

Home (1918) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 716

DATED 6. 6. 18

INDEXE

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council resolution.—

Recording papers relating to the resolution moved by the Hon'ble Mr. K.R.V. Krishna Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1918 regarding provision in the budget for the salaries of the weaving, dyeing and leather experts.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL (LEGISLATIVE) DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH RESOLUTIONS REGARDING
REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

[For the meeting of the 13th March 1918.]

[SUBJECT.—Regarding provision for the weaving, dyeing and leather experts.]

The Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—

XXXX. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that the budget provision in the budget estimate for the year 1918-19 under "26-Bm." for (1) a weaving expert, (2) a dyeing expert and (3) a leather expert, should be omitted.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Weaving expert (Rs. 750).—Provision in the budget for 1918-19 is Rs. 9,000. In July 1917 Mr. Innes submitted, after consultation with Mr. Chatterton, certain proposals for the opening of a weaving section in the Madura Technical Institute and recommended that a highly trained hand-loom weaving expert should be engaged to superintend the weaving section and that the expert should be given a say in the lay-out and organization thereof. He further stated that if the weaving section were organized on right lines, it ought to be a centre for research, demonstration and training in connexion with the industry and that the whole problem was one of sufficient importance to engage the undivided attention of a real weaving expert—vide paragraphs 7-8 on pages 2-3 of G.O. No. 1347, Home (Education), dated 29th October 1917. The Government accordingly sanctioned the creation of a post of weaving expert temporarily for a period of three years. The Secretary of State was also requested to recruit a suitable officer for the post on a pay not exceeding Rs. 750 per mensem—vide Government Order *ibid.* No reply has yet been received from the Secretary of State. It is not also certain that it would at present be possible to get a suitable officer from Home. Mr. Innes has, however, stated that failing a man from Home he would try an Indian. In these circumstances the provision in the budget for the pay of a weaving expert should, it is submitted, stand.

2. Dyeing expert (Rs. 750).—Provision Rs. 9,000.—The necessity for the permanent appointment of a dyeing expert is fully explained in the Government of India's letter to the Secretary of State, dated 12th May 1916, printed on pages 2-3 of G.O. No. 936, Home (Education), dated 4th September 1916. Briefly stated, Dr. Marsden, the dyeing expert, was at first appointed temporarily for a period of two years and his services were retained for a further period of three years. The results obtained from his investigations had been sufficiently promising to enable this Government to decide in favour of the establishment of a permanent tinctorial laboratory with technical classes at Madura where those connected with the trade would be able to receive instruction in elementary science, the nature of dyeing materials, the technology of textile fabrics and dyeing processes. In July 1916 the Secretary of State sanctioned the permanent retention of the appointment of dyeing expert in this Presidency on a monthly salary of Rs. 750 and the confirmation of Dr. Marsden in the post. Mr. Marsden was placed on special duty in the Department of Agriculture for one year with effect from the 1st April 1917 to investigate into the methods of cultivation and manufacture of indigo in this Presidency—G.O. No. 923, Revenue, dated 28th March 1917. The Director of Agriculture in submitting a copy of Dr. Marsden's report recording the results of his investigation stated that he may revert to the Department of Industries on 1st April 1918.

Dr. Marsden too has applied for privilege leave for one month from the 3rd April with permission to prefix to his leave the Easter holidays. When he returns from leave he will have sufficient work to engage him fully with the Madura Technical Institute. Mr. Innes in paragraph 31 of his annual report has stated that the present intention is that Dr. Marsden should be principal of the institute as well as superintendent of the dyeing section in the institute (vide page 17 of G.O. No. 1209, dated the 19th September 1917). He has also reported that the new institute was well on its way to completion and that the institute and the hostel would be ready for use by the end of the current official year (1917-18) (vide paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1347, dated the 29th October 1917). It may also be noted that the Government of India have been informed that it was proposed to open a dyeing section in the institute early next year and that Government have been requested to arrange with the India Office for the supply direct to the institute of a full range of samples of British dyes as they were required for instructional purposes, and that the use of them, in preference to German dyes, would do something to make the South Indian dyers acquainted with British dyes (G.O. No. 1519, dated the 30th November 1917). In these circumstances the provision made for the pay of a dyeing expert should be retained.

3. *Leather expert* (Rs. 750).—Provision Rs. 9,000.—The Industrial Conference held at Ootacamund in 1908 recommended that a leather-trade school should be established in this Presidency, that provision should be made for technical education in tanning and that experiments should be undertaken in the school to determine whether or not the status of the Madras tanning trade could be improved. Accordingly the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained for the employment of a leather expert on Rs. 750 per mensem for a period of three years in the first instance, and on the suggestion of the Secretary of State the post was offered to Mr. A. Guthrie who joined his appointment on the 1st September 1911. In their Order No. 613, Educational, dated the 10th July 1912, the Government approved of the scheme for the establishment of a leather trade school submitted by Mr. Guthrie. Pending the construction of new buildings for the school at Washermanpet, Mr. Guthrie was sent to Bangalore to make himself acquainted with indigenous methods of tanning as adopted at the Mysore tannery. By the time the new buildings were nearing completion, Mr. Guthrie's term of engagement came to a close and the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained for the retention of his services for a further period of three years. When he was making arrangements for starting classes in the school in 1915 his services were requisitioned for war purposes and he was permitted to proceed on military duty in G.O. No. 711, Educational, dated the 30th June 1915.

As regards the leather trade school, temporary arrangements were made for conducting the classes therein (vide G.Os. No. 154, Educational, dated the 12th February 1916, No. 839, Home (Education), dated the 23rd June 1917, and No. 150, Home (Education), dated the 9th February 1918. Mr. Guthrie, the leather expert, is now under the Indian Munitions Board. His term of engagement with this Government expired on the 1st September 1917 (G.O. No. 1294, Educational, dated the 16th November 1914). But this Government have however given him an undertaking that they would be prepared to re-employ him when his employment under the Munitions Board ceased (vide G.O. No. 919, Home (Education), dated the 12th July 1917). In G.O. No. 150, Home (Education), dated the 9th February 1918, M.R.Ry. P. K. Rajamanickam Nayudu Garu was temporarily appointed as assistant leather expert and acting principal of the Leather Trades School on Rs. 300 per mensem till the return of Mr. Guthrie. There is no provision in the budget for the pay of this temporary appointment. As the appointment will last only till the return of Mr. Guthrie the charges therefor will have to be met from the provision of Rs. 9,000 made for the pay of the leather expert. Thus the provision in the civil budget estimate for the pay of the leather expert must be retained.

4. The additional member in moving this resolution to abolish the posts of these experts will simply throw cold water on the schemes of the Government for encouraging industrial advancement of the country, especially at a time when there is need for such development. It is submitted that it may be opposed.

5. Orders are solicited as to who should be in charge of the resolution and whether it should be discussed in Council.

A.S.—7-3-18.

T.K.—7-3-18.

It is a pity that owing to circumstances beyond control we have been unable to use the dyeing expert's services to the best advantage.

2. Both weaving and leather are extensive industries in Southern India and I cannot understand the Honourable Additional Member's object in proposing his resolution.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—8-3-18.

What the Additional Member will say will probably be that none of these experts have done any work for us and that their continuance serves no public purpose.

I shall of course oppose the resolution.

P. R. [AJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR]—8-3-18.

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

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 14th day of March 1918.

RESOLUTION *RE* ABOLITION OF THE POSTS OF WEAVING, DYEING AND LEATHER EXPERTS.

The Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"I beg to propose—

'XXXVII. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that the budget provision in the budget estimate for the year 1918-1919 under "26-Bm." for (1) a weaving expert, (2) a dyeing expert and (3) a leather expert should be omitted.'

"My reasons for recommending the abolition of the posts of these three experts are these. We find from the report of the Department of Industries for the year 1916-17 that the dyeing expert was not in charge of the dyeing industry at all. He was placed on special duty for some years and now it would appear that he has been on the duty of investigating the process of manufacturing indigo. With regard to the weaving expert, it is said in the Revised Financial Statement that the expert is going to be hereafter employed or entertained and the provision made is for the expert that should be appointed hereafter. With regard to the leather expert he seems to have been on war duty and he does not seem to have been doing anything useful for that industry judged from this report. In the Industries Report, it is mentioned by the dyeing expert himself that he has now very little to do with the natural dyestuffs available in the Presidency; and he has already made some elaborate investigation with regard to the utilization of the indigenous dyestuffs and has submitted a report. I do not think that there is any large amount of work that he can do in this direction and I think that the entertainment of the dyeing expert is unnecessary under the present circumstances. With regard to the weaving expert I have no idea as to what the Government intend doing with this expert. It appears that we have a peripatetic weaving establishment and they are doing some useful work. In paragraph 28 of the report of the Department of Industries it is mentioned as follows:—

"I think that these peripatetic weaving parties are doing useful work. From my point of view, the objection to them is that they are difficult to control, and their success or non-success necessarily depends mainly on the conscientiousness and enthusiasm of the superintendents—not that I have anything to complain of in either superintendent on this score. A further objection is that if, as is commonly reported, the weavers are entirely in the hands of the cloth merchants and weavers, the introduction of the fly shuttle and other improved appliances is not by itself of much use, for the increased profits resulting from the use of these appliances go into the pockets not of the weavers themselves but of those who finance them."

"It is said in this paragraph that the success and the utility of these parties themselves is questioned and doubted. I do not, therefore, think that the entertainment of a weaving expert will add to the success of this industry and is warranted and necessary under the present circumstances. As regards the weaving industry, large factories have been doing work and they are making handsome profits in spinning and weaving. With regard to the introduction of handlooms and flyshuttles, these peripatetic weaving instructors and parties have been doing all that they can do, and, as mentioned in paragraph 28 of this report, it is still a matter of doubt how far the success of the introduction of these small handlooms will be ensured in the future. In regard to the leather expert, my Lord, I think the leather industry especially the chrome tanning industry has gained a tolerably firm footing in this Presidency and the help of an expert is not quite so necessary. I therefore think it advisable that the budget provision under this head for these three experts may be omitted for the time being."

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR :—"Your Excellency, I fear that the Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Rao has not acquainted himself with all the facts in regard to these experts. He has taken up evidently the last report which we issued appertaining to the Department of Industries, and has come to the conclusion that these experts do not exist or are not doing satisfactory work and therefore their posts should be abolished. We are living in days when we all consider that there should be more experts; and at the first blush one will be startled at the proposal to abolish the few posts of experts that we have. But leaving that particular point aside, I think I must tell the Council fully what the facts are in regard to the experts so that the public may know what has induced the Government to go in for them and what exactly the reasons are why they have not been as useful as we would wish."

"Firstly, as regards the weaving expert. This question which the Honourable Member has raised of big mills and the position of the handloom industry, I remember long ago when I was here in a subordinate capacity; it has been discussed times without number; and the conclusion almost invariably came to was that the handloom industry was not likely to disappear

in a day and it was worth while to do what we could to improve it. Considering the large number of people who derive their living from it and considering the long time that would take when it would be wholly displaced by mills, it is necessary to consider the question of improving the cottage industry, so as to enable the weavers to earn better wages.

"In July 1917 the Director of Industries submitted, after consultation with Mr. Chatterton proposals to open a new weaving section in the Madura Technical Institute and he recommended that a highly trained handloom weaving expert should be appointed to superintend the weaving section. He pointed out that, if the weaving section were organized, it should be a centre for research, demonstration and training in connexion with the industry and that the whole problem was one of sufficient importance to engage the undivided attention of a real weaving expert. The Government accepted that conclusion and we are going in for a weaving section at the Madura institute; and we want to have at the head of it a really good man. We wrote to the Secretary of State to sanction the creation of the post of a weaving expert for a period of three years and any day we may get one although we have not yet got one. But we have to make provision for the post in the budget. Mr. Innes is looking out for a suitable Indian. But simply because we have not till now secured a man, we cannot knock out the provision in the budget. As to the Honourable Member's contention that the weaving expert will not have much work to do, I do not think he is right. I think there is room for looking after and developing the handloom industry and I certainly would not advise the Council to commit itself to the view that a weaving expert is not necessary and that no provision should be made for one.

"Proceeding to the dyeing expert I may say that he was appointed temporarily for a period of two years and his services were retained for a further period of three years. The results obtained from his investigations had been sufficiently promising to enable this Government to decide in favour of the establishment of a permanent tintorial laboratory with technical classes at Madura where those connected with the trade would be able to receive instruction in elementary science, the nature of dyeing materials, the technology of textile fabrics and dyeing processes. The appointment has now been made permanent and Dr. Marsden holds it permanently. On account of the war and the dislocation it has caused in getting dyes, Dr. Marsden was considerably handicapped. Instead of keeping him doing nothing, we deputed him to investigate into the methods of cultivation and manufacture of indigo in this Presidency, which is after all the indigenous dyeing material which we have got. It is worth while for the dyeing expert to look into it at a time like this when foreign dyes are not imported. Dr. Marsden has finished his work in the Agricultural Department and is reverting to the Industries Department on the 1st of April, and when he returns he will be the head of the Madura Technical Institute in addition to being in charge of the dyeing section in it. I submit, therefore, that there is no justification for saying 'let us abolish the dyeing expert and omit the provision made for him.' We have also applied to the Government at Home for the supply of a full range of samples of British dyes for instructional purposes and we are expecting the samples. I am sure that the dyeing expert will have ample work to do like the weaving expert and the Council would be very ill-advised in committing itself to the opinion that the dyeing expert is not needed.

"Then as regards the leather expert, the Honourable Member has proposed to the Council that he should be sent away. So long ago as 1908 the Industrial Conference held at Ootacamund thought and recommended that a leather trading school should be established in this Presidency and that provision should be made for technical education in tanning and that experiments should be undertaken in the school to determine whether or not the status of the Madras tanning trade could be improved. Accordingly we applied to the Secretary of State and obtained his sanction for a leather expert for a period of three years. In all these cases we got the man or, tentatively for a short time before we commit ourselves to employ him permanently. In the year 1912 we approved of the scheme for the establishment of a leather trades school, submitted by Mr. Guthrie, the leather expert. It takes time to construct buildings and pending the construction of new buildings Mr. Guthrie was sent to Bangalore to make himself acquainted with the indigenous methods of tanning as adopted at the Mysore tannery. By the time the new buildings were nearing completion and he was making arrangements for starting classes, his services were requisitioned for war purposes. We are extremely sorry that he has had to go; but this is not the only branch of work which has been dislocated. Simply because the leather expert is more urgently required for war work under the Munition Board, it is not reasonable that the Honourable Member should say that we will not have the leather school or a leather expert; that ought not to be the conclusion that we will be justified in arriving at. We are not indefinitely waiting for Mr. Guthrie to return. Mr. Innes has employed his assistant Mr. Rajamallikam Nayudu as assistant leather expert and the acting principal of the school. Taking all these things into consideration we will not be justified simply on account of the fact that these things are not working well in saying that these allotments are not needed to the person who are in charge of the work. Dr. Marsden takes charge of the Madura Institute where, in addition to weaving there will be a dyeing section. We are looking out for an Indian who is a weaving expert and if we succeed in getting him he will have to be paid his salary. But if we do not succeed, the amount lapses. But that does not show that we do not want a weaving expert. As for the man acting for Dr. Guthrie as the principal of the leather trades school, he

has to be paid. I must say that I am considerably disappointed at the line of argument taken up by the Honourable Member. We are all anxious to develop industries and at the first set back that we have it is proposed that we should knock out the experts. That is a most short-sighted policy and the worst thing that we can do for the development of industries."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—"Your Excellency, even after hearing the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar on this point, I think it is necessary to offer a few remarks. The object of the Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Rao in bringing this resolution prominently to the notice of the Council is to know, when money is being spent on experts, whether we are receiving any benefit. We want to draw the attention of the Government prominently to the fact that we are not deriving as much benefit as we should get from the large sums we are spending; and until and unless we are satisfied, there is no use saying that we have once engaged our expert, let us continue him from two years to three years and then make him permanent. Though I have not had experience of other experts, I have had experience of one dyeing expert who specially was sent out on indigo duty. That gentleman has no notion of indigo manufacture at all. He is a dyeing expert and he may understand some chemical terms. He goes to a place where he wants to teach how to manufacture indigo, but the experience he has in it is nothing as compared with the knowledge which the ordinary ryots have."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"If the Honourable Gentleman will just resume his seat, I would like to explain that this is not the occasion for the discussion of a general policy in regard to these experts. If we want to have a discussion on the general policy whether experts should or should not be employed, I am obliged to ask that this should be taken up at another meeting. This is a meeting for the discussion of figures. The Honourable Gentleman in moving the resolution was allowed to go too far. This is not an occasion for a general discussion on experts. I really do not think that the Honourable Gentleman who has brought forward the motion is quite right in his facts, because the facts stated by the Honourable Member in charge show that we cannot knock out the three experts from the budget. It will be destroying the whole machinery we have and we will be stultifying ourselves."

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR:—"I might also mention that the man on the Munition Board is paid there and he is not paid from the Industries Department. He may be reverted at any time."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—"I do not say anything against anybody personally, but I want to bring it to the notice of the Council that the Government should see that whenever experts are appointed their services are utilized for the purposes for which they are appointed and people derive the benefit which it is intended they should derive by the appointment of experts. For that reason, I say that more attention should be paid to see that the experts discharge those duties for which they are appointed."

The Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub HASAN:—"I am in entire agreement with the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar and cannot advocate that because the few experts that we have are at present employed on other duties, these posts should be abolished altogether. The resolution before us practically aims at the abolition of these posts; and even if that is not the intention of the mover of the resolution, yet the acceptance of this resolution will eventually lead to that result. Therefore, in discussing this question we should entirely confine ourselves to the principle and not to the persons who at present occupy these posts. The remarks made by the Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Rao and the Hon'ble Mr. Venkatapati Raju will lead one to conclude that certain industries do not require any further development; and all that was necessary has been done and that those industries can get on without any outside encouragement or expert advice. I entirely differ from them. The Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Rao said that the weaving industry has been going on very well and that there is no necessity for a weaving expert. I do not agree with him; so also I do not agree with him that the dyeing expert has nothing further to do. In my opinion he has got a good deal to do. The field for research in this direction is so vast that not only one or two but half a dozen experts may be advantageously employed therein. It is quite another matter if the incumbents of these posts are not for the moment employed on work in which they are said to be experts. For instance the dyeing expert has for some time been employed on a work of which he had no expert knowledge; and so also the leather expert. I oppose this resolution on the ground that these places should not be abolished; but at the same time I would request the Government that the allotment made under this head should be used for the legitimate purposes and these experts should be employed only on their legitimate duties for which they were engaged and should not be taken away for other purposes however important they might be.

"In passing, I may also say that the other day a *communiqué* was issued to the effect that because the Director of Industries was busy with the war work, there was no necessity for the appointment of an advisory committee. In my opinion the reason given for the non-appointment of the committee was a good reason for its appointment. I hope that the Government will soon put that department on a basis which will make it really useful to the industries of this Presidency."

(Mr. K. R. V. Krishna Rao ; Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar ; [14TH MARCH 1918.
the President.]

The Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" My Lord, it has been admitted in behalf of the Government that the work expected of those experts has not been done as satisfactorily as it was expected or desired. My object in bringing forward this resolution is that when those experts are not doing or are not able to do the work entrusted to them satisfactorily—"

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR (interrupting) :—" We do not say anything against the experts. If for reasons beyond their control we cannot get full value from them, we could not blame them. For instance, for Mr. Guthrie being taken away on military duty and being put to munition work, he cannot be blamed. The Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Rao will understand that what I said is not to be taken as a reflection on the experts or that the Government are not letting them put forth their best efforts. It is not contended that the experts themselves are not doing their work satisfactorily ; that is not the point. But on account of the circumstances connected with the war over which we have no control, we cannot get the full return from the experts as we would otherwise have had. That is as much a matter of regret to us as it is to the Honourable Member. I trust that the Council understands it that way."

The Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Therefore, it is a fact that, under the present circumstances, for some reason or other, the work that is expected of them is not being satisfactorily done. What I want to point out by this resolution is that we are not expending public money on what is being done satisfactorily and that, as it is not possible under the present circumstances to be done satisfactorily, I say that the posts should be abolished. However, I do not press the resolution ; but I only want to point out that the allotment made for any work should be properly endeavoured to be spent upon that work and we should obtain the full work expected. With these words I do not press the resolution."

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

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—" I should like to emphasise to the Council that the Honourable Member who has brought forward this resolution is really not fully informed on the subject and unfortunately has been allowed to criticise the experts themselves which I think is to be regretted a great deal. As a matter of fact, as regards the experts themselves, who are engaged—I should like to emphasise what my Honourable Colleague has said and we are only dealing with the dyeing expert and the leather expert as the weaving expert is not yet engaged and therefore does not exist—the dyeing expert and the leather expert have been fully employed and have been given a great deal of extra work not merely useful to the Presidency in peace time but useful to the whole of India. If there was a time when that work should be appreciated, it is now when India has a chance of developing her own industries and is anxious to help the Munition Board. It is most unfortunate that the Honourable Gentleman should appear not to understand that these gentlemen have been working most strenuously in public interests. It is a mere matter of accounting as to whether the work is done for the Madras Government or for the Government of India. It is perfectly easy to arrange with the Government of India that they should pay a portion of the cost, if work has been done for them. The work of these two experts has been most valuable during the last year or two so far as they have been free to do it. Even now I want to say, particularly in regard to Mr. Guthrie, who is here at present and who is coming back here and who has worked most strenuously, he is giving freely, of his own private time, to help us by going to the leather school three days a week. That is the sort of work that should be known, because it is very warmly appreciated by the Government. The Council would be glad to know that the Government are being very well served by this gentleman and there is no ground whatever for criticism put forward, I know, from ignorance, by the Honourable Gentleman."

N. E. MARJORIBANKS.

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

Home (Adm) Dept

Please see extract from Council proceedings on pages 4 to 7 supra. The resolution was withdrawn. No further action is called for on these papers and they may be submitted by order of 11/6/18.

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