-10-17.

Whatever be the future of the test itself, I think that the quantity of work in the Consul's office is not such as to justify the prescription of the test. With a little experience the clerk will learn all he need know. Better abolish the test as a qualification for the posts.

R.R.—26-10-17.

Please see the preceding notes, especially the Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 7 ante. The points for consideration are—

- (a) which of the Special tests should be simplified or abolished;
- (b) to which of the appointments under Judicial the special tests should be prescribed; and
- (c) whether the powers of exemption now exercised by the officers should be modified and, if so, why.

For particulars of appointments for which special tests have been prescribed, reference is invited to the portions marked in the schedules appended to the 'Special tests and Public Service Notifications.'

2. From paragraphs 4 and 6 of G.O. No. 969, (Educational), dated the 13th September 1916, it will be seen that items (a) and (b) referred to above are matters upon which the opinions of the various heads of departments have already been invited. The opinions thus received are summarized below against each of the three items referred to in paragraph 1 ante.

Item (a).—The High Court, the Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes, the Administrator-General and Official Trustee, the Government Pleader, the Public Prosecutor, the Crown Prosecutor and the Sheriff of Madras have not offered any suggestions as regards the nature of the special tests themselves. The Second Pre-

I am not in favour of this.

R.R.—30-10-17.

sidency Magistrate alone is of opinion that Medical Jurisprudence might be omitted from the subjects prescribed for

the Criminal Judicial test, but this has not been endorsed by the Chief Presidency Magistrate (vide paragraph 4 of the Second Presidency Magistrate's letter printed on page 9 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917). The Chief Justice and Bakewell, J., are in favour of the retention of the Précis-writing test, whereas Sadasiva Ayyar, Napier, Kumaraswami Sastri and Srinivasa Ayyangar, JJ., are for its total abolition; Spencer and Seshagiri Ayyar, JJ., for its abolition in the case of Judicial officers and Oldfield, J., in the case of executive officers only. Home (Education) will doubtless decide the matter with reference to the opinions received from other heads of departments—vide minutes printed at pages 35 and 39 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

Item (b).—So far as his office is concerned, the Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes, has put forward the following suggestions:—

- (1) that the Translation test, higher grade, in both Tamil and Telugu prescribed for the Translators and Interpreters of his court may well be altered into the higher grade in one language (Tamil or Telugu) and lower grade in the other,
- (2) that the Translation test prescribed for the record-keeper may be done away with—paragraphs 5 and 6 of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1917,
- (3) that the head accountant of his court who has been omitted in the Special Test Notification might be required to pass Account test, as laid down in paragraph 5 of G.O. No. 211, Judicial, dated the 6th February 1908, and
- (4) that for the Persian and Hindustani Interpreter, Translation test, Higher grade, in Hindustani may be prescribed.

It is for consideration whether the above suggestions may be approved.

The Chief Presidency Magistrate considers that the Précis-writing test may be abolished from the tests prescribed for the chief clerk's place in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, and that a colloquial test in Hindustani may be prescribed for the posts of interpreters in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts—vide paper marked XIX on page 9 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. These suggestions may, it is submitted, be commended for the consideration of Educational.

[The Second Presidency Magistrate alone has suggested that the Criminal Judicial test, higher grade, may be altogether dispensed with in the case of accountants in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, as their work does not require any knowledge of Criminal Law, and that the Translation test may likewise be done away with in the case of the chief clerks in view of the existence of two duly qualified interpreters in each court—vide paragraph 4 of his letter, dated the 6th November 1916, printed on page 9 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917. The Fourth Presidency Magistrate states that, if possible, the chief clerks might also be qualified in the Revenue tests, so as to be eligible for appointment as sub-magistrates—vide paragraph 6 of his letter, dated 17th November 1916, on page 10 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The Chief Presidency Magistrate, however, has not supported the above suggestions which therefore do not require, it is submitted, any consideration.]

The Government Pleader has pointed out that under the existing rules Indian barristers who are not graduates are disqualified from appearing for the Précis-writing test and hence for appointment as District Munsif or Subordinate Judge and that, as this is inconvenient to Indian barristers and to the public service, the test should be thrown open to the former. The decision to be come to on the Government Pleader's suggestion will doubtless depend upon whether the test itself will be retained or abolished—vide notes under item (a) above.

The High Court, the Administrator-General and Official Trustee and other heads have not suggested any changes in respect of the tests already prescribed for the appointments under them. Presumably they have no changes to propose.

Item (c).—So far as Judicial (B) Section is concerned, the High Court and District Judges alone exercise certain powers of exemption and these are particularized at pages 16 and 18 of Public Service Notification. It does not seem

R.R.—30-10-17. | necessary that the existing powers should
| in any way be modified.

3. With the above remarks the file may be returned u.o. to Home (Education).

R.V.S.—13-10-17.

C.R.—22-10-17.

The suggestions as to the abolition of the Précis writing test may perhaps be specially commended to Educational. The remarks of the Second Presidency Magistrate as to the abolition of the Criminal Judicial test (higher) in the case of Presidency Magistrates' accountants may perhaps be reconsidered, though it lacks the support of the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

HILTON BROWN—21-10-17.

So far as Judicial (B) is concerned, the recommendations are as follows:—

(a) Abolish Précis-writing test as a qualification for any appointment in this section.

(b) In any case where one has to pass Translation test in two languages it is enough if one of the tests be passed in the lower grade.

(c) Record-keeper in all courts—Translation test not necessary.

(d) Registrar and Deputy Registrar in all courts—Translation test not necessary.

(e) Head clerks in all courts—Translation test not necessary.

(f) Chief clerk or Manager, Presidency Magistrates' Courts—Criminal Judicial test not necessary.

(g) Accountants in Presidency Magistrates' Courts—Criminal Judicial test not necessary.

(h) Second clerk and shroff, Administrator-General's office—Account test not necessary.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—30-10-17.

HOME (JUDICIAL) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the preceding notes especially the Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 7 ante. The points for consideration are:—

(1) which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished;

(2) to which of the appointments under the section the special tests should be prescribed, and

(3) whether the power of exemption now exercised by the officers should be modified and, if so, why.

2. For particulars of appointments for which special tests have been prescribed reference is invited to the schedules appended to Special Tests and Public Service notifications. (For special tests required for Jail and Registration Departments, please see pages 12-13 of the pamphlet.)

3. The departments under Judicial (C) section which may be considered in connexion with the question of special tests are Jails, Registration and Factories.

4. *Factories.*—No special tests have been prescribed for this department and none need be prescribed. The Factory staff consists of one Chief and one Assistant Inspector and their establishment, consisting of a few clerks.

5. *Jails.*—From paragraphs 4 and 6 of G.O. No. 969, Home (Education), dated 13th September 1916, it will be seen that the opinions of the heads of departments had already been invited on points (i) and (ii) referred to in paragraph 1 above. As regards the Jails Department the Inspector-General of Prisons replied as follows [vide Inspector-General's letter G. No. 442, dated 24th October 1916, on pages 2-3 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Judicial), dated 6th August 1914]:—

"Regarding the proposal to curtail some of the existing tests, I beg to state that the only special test now required for higher appointments in the Jail Department is the Jail test. It is very essential that deputy jailers and jailers should qualify in this test. The portions prescribed for this test are not elaborate and therefore do not require curtailment. The other special tests are not required to be passed by the officers of the Jail Department."

6. The subjects of the Jail test are—

(1) The Penal Code—chapters II, III, IV and IX and sections 128-30 and 217-225.

(2) The Code of Criminal Procedure—Parts I, II and IV (omitting chapters IX to XIII) and chapters XXVIII, XXIX, XXXI, XXXIV and XXXIX.

(3) Laws, rules, regulations and orders relating to jails—

(a) Prisoners Act,

(b) Prisons Act,

(c) Regulation II of 1819,

(d) Lunacy Act portions relating to jails,

(e) Part II of Jail Manual,

(f) Appendix II of Jail Manual.

(4) The Civil Account Code—chapters I, III, IV, V, VI and XV (articles 245 to 248 only).

7. Submitted that we may agree with the Inspector-General that this test is

H.B.—6-11-17.

R.R.—7-11-17.

necessary for the Jail Department and that none of the subjects prescribed for the test can be curtailed or abolished. As

stated by the Inspector-General the portions prescribed are not elaborate and none of them is unnecessary. The Inspector-General also states that Indian jailers and assistant jailers employed in the five special sub-jails at Russellkonda, Koraput, Nellore, Calicut and Mangalore and the chief and reserve head warders in all jails on Rs. 20 per mensem and above should be excluded from the operation of article 1 of the Public Service notification, i.e., they need not be required to possess the minimum educational qualification prescribed for appointments on Rs. 20 and above. Chief and

reserve head warders are already excluded from the operation of article 1 of the Public Service notification [vide schedule B under article 2 (2) of that notification] and it is for consideration whether the Indian jailers and assistant jailers of the five special sub-jails referred to should also be similarly excluded. The Inspector-General has not given any reasons for his recommendation. It is not clear whether the Inspector-General bases his recommendation on the ground that no educational qualifications are required for these posts or on the ground of any difficulty felt in recruiting for these posts from passed candidates. The pay of the

H.B.—6-11-17.

posts ranges from Rs. 30 to Rs. 60 and the duties of the jailers are such that passed men will be necessary. Submitted that the Inspector-General may be asked for the reasons for his recommendation.

The proposal need not be further considered.

R.R.—7-11-17.

8. As regards the powers of exemption of the Inspector-General of Prisons, please see rule 4 (3) of the Public Service notification. According to this rule the Inspector-General of Prisons and certain other heads of departments have been empowered to sanction the employment of unpassed candidates in acting and sub. *pro tem.* vacancies and in temporary posts without limit of time when the sanctioned pay of the appointment is not more than Rs. 30 per mensem and for a period not exceeding 12 months when the sanctioned pay of the appointment is not more than Rs. 50 per mensem. The Inspector-General has not expressed any opinion on this point in his reply on pages 2-3 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917. It may be left to the Educational Department to decide whether any modification of these powers is required on the analogy of the powers of other heads of departments of similar status.

9. *Registration.*—The tests mentioned below have now to be passed by the officers of this department.

The Civil Judicial Test without Civil Rules of Practice and Insolvency Act—District Registrars.

The Account Test—District Registrars and Managers and Accountants on Rs. 50 and above in the Inspector-General's office.

10. Attention is requested to the letters of Mr. Schmidt as Inspector-General of Registration and as Registrar of Joint Stock Companies on pages 19-21 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, from which it will be seen that the Inspector-General would like certain modifications in the Civil Judicial Test as prescribed for District Registrars and would add the Account Test as compulsory for certain additional posts in his office—

(a) The Civil Judicial Test at present comprises the following subjects:—

- (1) Code of Civil Procedure, Limitation Act, and Civil Rules of Practice.
- (2) Evidence Act.
- (3) Contract and Negotiable Instruments Acts.
- (4) Transfer of Property Act.
- (5) Insolvency Act.
- (6) Stamps, Court Fees and Suits Valuation Acts.

(b) Of these six papers District Registrars are *not* now to answer a portion of (1) and paper (5).

(c) The Inspector-General wishes now that a paper on "Companies Law" should be added to the test as prescribed for District Registrars. The reasons for his suggestion are in his letter on page 21 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated

R.R.—7-11-17.

6th August 1917, and the proposal may be accepted.

(d) If this view is concurred in, candidates who appear for the Civil Judicial test proper will have to be told not to answer one paper on "Companies Law" which will be paper 7. Instead of having this confusion, it is for consideration whether the test for District Registrars may not be christened "Registration test," the papers for this test being the same as those * for the Civil Judicial test, there being only a special paper for this test on "Companies Law." This is, however, a minor matter on which the Commissioner for Government Examinations may have to be consulted.

* Civil Rules of Practice and Insolvency Act being subtracted.

This seems to be a good idea and should be pursued.

B.R.—7-11-17.

11. As regards the Account test, the Inspector-General says he would prefer it for all posts in his office on Rs. 60 and above instead of a differentiation being made between Accountants and clerks for the reason that in a numerically limited establishment it is not easy to carry such a differentiation into actual practice (page 20 of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1917). The persons in the Inspector-General's office who have now to pass the test are Manager (150), and Accountants on Rs. 125, 80 and 50—4. If the Inspector-General's recommendation is accepted, the following

H.E.—6-11-17.

I do not agree. Let those who care qualify themselves for the special posts.

R.R.—7-11-17.

12. The powers of exemption of the Inspector-General of Registration are similar to those enjoyed by the Inspector-General of Prisons and referred to in paragraph 5 above and may be left to the Educational Department for decision.

13. A draft memorandum to the Inspector-General of Prisons is submitted for approval with reference to paragraph 7 of the note above. After issue of the memorandum the case may be forwarded to the Educational Department. The Inspector-General's reply to the memorandum can be forwarded to the Educational Department when received.

M.V.V.—3-11-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—5-11-17.

HILTON BROWN—6-11-17.

Not necessary.

K. RAMACHANDRA RAO—7-11-17.

PUBLIC (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Home Department Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 7 supra. Account test is prescribed for the posts of the manager and the head accountant in the office of the Resident in Travancore and Cochin. Now that there is a branch of the Bank of Madras in Trivandrum, the treasury work is practically done by the Bank, there is no longer any need to prescribe the Account test as a necessary qualification for the posts of the manager and the head accountant. The Resident may be consulted. Draft official memorandum submitted for approval (G.O. No. 80, Political, dated the 25th February 1916).

A.J.J.—10-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—11-10-17.

[Official memorandum to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, No. 1977-1, dated the 12th October 1917.]

From the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, R.O.C. No. 2937, dated the 28th October 1917.

Please see the Resident's letter on pages 2 and 3. In the circumstances stated therein the Account test may be continued as a qualifying test for the posts of Treasury officer and head accountant of the Resident's treasury.

D.N.S.—7-11-17.

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[NOTES TO G.O. No. 521, HOME (EDUCATION), 23RD APRIL 1918 13

2. Please see the Home Department Registrar's note, dated 12th September 1917, on page 7 supra. This department is unable to offer any remarks on item (1), and as regards item (3), it is submitted that none of the Political officers as such exercise any powers of exemption.

3. With the above remarks the file may be returned to Home (Education) u.o.
V.P.E.M.—6-11-17.

D. N. STRATHIE—7-11-17.

F. J. RICHARDS—8-11-17.

FINANCIAL (SEPARATE REVENUE) DEPARTMENT.

Please see Home (Education) Department's notes at A on the previous page. Action has to be taken in this department as regards the simplification, etc., of the 'departmental' tests prescribed for the officers of the Salt and Abkari departments.

2. The nature and scope of these tests and the officers who are required to pass these tests are set out in notification No. 462, dated 25th August 1910 (as subsequently amended) printed on pages 105-110 of the pamphlet of rules relating to Public Service examinations.

3. In 1913 Salt test "C" which corresponds to the General Account test was simplified—vide G.O. No. 370, Revenue, dated 5th February 1913. Submitted that the Board of Revenue may now be asked to consider and report in the matter of the simplification, etc., of the Salt and Abkari tests.

Draft official memorandum submitted for approval. Point (3) in Home (Education) note at A on page 7 supra has not been specified in the draft, as the Board has reported thereon in February last—vide paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings on page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

[The question of abolishing the 'Criminal Judicial' and 'Translation' tests for the post of income-tax inspector, Madras, recommended by the Board of Revenue in paragraph 6 of its Proceedings on page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917, and noted on pages 9-10 of Notes to Government Order ibid will be submitted for the Honourable Member's orders on receipt of the Board's reply to the present reference.]

C.V.R.—4-10-17.

K.C.V.—6-10-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—9-10-17.

[Official memorandum to the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue),
No. 2473-1, dated 10th October 1917.]

Reference from the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), No. G.T. 413-R., Salt,
dated 7th November 1917.

Please see the reply received from the Board of Revenue on pages 2-3, current

D.N.S.—19-11-17.

This department may agree with the Board that no change can be made with advantage in the tests prescribed for Salt, Abkari and Customs officers—vide Notification No. 462, dated 25th August 1910 (as subsequently amended) printed on pages 105-110 of the pamphlet of the rules relating to Public Service examination. As regards point (3) in Home (Education) note at A on page 7 supra, the Board has already reported that it would restrict to Deputy Commissioners the power of employing unpassed candidates to vacancies which do not exceed six months [page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.] This was already agreed to and the file may now be forwarded to Home (Education) Department—Financial (Separate Revenue) Department notes on pages 9-10 of Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. That department may also be requested to take the Honourable Member's (Separate Revenue) orders on the question—

F. J. RICHARDS—20-11-17.

abolishing the 'Criminal Judicial test' and 'Translation test' for the post of Income-tax Inspector, Madras—vide pages 9-10 of Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917.

K.C.V.—17-11-17.

D. N. STRATHAIR—19-11-17.

F. J. RICHARDS—20-11-17.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Please see the portion marked A in the printed notes on page 7 supra. Of the three items on which remarks are called for, items 2 and 3 have already been discussed in this department and the recommendation thereon will be found at pages 7 and 8 of the Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. No further remarks seem called for now on these items. As regards item 3—which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished—it is submitted that this item needs no consideration in this department, as no special test examinations have been prescribed for appointments in this department nor are any considered necessary.

2. With these remarks the file may be returned to Home (Education) u.o.

P. RAY—9-11-17.

A.S.N.—17-11-17.

W. G. MOLESWORTH—19-11-17.

S. B. MURRAY—20-11-17.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

The Home (Education) Department request that the following points may be considered in connexion with the question of the desirability of prescribing special tests or simplifying them. They are accordingly examined below:—

(1) Which of the special tests should be abolished or simplified.—No special tests

We are really not concerned with these. are prescribed by this Government for the subordinates in the offices of the Accountant-General and the Postmaster-General. This department need therefore consider only the cases of the subordinates in the Government Press, the Stationery office and the Madras Record office. In the last office also there is no appointment for which any special test is prescribed—vide the schedule at pages 89-95 of the pamphlet put up. From the same schedule it will be seen that Account test is the only test prescribed for the subordinates in the offices under this department and the appointments are those of

- (1) the Accountant in the Government Press, and
- (2) Accountants on Rs. 50 and upwards in the Stationery office.

The Superintendent, Government Press, has already stated that the passing of this test by the Accountant of the Press is desirable—vide paragraph 3 of his letter at page 11 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917. The Superintendent of Stationery has also not recommended the abolition of any tests—see his letter at pages 18-19 of the above Government Order—and the opinion of the Board is against the test being dispensed with altogether—paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings at page 40 of the above Government Order. This view may, it is submitted, be supported in this department. The only question then is of simplification. The test has already been considerably simplified. The latest orders are in G.O. No. 145, Home (Education), dated 8th February 1917. It does not appear that the test is capable of further simplification and no suggestions on this point need perhaps be called for from the Superintendent of Stationery, and the Superintendent, Government Press. For orders.

We must have the Account test for these men.

L.E.K.—20-10-17.

(2) *To which of the appointments under this department the special tests should be prescribed.*—There do not appear to be any appointments for which the special tests should be prescribed other than those already referred to above.

(3) *Whether the powers of exemption exercised by the officers under them should be modified and if so why.*—Please see paragraphs 4 (3) and 5 (7) on pages 78-79 of the pamphlet. No modification of the powers enumerated therein appear to be necessary.

The Registrar may see the case as regards assistants in the Chief Secretariat.

T.H.R.—8-10-17.

Then why has it not been sent to him to be dealing with it separately?

L.E.K.—10-10-17.

C.K.—8-10-17.

T.H.R.—8-10-17.

As regards this, I do not see why Secretaries to Government should not have full powers to appoint unpassed men. Recruitment for the Secretariat is governed by a number of considerations, and while it might be advisable occasionally to bring in an 'unqualified' man who nevertheless has other qualification, no Secretary is likely to abuse the power vested in him and make his Secretariat the dumping ground for unpassed men.

As regards Chief Secretariat clerks, I place below a statement showing the tests clerks are required to pass in the several departments of the Secretariat. The only test which need be made compulsory in the Chief Secretariat is the Accounts test. As regards the other examinations, it may be left to such clerks who aspire to appointments outside the Secretariat to pass them. They need not be made compulsory.

As a matter of fact a reference to the establishment list will show that the rule regarding the passing of the special tests has been honoured in the breach. In future, I think the Accounts test should be insisted on—the Chief Secretary having power of exemption in any case in which he desires to exercise it.

L. E. KERSHAW—20-10-17.

So far as the Chief Secretariat, as now constituted, is concerned, only the Account test is required.

It does not seem to me that it is necessary to extend the Chief Secretary's powers of exemption.

L. DAVIDSON—22-10-17.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Home (Education) Department note on pages 6-7 ante. The following questions have to be considered so far as the special tests concerning the Revenue Department are concerned:—

- (1) which of the special tests may be simplified or abolished;
- (2) for which of the appointments in the Revenue Department the special tests should be prescribed;
- (3) whether the powers of exemption exercised by the officers under this department should be modified; and
- (4) whether the special training and probation proposed by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes may be substituted for the special tests (a) Revenue test (Higher and lower grades), (b) Criminal Judicial test (higher and lower grades) and Account test.

The above questions are noted on below so far as the several departments under Revenue are concerned.

K.S.N.—19-11-17.

This case (which from the first appears to have been rather unmanageable) has been further complicated by the introduction of a new issue, namely, the proposals of Messrs. Campbell and Stokes and of the Committee which considered the question of special tests during the last Collectors' Conference.

2. I gather from the Home Department note on page 7 that the intention is to transfer the report of the Committee to Revenue for disposal. Messrs. Campbell and Stokes themselves asked that their scheme (vide paragraph 3 on page 4 of the notes) and this should I think, be done at once.

A.G.O.—21-2-18.

3. In the meantime it will considerably simplify matters if orders are now passed in connexion with two points which are self-contained. The first is in regard to the Survey and Settlement departments which stand on a somewhat different footing from the rest of the Revenue Department. The second is in regard to the Translation and Precise-writing tests which are not affected by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes' proposals. I have therefore removed a large volume of somewhat inadequate notes from this file and now submit only those relating to these points.

4. So far as the Revenue Department is concerned the Translation test (lower grade) is required of the following:—

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Sarishtadar. | } In Collectors' offices. |
| English headclerk. | |
| Vernacular headclerk. | |
| Record-keepers. | |
| Tahsildars. | |
| Deputy tahsildars. | |
| Divisional office head-clerks. | |
| District Forest office clerks over Rs. 50. | |
| Taluk head-Accountants and Sarishtadars. | |
| Clerks on Rs. 80 and upwards in the Revenue Secretariat. | |
| Translators in Collectors' offices and (an entry which I do not quite understand). | |
| All appointments (not being Secretariat appointments) to which salaries of Rs. 50 and upwards are attached in the office of the Board of Revenue. | |
| Translators in the office of the Board of Revenue. | |

5. As regards district appointments it will be seen from paragraph 5 (iii) of the Board's Proceedings at page 40 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917, that as Collector of the Nilgiris I proposed the abolition of this test for members of the Revenue Department with certain exceptions. The Board accepted this recommendation and proposed to dispense with the translation test in the case of persons serving in a district the vernacular of which is their mother tongue. I do not think I need enlarge on this recommendation. It may be that to abolish the Translation test would result in our clerks gradually losing the small facility for reading vernacular manuscripts in their own language which they now possess. But

Quite so. The existing rules are quite wrong and merely represent one item in an 'obstacle race.'

A.G.O.—21-2-18.

6. The application of the Translation test (lower) to clerks on Rs. 80 and upwards in the Revenue Secretariat evidently has reference to the fact that the same test is required as a qualification for the deputy tahsildar's post. If, as I recommend, it is abolished for the latter it may also be abolished in the case of the Secretariat clerks. The post of translator in the Collector's office has now disappeared except in Ganjam. I am inclined to think that for the special post in that Collectorate the higher grade should be required instead of the lower grade. I think a reference on this point might be made. I would also propose to ask the Board whether the retention of the Translation test is necessary in the case of item (16) at page 10 of the pamphlet.

I think we may leave it to the Collector to deal with individual cases. He will probably know whether it is necessary for any individual to pass the test. Probably it will usually be unnecessary.

A.G.O.—21-2-18.

Similarly the Board can deal with individual cases.

A.G.O.—21-2-18.

Should be referred to Ld. Secy for remarks

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7. The formula used by the Board in its recommendation, namely, that the test should no longer be required in the case of persons serving in a district *the vernacular* of which is their mother tongue leaves out of account the districts which have more than one vernacular. I do not think that this matters. Even as it is, clerks in the bilingual districts have the choice of applying for this test in either of the languages and as they would usually appear for it in their mother tongue their position, if the test is abolished, will be just as it is now. If the Board's proposal is accepted it may be made clear that the exemption applies in bilingual districts to any person whose mother tongue is either of the recognized languages.

A. R. KNAPP—17-1-18.

I think that orders may at once issue abolishing the liability in respect of any office in the Revenue Department, to have passed the translation test, lower grade, unless required to do so by the head of the office on the ground that the individual officer in question has an inadequate acquaintance with the vernacular language of the district in which he is employed. It will then be open to a Collector, Divisional officer, or Tahsildar, etc., to say that a particular clerk must pass the translation test and to decline to promote him until he does so, but in the absence of a definite order applicable to that officer individually, there will be no obligation to pass.

2. The above will apply only to the Revenue Department including the Revenue Secretariat and the Board of Revenue * and orders can issue therefore without consulting all other departments.

3. Items numbered (3) Deputy Collectors and (7) Uncovenanted Assistants, Board of Revenue, may at the same time be struck out of the list of offices for which the *Precis-writing test* is prescribed.

4. When the Government Order issued (G.O. No. 1093, Revenue, dated 19th March 1918) carrying out the above has issued, will the Secretary kindly send me a copy of it with note files so that I may consider whether any further steps are required in regard to the Translation and Precise tests. It is only by attacking the problem in detail that any progress can be attained. If one attempts to deal with a particular Special test as a whole it affects so many departments that it gets stuck in inter-departmental discussions.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—21-2-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT

The questions raised in this file are three in number:—

- (i) which of the special tests should be simplified or abolished;
- (ii) whether special test qualification should be prescribed afresh for any appointment and whether such qualification may be dispensed with in any of the cases in which it is now necessary; and
- (iii) whether the powers of exemption now exercised by heads of departments and others should be modified, and if so, why.

2. Most of the Secretariat Departments consulted in the matter have no remarks to offer either because no special test qualification is prescribed for appointments under them or because they do not feel the need for any change in the existing rules concerning them. Separate orders have already been issued dispensing with the need for officers in the Police Department to pass any of the special tests (G.O. No. 1492, Education, dated 26th November 1917). Revenue have issued separate orders on some of the points concerning them. The rest of the recommendations

are dealt with below under each appropriate head :—

(i) *Simplification or abolition of Special tests.*—No useful remarks have been received in this direction. The matter is also intertwined with a scheme formulated at the last Collectors' Conference by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes for the substitution of a course of training and probation for special tests. Honourable Member, Revenue, proposes to deal with this separately—vide Honourable Member's marginal orders, 21st February 1918, at page 2, ante. This scheme, however, covers only the Revenue, Criminal Judicial and Account tests. Of the remaining tests there is practically a consensus of opinion for the abolition of the Précis-writing test;

this test is at present a qualifying test for the marginally * noted appointments : officers specified in items (5) and (6) have already been relieved of the liability to pass the test; vide G.O. No. 1492, dated the 26th November 1917. Judicial have proposed that those mentioned in items (1), (2), (4) and (8) need not pass it (vide (a) in the Secretary's note at page 2, ante) while Revenue have removed the liability of Deputy Collectors and uncovenanted assistants to qualify by passing the test. This exhausts the list and the test may therefore be abolished.

- (1) Sub-Judges.
- (2) District Munsifs.
- (3) Deputy Collectors.
- (4) Chief Clerk or Manager in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts.
- (5) Managers in the offices of the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police.
- (6) Head clerks in the office of the Inspector-General of Police.
- (7) Uncovenanted Assistants, Board of Revenue.
- (8) Manager, office of the Administrator-General.

Attention is in this connexion solicited to the Legislative Council question and answer recorded in G.O. No. 218, HOME (Education), dated the 22nd February 1918, in which the Government have stated that, in connexion with the question of the simplification of special tests, the rules that prevent a partial pass will be examined. It cannot now be said what the future of these tests will be until the scheme proposed by Messrs. Campbell and Stokes has been examined by Revenue; perhaps the question of introducing compartmental system in the special tests may stand over till then.

(ii) *Applicability of special tests to particular appointments.*—The following shows the recommendations in this regard :—

Home Miscellaneous.—Abolish the Account test for clerks in the office of His Britannic Majesty's Consul for Pondicherry and Karikal.

Home (Judicial) B.—(1) Abolish Translation test for Recordkeeper, Registrar and Deputy Registrar and head clerk in all Courts, Criminal Judicial test for chief clerk or manager and accountants in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, and the Account test for second clerk and shroff, Administrator-General's office.

- 1. Translators in the City Civil Court (except the Hindustani translator).
- 2. Interpreters in the High Court and the Court of Small Causes, Madras, other than Persian, Hindustani and Guzarati interpreters.
- 3. Interpreters in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts.

(2) It is also proposed that if in any case the translation test has to be passed in two languages it is enough if one of the tests be passed in the lower grade. (This would affect the marginally noted appointments).

Home (Judicial) C.—Propose the institution of a separate test called the 'Registrar's test' for District Registrars, the subjects for which being those at present

* With the exception of the civil Rules of practice and the Provincial Insolvency Act.

A covered by the * Civil Judicial test with the addition of the 'Companies Law'.

Financial.—The only proposal is that which affects the Chief Secretariat establishment. It is recommended that instead of the marginally noted tests which are at present required to be passed by clerks on Rs. 100 and above the Account test

* Revenue test (higher).
Account test.
Criminal Judicial test (lower).
Translation test (lower)

alone need be a qualifying test in future. It is presumed that this has to be passed only by clerks in the Chief Secretariat establishment on Rs. 100 and above as at present.

The foregoing recommendations may, it is submitted, be accepted. Financial (Separate Revenue) desire that the orders of the Honourable Member in charge may be taken on the question of abolishing the Criminal Judicial test and the Translation test for the post of Income-tax inspectors, Madras. Attention is in this connexion invited to the Board's Proceedings at pages 34-35 of G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, in which it recommended the abolition of those tests so far as the appointment in question was concerned and Financial (Separate Revenue) note thereon at pages 9 and 10 of the notes therewith.

The Director of Public Instruction has already proposed the abolition of the account test for sub-assistant inspectors and inspectresses. He has suggested instead that examination in such knowledge of the Civil Account Code and the Civil Service Regulations as is necessary for the ordinary discharge of their duties may be made part of the Departmental test (Sub-assistant Inspector's test) prescribed for these officers.—Paragraph (2) of the Director of Public Instruction's letter at page 7 of G.O. No. 1021, Education, 6th August 1917. For orders whether this suggestion may be approved.

The question whether any special test qualification should be prescribed for the clerical staff of the Home Secretariat is for orders. Perhaps the Criminal Judicial test (lower) may be prescribed for clerks on Rs. 100 and above.

(iii) *Powers of exemption.*—The suggestions under this head are:—

(a) Financial (Separate Revenue) supports the Board's recommendation to restrict the power of temporary exemption to Deputy Commissioners of Salt, Abkari and Customs and that only for a period of six months as against the present twelve—paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings at page 35 of G.O. No. 1021, Education, dated 6th August 1917 and Financial (Separate Revenue) note at page 16 ante and article 4 (6) of the Public Service notification. This involves also withdrawal of the powers now exercised by Assistant Commissioners under article 4 (7) of the Public Service notification. The suggestion may, it is submitted, be accepted.

(b) The Public Works Department recommend (i) that Superintending Engineers may be given the same powers as Collectors in the matter of exemption; and (ii) that the Chief Engineer may be given powers to sanction permanently exemption from general educational qualification for posts on Rs. 20 per mensem and temporary exemptions for professional appointments of Lower Subordinates etc., the latter presumably without limit of time—page 8 of notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated 6th August 1917, see also notes with G.O. No. 52, Revenue, dated 2nd March 1918.

The powers exercised by Collectors are for the present purpose those defined in articles 4 (5) and 5 (5) of the Public Service Notification. On this analogy there is no objection to investing Superintending Engineers with the power to grant temporary exemption to unpassed candidates up to Rs. 30 per mensem and for a period of twelve months (Superintending Engineers' present powers are given in articles 4 (12) and 5 (11) of the Public Service Notification). Similarly they may be given temporary powers of exemption in respect of professional qualifications up to six months as against the present three, the limit of pay being Rs. 50 as at present.

Superintending

In respect of the recommendation numbered (ii) on the previous page, it is submitted that the power to grant *permanent* exemption from the provisions of article 1 of the Public Service Notification and from professional qualifications rested for a long time with the Government. In 1914 as a result of Mr. Francis' proposals for reduction of work in the office, the Board of Revenue was given powers of permanent exemption up to Rs. 30 per mensem in respect of general educational qualification and up to Rs. 50 per mensem in respect of professional tests—vide G.O. No. 339, Educational, dated the 18th July 1914.

Later on, owing to the special character of the Registration Department where an unusually large number of unpassed candidates are employed in the subordinate ranks and with a view to giving effect to the recent reorganization of the clerical establishment of the department, the Government delegated in 1916 power to the Inspector-General of Registration to employ unpassed candidates *permanently* up to Rs. 25 per mensem—vide G.O. No. 836, Home (Education), dated the 2nd August 1916. In the case of the Chief Engineer there does not appear to be any *special* need to give him powers of permanent exemption from the provisions of article 1 of the Public Service Notification. In fact from the Public Works Department office note at page 7 of the Notes to G.O. No. 1021, Home (Education), dated the 6th August 1917, it is evident that the main argument in support of the present proposal is the prescription of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate as a qualification for 20 rupee appointments. But in view of the fact that the rule is not to have retrospective effect and the case of acting incumbents is proposed to be otherwise disposed of, there is no ground for the grant of the power asked for. The power of granting *temporary* exemption from professional qualification seems to stand on a different footing and in fact if the Chief Engineer is given the power, it will save a very large number of references to this department which at present invariably accepts the Chief Engineer's recommendation on applications for temporary exemptions from the qualification prescribed for lower and upper subordinates. It is therefore for consideration whether this part of the proposal may be approved and a period fixed, say 12 months. Similar powers may be given to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation also Public Works note at page 5 of G.O. No. 52 (R), dated the 2nd March 1918.

E.A.V.—12-3-18.

C.R.—15-3-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—20-3-18.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—22-3-18.

This is a file of the Educational Department and should therefore under the rules go first to His Excellency the Governor who has charge of that department. So far as I am concerned, if I am told what the points are relating to the departments of which I am in charge, on which my views are required, I shall be glad to note them. I do not propose to offer any remarks on the questions raised in these papers in regard to departments not in my charge. If it could be managed, I would suggest that the question of tests be dealt with separately in the different departments, orders of the Honourable Member in charge taken, and then communicated to Home (Educational) for issuing a consolidated Government Order if such a one is considered necessary.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—26-3-18.

H. F. W. GILLMAN—26-3-18.

I agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar as to the desirability of dealing with the liability to special tests separately in the different departments, but it may be better not to issue a consolidated order but separate orders as points are settled. The Commissioner will consolidate the results in a revised notification. ~~This is, however,~~ one point on which I think orders might issue at once, viz., the abolition of the Précis test as there are no longer any appointments for which it is to be required.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—27-3-18.

P[ENTLAND]—28-3-18.

21 NOTES to G.O. No. 521, HOME (EDUCATION), 23RD APRIL 1918

A draft order directing the abolition of the Précis-writing test is submitted. After issue thereof these notes may be printed and circulated to Secretariat Departments for requisite action in regard to the special tests with which they are concerned. If any branch of the Secretariat should decide on any changes in the Public service or Special Test notification such changes will have to be notified in that department.
E.A.V.—15-4-18.
T.K.—15-4-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—16-4-18.

And a copy of the Government Order should be sent to Home (Education) for revising the Public Service and Special Test notifications.

Issue draft.

See that Home takes action on all departments under the Home Secretary.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—23-4-18.

*† Points relating
to Home (Edn) will
be separately taken
up.*

G. D. V.

Drafts

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*this is the manager
itself*

7/5/18

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DEPARTMENT

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G.O. No. 521, dated 23.4.1918.

Number of MS. pages sent { Correspondence (b) 49
(b) Notes 51

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