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Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 818, 24th June 1918

Report

Recording the — on the working of the Presidency College during 1917-18. 12

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Report

Recording the — on the working of the Presidency College during 1917-18.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., F.R.H.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Madras, the 11th June 1918.

No.—R.C. 3509.

I have the honour to submit herewith for the information of Government a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 3509, dated 6th June 1918, reviewing the report on the working of the Presidency College, Madras, during the year 1917-18.

ENCLOSURE

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, R.C. No. 3509,
dated 6th June 1918.

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from H. J. ALLEN, Esq., M.A., Bar.-at-Law, Principal of the Presidency College, Madras.

To—the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Dated—the 15th April 1918.

No.—R.C. 146/18.

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the college during the year ending 31st March 1918.

2. *Changes in the staff.*—The services of Dr. J. L. Simonsen, Additional Professor of Chemistry, were placed at the disposal of the Indian Munitions Board, Simla, for over two months. He was relieved in the afternoon of 29th June and resumed his work on the forenoon of 10th September but under the orders of Government continued as Chemical Adviser to the Board. During the absence of Doctor Simonsen on deputation, M.R.Ry. M. Damodara Kini, Assistant Professor, acted as Additional Professor from 2nd July to 9th September and M.R.Ry. M. Gopala Rao, B.A. (Honours), as Assistant Professor from 6th July to the latter date.

Mr. P. F. Fyson was absent on special casual leave for about six weeks from 26th June undergoing military training at Kirkee. His duties in his absence were carried on by M.R.Ry. T. Ekambaram.

M.R.Ry. S. Radhakrishnan Avargal was confirmed as Professor of Philosophy in the Provincial Educational Service but was transferred to act in the Arts College, Rajahmundry, being relieved by M.R.Ry. A. Chakravarti from the latter college on the afternoon of 30th June.

M.R.Ry. K. Amrita Rao, one of the Assistant Professors in English, whose services had been lent to the Madras University from 1st July 1914, resumed his duty and relieved his locum tenens M.R.Ry. U. Kannappa on the forenoon of 1st August 1917.

M.R.Ry. T. Purushottam, one of the Assistant Professors in Mathematics, resigned his appointment with effect from 5th April 1917. To this place was appointed sub. *pro tem.* M.R.Ry. G. A. Srinivasan, B.A. (Honours, first class), who joined duty on the forenoon of 2nd July 1917. This vacancy, however, was permanently filled with effect from 1st January 1918 by M.R.Ry. C. N. Ekambara Mudali without prejudice to his officiating appointment of Assistant Lecturer in the Rajahmundry Arts College.

M.R.Ry. G. Sambamurti, an Assistant Professor of Chemistry, appointed to be Lecturer, Training College, Rajahmundry, sub. *pro tem.*, in the ninth grade of the Provincial Educational Service, was relieved on the afternoon of 5th July and M.R.Ry. P. A. Narayana Ayyar, M.A., L.T., appointed in his stead, entered on his duties on the forenoon of the 30th idem.

M.R.Ry. S. Rama Ayyar was confirmed in the Subordinate Educational Service, Collegiate branch, and attached permanently to this college as Assistant Professor in Philosophy, with effect from 27th October 1916.

In place of M.R.Ry. L. A. Narayana Ayyar, Acting Assistant Professor in Geology, who joined the Teachers' College, Saidapet, for training, M.R.Ry. C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai was appointed to act from 2nd July.

Government, in their Order No. 1221, Home (Education), dated 24th September 1917, were pleased to sanction the retention permanently of the post of temporary Sanskrit Assistant on Rs. 100 per mensem, sanctioned for this college in G.O. No. 1001, Educational, dated 4th November 1913, and its inclusion in the fifth class of the Subordinate Educational Service, Collegiate branch. M.R.Ry. K. Gopalakrishnamma, who had held this temporary post since December 1913, was appointed sub. *pro tem.* Assistant Professor in the fifth class of the Subordinate Educational Service, Collegiate branch, from 14th March 1917 and confirmed with effect from 24th September 1917.

M.R.Ry. L. R. Ramachandra Ayyar, M.A. (Sanskrit), Principal of the Rāmēsvaram Devastanam Patasala, Madura, was appointed temporary Additional Assistant Professor in Sanskrit on Rs. 100 per mensem. He joined his appointment on the 24th July and held it until 1st January 1918 since when he has been acting for M.R.Ry. S. Subba Rao, Assistant Professor in Sanskrit, now on deputation as Superintendent of Sanskrit schools.

M.R.Ry. G. P. Krishnamurti, Assistant Professor in Physics, was on leave without allowances for one month and twenty-one days from 1st November 1917. During this period M.R.Ry. T. S. Krishnaswami Ayyar acted for him while M.R.Ry. D. P. Kuppana Ayyangar, M.A., L.T., acted for M.R.Ry. T. S. Krishnaswami Ayyar as temporary Additional Assistant Professor in Physics and Chemistry.

The employment of an additional Assistant Professor on Rs. 100 in the Subordinate Service for teaching Physics and Chemistry to the lady students of the Queen Mary's College for Women, Mylapore, originally sanctioned in G.O. Mis. No. 838, Educational, dated 3rd August 1915, up to 31st March 1916 and renewed from year to year has been further extended to 31st March 1919 in G.O. No. 302, Home (Education), dated 5th March 1918.

3. *Accommodation and equipment.*—The plans and estimates aggregating Rs. 3,04,400 for constructing a new Chemistry block for the college were sanctioned in G.O. No. 1094 W., dated 20th August 1917, and a lakh of rupees has been provided for the purpose in the budget estimate for 1918-19—vide your Proceedings Dis. No. 1501, dated 8th March 1918.

4. *Strength and attendance.*—The number of students on the rolls in the first and second terms of 1916-17 and 1917-18 is as shown below :—

	1916-17.		1917-18.	
	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.
First year class	98	95	99	92
Second " " " " " " "	65	60	94	90
Third " " (Pass)	114	110	115	110
" " (Honours)	55	53	60	58
Fourth " " (Pass)	123	120	155	129
" " (Honours)	42	41	45	45
Fifth " " (")	75	74	39	36
Total	572	554	587	560

The number of students who left during the first and second terms was 13 and 14 respectively. The average number on the rolls was 571 and the average daily attendance 517.

5. *Distribution of students.*—The distribution of students on the 31st March 1918 according to (i) caste or race, (2) wealth of parents and (3) occupation of parents is given in Appendix A and that according to the districts to which they belong in Appendix B. The Tanjore district, it will be seen, supplies us with double the number of students contributed by either Madras or Malabar.

We had four lady students exclusive of the 27 from the Queen Mary's College who came for classes in the Intermediate, Groups I and II.

6. *Statistics of the groups and branches.*—The subjoined statement gives the number of students in each of the Intermediate Groups and B.A. (Pass and Honours) groups or branches :—

	First year.		Second year.	
	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.
Group I	35	33	33	30
" II	25	24	19	18
" III	39	35	39	39
Total	99	92	*91	*87

* Excludes three students attending part-(i) only.

	III Pass.		III Honours.		IV Pass.		IV Honours.		V Honours.	
	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.
Mathematics	21	21	21	21	16	14	12	12	10	10
Physics	18	18	2	2	14	13	3	3	2	2
Chemistry	6	6	4	4	15	15	1	1	2	2
Botany	5	5	3	3	8	8	1	1	1	1
Zoology	5	5	1	1	6	5	..	..	2	2
Geology	3	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	..	..
Mental and Moral Science.	27	25	7	7	24	24	3	3	3	3
History	27	25	9	7	30	30	12	12	12	9
Group (vi) { Arabic	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
" { Sanskrit	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
English Language and Literature.	..	..	9	9	19	17	5	5	6	6
Sanskrit Literature	..	..	3	3	..	..	6	6	1	1
Total	115	110	60	58	135	129	45	45	39	36

7. *Statistics of language students other than English.*—The following statement gives the numbers taking up the various second languages for composition and translation in the Intermediate classes :—

								First year class.	Second year class.
Composition.									
Tamil ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	35	
Telugu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	16	
Kanarese ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	
Malayalam ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	
Urdu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	
Total ...							74	64	
Translation.									
Persian ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Sanskrit ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	20	
Latin ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	
French ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	
Total ...							18	26	

The various combinations of group III taken by the college were filled as under:—

	First year class.	Second year class.
Ancient History, Modern History and Logic	32	27
" " " and a classical language	2	8
" " " and a classical language	1	2
Logic, a classical language and a vernacular	...	2
Total	35	39

8. *Library.*—Mr. Mark Hunter, Professor of English, continued to be in charge of the library during the year.

Four thousand one hundred and eight volumes were issued on loan as against 3,885 in the previous year as follows:—

	1916-17.	1917-18.
History, Economics and Biography... ..	752	790
Literature	2,837	2,932
Mathematics and Science	257	348
Philosophy	39	38
Total	3,885	4,108

The number of books studied in the library itself or issued for short periods amounted to 14,242 as against 14,473 in 1916-17. The number of books issued to the staff was 493 as against 480 in 1916-17. These figures relate to the general library only and not to the separate class libraries.

Books of the approximate value of Rs. 3,416 were added to the library during the year. Owing to the difficulty and delay in getting foreign publications from home consequent on the war, a portion of the allotment had to be left unspent.

The preparation of the shelf catalogue referred to in the last report was completed and the book cases have been lettered and numbered. The card catalogue already maintained has been checked against the shelf catalogue and I propose to submit a separate report on this subject. The class libraries have all also been checked.

The card catalogue has been kept up to date.

I regret to add that some books have been found mutilated even to the removal of whole essays. This detestable and anti-social offence it is extremely difficult to prevent.

9. Promotions—

First-year class.							Number in class.	Number promoted.
Group I	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	32
" II	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	18
" III	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	32
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	92	82

Third-year class (Pass).							Number in class.	Number promoted.
Group I	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	19
" II-A	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	15
" II-B	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5
" III-A	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
" III-B	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
" III-C	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
" IV	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	21
" V	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	23
" VI	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	110	94

The promotions of Honours students of the third and fourth years will be made on the reopening of the college after the results of the Preliminary Examination in English have been published.

10. *Scholarships and prizes.*—The endowed scholarships and prizes were awarded as follows:—

1. Lord Elphinstone Prize	...	...	...	...	{ K. C. Srinivasan.
2. " Scholarship	...	...	...	...	{ K. Swaminathan.
3. Conolly Scholarships	...	...	...	...	{ N. Mahadeva Ayyar.
4. Thompson Scholarship	...	...	...	...	{ P. A. Narayanaswami.
5. Subrahmanya Ayyar Scholarship	...	...	...	...	{ A. Ranganatha Rao.
6. Norton Prizes	...	...	...	...	{ N. Raghaviah.
7. Bourdillon Prize	...	...	...	...	{ (Senior) C. R. Krishna Rao.
8. Maharaja of Travancore Prize	...	...	...	...	{ (Junior) No vacancy.
9. Powell and Morehead Vernacular Prize	...	...	...	...	{ (Tamil) S. Sundararajan.
10. Maharaja of Vizianagram Prize	...	...	...	...	{ (Telugu) A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
11. Arbuthnot Prize	...	...	...	...	{ (Tamil) O. A. Narayanaswami.
12. Gordon Prize	...	...	...	...	{ (Telugu) Ch. Sankara Sastri.
13. Kunjambu Nambiyar Prize	...	...	...	...	{ Ch. Varadarajan.
14. Innes Prize	...	...	...	...	{ K. C. Srinivasan.
15. Thompson Prizes	...	...	...	...	{ C. M. Krishnaswami.
16. Elliot Prize	...	...	...	...	{ S. Parthasarathi.
17. Scott Prize	...	...	...	...	{ C. S. Ganapati.
18. Oppert Prize	...	...	...	...	{ V. K. Nandan Menon.
19. Mackintosh Prize	...	...	...	...	{ N. Sundara Ayyar.
20. Gadgil Prize	...	...	...	...	{ M. K. Krishna Menon.

The following students were elected to the college scholarships during the year:—

First-year class.	
1. K. Venkataraman.	6. T. R. Ramakrishnan.
2. K. Raghavachari.	7. P. Rajagopalan.
3. T. N. Srinivasaraghavan.	8. V. Rajagopal.
4. P. R. Kalyanasundaram.	9. A. Kariappa (from 2nd term only).
5. N. Krishnamurti.	

Third-year Honours class.	
1. T. R. Narayanaswami.	5. K. Srinivasan.
2. S. Atmanadhan.	6. O. N. Kunchitapadham.
3. N. Lakshminarasimham.	7. S. Lakshminarasayya.
4. S. Sundararajan.	8. T. R. Padmanabha Ayyar.

Fifth-year Honours class.

S. Gopalaraman (2nd term only).

The total number of the college scholarship holders at the end of the year was 39.

11. *University examinations.*—The results of the University examinations of March and April 1917 are given in Appendix C which has been slightly extended to suit the compartment system introduced into the Intermediate.

Our standard of success has been maintained: in most subjects the percentage of passes is, it will be seen, considerably above the Presidency average, while 24 first classes (Intermediate 12, B.A. 6 and B.A. Honours 6) were secured; the Government of India (University) scholarship in the United Kingdom was awarded to a non-Brahman student of the college, and of the other University prizes and scholarships 19 came our way. The Professor of English calls attention to one curious feature in our Intermediate results—the marked difference as between the groups. Why should only 48 per cent of Group III be able to pass in English as against 82 per cent in Group I or 70 per cent in Group II? The facile explanation of "too difficult

questions " is here not of much assistance, for though the ablest students may congregate in Group I no Principal, I imagine, would maintain that the standard of English in Group II is higher than that of Group III. The best solution I can offer is that a much larger number had been detained in the previous annual examination in Group II than in Group III—thus the "weaker brethren" had been already weeded out and "wisdom was justified of her children."

12. *Admissions*.—On the strength of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate or of the results of the European High School Examination 483 students as against 376 in the previous year applied for admission. Of these 94 were selected but only 87 joined the college.

For admission to the third-year class 694 applied, from whom were selected 58 for the Honours and 104 for the ordinary courses. Of these 10 and 20 respectively had passed the Intermediate from this college.

13. *Fees*.—The number of paying students in the first term was 549 and in the second term 524. Of these 256 and 248 respectively paid their fees by instalments.

14. *Receipts and charges*.—The receipts and charges during the years 1916-17 and 1917-18 are given in the following statement:—

	1916-17.			1917-18.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
<i>Receipts.</i>						
Fees	55,990	1	0	55,736	7	0
Miscellaneous	407	14	6	488	6	5
Total ...	56,397	15	6	56,224	13	5
<i>Charges.</i>						
Principal, Professors and Assistant Professors.	1,81,162	4	7	1,83,329	2	8
Masters and teachers including sergeant	6,408	0	0	6,530	14	3
Establishment including clerks, librarian and mechanic	9,745	4	7	9,617	14	7
Demonstrators	3,541	12	4	2,333	15	9
Travelling allowance	1,445	5	7	4,544	5	6
Library and class books	3,311	1	5	3,416	8	8
Apparatus, laboratory and Europe stores	7,535	8	3	5,504	2	4
Furniture purchased or repaired	2,163	3	11	1,387	12	0
Rents, rates and taxes	6,068	8	10	6,068	8	10
Other contingencies	5,849	15	3	6,034	12	9
Total ...	2,27,231	0	9	2,28,768	1	4

15. *College Council*.—Dr. J. L. Simonsen resigned his secretaryship to the Council and Mr. H. C. Papworth, Acting Additional Professor of English, was appointed Secretary during the year. Besides the routine business of making promotions, awarding prizes and scholarships, etc., two special questions were considered. The tutorial scheme was discussed and approved; while the Council also recorded its opinion that it was undesirable to hold revision classes or to set test papers shortly before the University examinations.

16. *Tutorial system*.—In September 1917 a tutorial system was instituted in accordance with G.O. No. 608, Home (Education), dated 7th May 1917. The scheme was less a novelty than was generally supposed, for the Honours students at least had been for years in easy touch with their professors. The existing system however has been extended in width and depth; it has been made generally applicable while the students are encouraged to bring matters other than those of study to their tutors. It is here obviously that the student's co-operation is vital; his confidence cannot be forced. Unfortunately a portion of the press has selected this moment to render the relations between tutors and students as difficult as possible by deliberate if not systematic exaggeration or distortion of facts and vilification of the college authorities. In spite of these unfavourable influences surrounding its inception the tutorial scheme has justified its introduction though, till the students

are less suspicious and indifferent, its full possibilities cannot be developed. On this subject, however, I have already submitted a statement to which I have nothing to add; but further references will be found in the Professors' reports.

17. *Student activities*.—Mr. Candeth remained as Honorary Secretary of the Athletic Association throughout the year. Tennis, as usual, was the most popular game and in the first term six courts were kept going though the approach of the examinations subsequently reduced the number. In hockey and football less interest than usual was shown and though we had a fair cricket team the college secured none of the trophies. On the other hand, thanks largely to the efforts of Messrs. Kershaw and C. K. Krishnaswami, the athletic sports were revived after several years intermission and a pleasant afternoon at which the Director gave away the prizes was the result.

In the Union Society essays were read on "Byron as an artist and thinker" and "Is caste a hindrance to culture"; while debates were held on such subjects as "Is India fit for representative institution?" "Is a common religion necessary for national unity?" "Is Government legislation necessary for social matters?" "Can democracy precede the education of the electorate?"—a list that offers a somewhat trenchant exposé of the charge so often heard that Government debars students from political discussion. Informal meetings were also held at which Mrs. Sarojini Nayudu and Dr. P. C. Ray, C.I.E., addressed the students on poetry and research respectively and the society had the pleasure of hearing the authoress read some of her own poems. Such meetings, it is needless to say attracted a large audience. In the inter-collegiate debate held by the Young Men's Christian Association our orators held their own successfully against the Pachaiyappa representatives but fell before the dialectics of the Christian College; the subject I believe was "Can men be made moral by Act of Parliament," and the Presidency College was expected to debate it from opposite sides in consecutive rounds—an exercise in mental gymnastics to which, perhaps creditably, we were unequal.

18. *Residence of students*.—Out of 560 students in the college at the end of the year, 174 lived in the Victoria Hostel, Triplicane, 245, with their parents or guardians, and 139 in separate lodgings. Two lady students resided in the hostel attached to the Queen Mary's College, Mylapore. The separate lodgings were, as usual, inspected by members of the staff and reported satisfactory.

19. *Madras Educational Rules*.—Such of the rules as are applicable to the college have been observed.

20. *Service Registers*.—The service books have been verified up to 31st March 1918.

21. *Professors' reports*.—Extracts from the reports received from the various professors on the working of their respective departments are given below:—

The Professor of English (Mr. Mark Hunter) writes: "In the 1917 Honours Examination in English Language and Literature two out of the three 'Firsts' obtained fell to students of this college. The only point relating to other University Examinations which calls for remarks is the curious discrepancy between the degrees of success obtained in the Intermediate Examination by the several groups. 82 per cent of Group I passed, 70 per cent of Group II and only 48 per cent of Group III. No difference in treatment is made in class on lecture between students belonging to one group and students of another. I can furnish no satisfactory explanation.

"Both of the University prizes for which all Honours candidates in English are eligible fell to students of this college. The *Prince of Wales Medal* awarded for distinguished merit in the Comparative Grammar of the Sanskrit Language, was also secured by an English Honours student of this college who offered 'Indo-Germanic Comparative Grammar with special reference to Sanskrit' as a special subject. A lady Honours student in English secured the Grigg Memorial Medal.

"My colleagues in the department of English have during the year done all they could to develop the recently instituted tutorial system, with some, but I fear, no very conspicuous success. I am myself tutor to the Honours students in my own subject, and with these tutorial rules merely systematize to some extent relations between Professors and students which would exist in any case. The other Professors

and Assistant Professors of English report that a few students have been ready to take advantage of the system, and have come frequently to their tutors for help and guidance; but the great majority seem indifferent and came only when summoned."

The Professor of Mathematics (Mr. R. Littlehailes) writes: "We have had throughout the year, in addition to Intermediate and Pass course students, 43 Honours students distributed among the three Honours classes, a number which entails very heavy work on the staff dealing mainly with the advanced portions of the subject. I am considerably indebted to my assistants in rendering all the aid in their power to cope with the work made all the heavier owing to the decreased attention I was able to give to the college work during the period (three months) when I was mobilized in the Fort for military duty. The calibre of the students admitted to the study of mathematics in this college in July 1915 does not appear to be quite so high as that of those admitted in 1916 and 1917. Arrangements were made for the senior students of the Pass and Honours classes to visit the Observatory and thus obtain some insight into the working of the transit and equatorial instruments. The college Mathematical Association continued to hold its periodical meetings."

"One post-graduate student, holding a University studentship, has been studying statistics under my guidance during the year. His work has been satisfactory and I have utilized his services to investigate statistics in connexion with my own work (Educational statistics) as well as that of the University Professor of Indian Economics. The theory of statistics has recently been included among the optional subjects which candidates for Honours in Mathematics may present for examination for their degree and I hope to introduce the wider study of this subject into this college at a conveniently early date. During the year I have been in communication with Mr. Sharp, Educational Commissioner to the Government of India, regarding the treatment of Educational statistics and have recently sent him calculations of and notes on the duration of school life and the number of units of instruction imparted in schools during the quinquennium 1912-1917. In January last I was enabled to discuss Educational statistics with Mr. Sharp in Lahore, where I was permitted to attend the Indian Science Congress. I also availed myself of the opportunity of visiting the Presidency College, Calcutta, the Lady Hardinge Medical College for Women, Delhi, the Observatory, Agra and all the important Educational institutions in Lahore."

The Professor of Mathematical Physics (Mr. P. V. Seshu Ayyar) writes: "The scheme of work in this department was the same as in last year excepting that provision was made, at the request of the Professor of Chemistry for a short course of lectures on 'Infinitesimal calculus' for the benefit of the Chemistry Honours students."

"About the tutorial system which has been newly introduced in this college, I wish to say that the students under me availed themselves of the system by going to me more often than they would otherwise have done for guidance as to their studies and for consultation in matters which concerned their life outside the college, and I believe there is every possibility of the system being of immense good to the students."

The Professor of Physics (Mr. R. Ll. Jones) writes: "The number of students that appeared for the B.A. Degree Examination from the college in Group II-A was 12. Ten of these passed, two in the first class and eight in the second class. Four students appeared for the B.A. (Honours) in Branch II-A; three of these were placed in the second and one in the third class. One student appeared for the M.A. and was placed in the second class."

The Additional Professor of Chemistry (Dr. J. L. Simonsen) writes: "Except in the Pass II-B the results of the University Examinations were fairly satisfactory. For the first time in the history of the University (including the old M.A. examination) a first class was obtained in the Honours school by K. C. Srinivasan. He has been appointed recently to the Leather Trades School to research on tanning materials. It is gratifying that he has escaped the thralldom of the Bar."

"The poor results obtained in the Pass examination are not surprising in view of the poor material available, all the good students are now taking an Honours course in some subject or other."

"The tutorial system has had little noticeable effect. This is not remarkable in a department where the students were already well known to the staff in view of their laboratory work."

"The resources of the laboratory have been fully taxed during the year by the demands made upon it by the Munitions Board of which I have continued, with the permission of Government, to act as Chemical Advisor. Mr. Kershaw has been investigating the electrolytic preparation of white lead, whilst most of the work in the organic chemistry department has been connected with the chemistry of oils. In this connexion the work of Mr. Damodara Kini has been especially praiseworthy and he is rapidly becoming a competent analyst."

"During the year the following papers dealing with pure chemistry have been published:—

C. S. Gibson and J. L. Simonsen, 'The Stereochemistry of Alanine Derivatives'.

J. L. Simonsen and M. Gopala Rao, 'The Nitration of 5- and 6-Acetylamino veratric acids and 4-Acetylaminoveratrole.'

"In addition two articles were published in the Indian Munitions Board Hand-book."

"As usual I was permitted to attend the meeting of the Indian Science Congress which met at Lahore and two papers were communicated to the chemistry section. A meeting of chemists engaged in Munitions work was also held at Lahore; Sir Thomas Holland, K.C.I.E., F.R.S., gave an address and an interesting discussion followed."

The Professor of Botany (Mr. P. F. Fyson) writes: "Further additions have been made to the Herbarium, especially of the flora of the Western Ghats to the North of Mysore, a peculiarly rich district, in which the Professor spent a week in August and an attender collected during the Christmas vacation. A beginning has been made with a collection of Economic Products. Lack of space for show cases makes it impossible to arrange any sort of museum on educational lines. The time is approaching when the department should expand into more commodious premises where there will be separate rooms for a museum and for experimental work for fungi, bacteria and physiology as is the case in any properly equipped botanical laboratory."

"Papers were read at the Science Congress by the Professor and by the Assistant Professor, and by several old students of this department working in Scientific Laboratories at Bangalore and at Coimbatore. Again as last year this is, I think, a matter for satisfaction and a sign that the students we turn out are fit for original work in the subject. I am now engaged in the revision of the Indian species of *Erocaulon*, a difficult and somewhat confused genus of flowering plants."

The Professor of Zoology (Mr. K. Ramunni Menon) writes: "The tutorial system introduced some months ago has been working satisfactorily, but has not brought anything novel to the front. As far as the degree students of this department are concerned, there is nothing new in the system; while to the Intermediate students, no doubt, it offers better facilities than before to get themselves into personal touch with the lecturer, and they have been availing themselves of these facilities."

"Notwithstanding what might have been expected from the improved terms offered since 1916, it has been particularly difficult this year to get a good demonstrator, almost all the better men who passed out having secured teaching or other posts elsewhere on more favourable terms. Until the demonstratorship is placed on a permanent footing, it seems hardly likely that the difficulty will materially diminish. Such a step will be inevitable when the new B.Sc. scheme comes into operation."

"Mr. R. Gopala Ayyar, the Assistant Professor, was able to devote some time during the year to the investigation of certain jelly-like masses found sticking to the mud in the Adyar. The eggs of which these masses consist were hatched in the laboratory and were ascertained to belong to a Polychaete worm; and the hatched-out larvae were reared to an advanced stage enabling the identification of the genus. The results of his observations formed the subject of his thesis for the Maharaja of Travancore Curzon Prize which has recently been awarded to him by the Madras University."

"A few cases of shells and crustacea purchased from the Government Marine Biologist, Tuticorin, and some other specimens have been added to the Museum."

The Acting Professor of Geology (Mr. H. Narayana Rao) writes: "During the year under report students were taken on two tours for instructional purposes. The first tour which was made during the Michaelmas holidays was a big one extending for more than a fortnight. After visiting the Manganese mines at Ramandroog in Sandur State, we proceeded to Dharwar, Belgaum and Bijapur Districts in the Bombay Presidency. This tour was found highly interesting and instructive. The water-falls at Gokak near Belgaum and the river gorges exposed on the road to Sandur brought out in a striking manner the erosive action of streams and the relation between scenery and geological structure. Photographs have been taken of some of the more prominent objects of the landscape and lantern slides of these are in course of preparation. Advantage was also taken in this tour to visit the famous ruins of Hampi and Bijapur. In February a second tour was made to the mica mines near Gudur and the cretaceous rocks at Rajahmundry. In these tours all the Geology students both main and subsidiary joined."

"The electric connexion with the dynamo in the Physics department referred to in the last year's report was completed in the course of the year under report and the lecture room has been fitted up with blinds, etc., for working the magic lantern. Some new lantern slides relating to Indian Geology have also been prepared and added to our collection."

The Acting Professor of Philosophy (Mr. A. Chakravarti) writes: "Of the students of this college who appeared for the Intermediate Examination, Group III in 1917, twenty-one were examined in Logic, of whom 19 passed. None got distinction in Logic."

"Of the 23 students who appeared for the B.A. Degree (Pass) Examination only 22 were examined. Twenty passed, one getting a first class."

"For the B.A. (Honours) ten appeared and all passed; three in second class and seven in third class."

"The (tutorial) system when it was introduced was ushered into a world of suspicion and was baptised in distrust. Nevertheless when the aims and ideals were candidly placed before the students they very readily appreciated the value. They took a keen interest in the tutorial classes. There are hundreds of things about which they freely consult their tutor and ask for advice. The students realized that the professor is not merely a hawker of marketable ideas but also a human being. Their hearts readily respond to sympathetic influence. To have gone so far is itself an earnest of success."

The Professor of History reports:—"The work of the year does not call for much comment. For the third year in succession a student of the college was awarded the Ramaswami Medal for 'distinguished merit in Politics' though this subject is popularly supposed to be taboo. Of the fifth year Honours students three at the last moment had an attack of nerves and declined the examination, ten took Honours and one was allowed a B.A. In the Ordinary Degree 'the habit of the second class' to which I alluded last year was agreeably diversified by the appearance of two 'firsts'."

"My colleague the Additional Professor deplors the poor quality of the third year Honours class with which he has been closely connected throughout the year. 'I have found it very difficult to direct their reading,' he writes. 'What they expect from me seems to be coaching. The fact is they are an average lot and have had a bad school training.' In the light of present controversies this is interesting. Though a student capable of taking Honours may occasionally prefer the Ordinary course most of those who do well in the Intermediate seek the higher degree. Therefore the 'average lot' of the 'bad school training' are presumably the pick of the Intermediate, Group III students so far as this college is concerned. It almost seems as if one result of the early 'specialization' under the Secondary School Leaving Certificate Scheme has been to direct the intellect of the schools into a single channel—the subjects of Group I. Some possibly may regard this as one of the merits of the system."

The Professor of Sanskrit (Mr. S. Kuppuswami Sastri) writes:—"The work of the year in all the branches of the Oriental department has been carried on

satisfactorily and efficiently. The examination results were satisfactory. All the three students that appeared from this college for the B.A. (Honours) Degree Examination in Branch VIII in April 1917 were successful, two of them being placed in the second class and one in the third class. One of them, Mr. K. Sitarayya, has been awarded by the Madras University, a research studentship in Sanskrit, of Rs. 75 per mensem and he has been allowed to carry on his work in the Sanskrit section under the guidance and supervision of the Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology at the Presidency College, the subject of his research being *Purva-mimamsa*. It is gratifying to observe in this connexion that another University research-student in Sanskrit, viz., P. P. Subrahmanyam, mentioned in the last year's report as working in the Sanskrit section of this college, was awarded by the Government of India, an Oriental scholarship of the annual value of £250 for acquiring in Europe the critical and scientific methods of Western scholarship with special reference to Sanskrit. Mr. P. P. Subrahmanyam, I understand, is now pursuing his studies at Oxford under the direction of Dr. A. A. Macdonell."

"With reference to the Sanskrit section, it is worthy of notice that, in addition to his usual course of college lectures on Sanskrit Philology and other subjects comprised in the Honours course for Branch VIII, the Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology at the Presidency College delivered at the college, under University auspices, a full course of twenty lectures on 'Theism of Hindu Philosophy,' which was attended by the Honours students of Branches VIII and IV of the Presidency and the Christian Colleges, as also by certain graduates interested in the subject."

The Temporary Junior Professor of Arabic (Muhammad Naimur Rehman Sahib) writes: "There was no student of Arabic or Persian in the third year class. The only first-year student who took up both Persian and Urdu (Part II) left college about the middle of February 1918."

"In the Intermediate one student has been sent up for the examination in Persian, with Persian Translation (Part I-B), while five have gone up for that examination with Urdu as their subject for composition. Only one Arabic (Group VI) student has been sent up this year for the B.A. Degree Examination."

"Under the tutorial group system all the Moslem students of Intermediate Group III and the B.A. Arabic student were entrusted to me. I began the work with them from the first week of September 1917, just after the system came into existence. Since then twenty-one meetings of the group, as a whole as well as in parts, have been held, the first of which was called on the 5th September 1917 and the last one on the 8th March 1918. The time for the meetings was generally after the college hours. The meetings were generally well attended. Thus far the system has proved to be helpful in understanding the students and their tendencies individually, and it has enabled them to develop their intellect and morality in a more wholesome and profitable manner."

22. *General*.—In pleasing contrast with the attentions of the press the college during the year came twice under the eyes of experts. In December it was formally inspected by the University; while the Calcutta University Commission some six weeks later paid us a lengthy visit and interviewed certain members of the staff. A former pupil, C. K. Ananda Rao, has just obtained the Smith's prize at Cambridge. As he passed through the college from the Junior Intermediate to the B.A. (Honours), we are, I think, entitled to some credit for this success. Another ex-pupil, S. Ranganathan, has recently returned from Oxford to Madras in the Indian Civil Service. For the second year the Maharaja of Travancore Curzon prize for an original thesis has been awarded to a member of the staff; Mr. Ekambaram's success in 1917 has been recently repeated by Mr. Gopala Ayyar as reported by the Professor of Zoology.

To Mr. D. J. Sloss of the Maharaja's College, Trivandrum, the thanks of the college are yet again due for his kindness in valuing the essays sent in for the Elphinstone prize. I desire further to record my thanks to my colleagues and the members of the staff for their ready and valuable assistance in carrying on the work of the college.

APPENDIX A.

I. Distribution of students according to caste or race.

Europeans and Eurasians	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Indian Christians	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Mubammadans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Hindus	{	Brahmans	...	...	...	...	...	443
	{	Non-Brahmans	...	...	...	...	...	73
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	560

II. Distribution of students according to wealth of parents or guardians.

Richer classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Middle classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	461
Poorer classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	560

III. Distribution of students according to occupation of parents or guardians.

Officials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399
Petty officials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Landholders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Traders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Artisans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	560

APPENDIX B.

Distribution of students according to the districts to which they belong.

Districts.	I	II	III Pass.	IV Pass.	III Honours.	IV Honours.	V Honours.	Total.
Anantapur	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Arcot, North	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	20
Arcot, South	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	20
Bellary	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	5
Chingleput	..	..	..	8	1	3	..	26
Chittoor	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	7
Coimbatore	..	..	..	5	2	1	..	16
Cuddapah	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	9
Ganjam	..	..	..	2	4	1	3	14
Godavari	..	..	..	1	5	3	2	18
Guntur	..	..	..	1	9	3	..	15
Kanara, South	..	..	..	2	1	8	4	34
Kistna	..	..	..	3	4	1	2	17
Kurnool	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	5
Madras	..	..	..	15	17	5	13	53
Madura	..	..	..	2	2	5	3	14
Malabar	..	..	..	1	4	13	20	53
Nellore	..	..	..	5	..	3	5	14
Ramnad	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	4
Salem	..	..	..	2	..	3	2	11
Tanjore	..	..	..	18	21	16	19	106
Tinnevely	..	..	..	1	3	8	4	26
Trichinopoly	..	..	..	5	1	4	2	14
Vizagapatam	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	5
Cochin	..	..	..	1	..	3	1	10
Hyderabad	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
Mysore	..	..	..	..	5	5	1	12
Pudukkottai	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Travancore	..	..	..	1	3	2	6	18
Coorg	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	4
Dharwar	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Kashmere	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Ceylon	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Pondicherry	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Bombay	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Total	92	90	110	129	58	45	36	560

APPENDIX C.

Results of the University examinations, 1916-17.

Examinations.	Number applied.	Number examined.	Number passed.				Percentage passed from the college.	Per cent for the University.
			First	Second	Third	Total.		
Intermediate—								
Whole examination	50	49	12	17	..	29	59.2	20.7
Part I-A	56	54	..	..	..	34	63.0	29.7
Part I-B	56	54	..	..	..	44	81.5	79.7
Part II—								
Group I	18	17	..	..	..	17	100.0	26.5
II	10	10	..	..	..	8	80.0	20.4
III	28	23	..	..	..	13	56.5	22.1
B.A. Pass Degree—								
Part I	115	115	..	60	..	60	52.2	40.6
Part II—								
Group I	17	17	..	13	..	13	76.5	51.6
II-A	12	12	2	8	..	10	83.3	71.3
II-B	15	15	1	7	..	8	53.3	51.8
III-A	5	5	..	4	..	4	80.0	79.2
III-B	1	1	..	..	..	..	100.0	81.8
III-C	3	3	..	3	..	3	90.9	77.5
IV	23	22	1	19	..	20	89.7	..
V	29	29	2	24	..	26	..	..
Total	105	104	6	78	..	84	..	..
B.A. Honours Preliminary	60	59	..	..	..	43	72.9	76.7
B.A. Honours Degree Examination—								
Branch I	15	14	3	6	3	* 12	85.7	76.9
II-A	(a) 4	4	..	3	1	4	100.0	100.0
II-B	4	3	1	..	1	† 2	66.7	66.7
III-A	3	3	..	..	3	3	100.0	100.0
III-B	5	5	..	1	3	† 4	80.0	80.0
III-C	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
IV	10	10	..	3	7	10	100.0	95.2
V	14	11	..	6	4	† 10	90.9	82.8
VII	(a) 12	11	2	1	5	† 8	72.7	75.9
VIII	3	3	..	2	1	3	100.0	100.0
Total	72	66	6	22	28	56	..	..

(a) Excludes one M.A. student.

* Excludes two candidates who were granted B.A. Pass Degree.

† " one candidate who was granted B.A. Pass Degree.

‡ " three candidates who were granted B.A. Pass Degree.

Proceedings—B.C. No. 3509, dated 6th June 1918.

Recorded.

2. The report, which, as usual, includes interesting extracts from the Professors' reports, deals adequately with the work of the year. Changes in the staff have not been numerous and for the most part temporary. It is very satisfactory that the Munitions Board has been able to obtain valuable assistance from the Professors and Assistant Professors of Chemistry.

3. The number of students has risen somewhat and is well over that contemplated when the college was reorganized ten years ago. The numbers seeking admission rose considerably, but the number admitted to the first-year class was somewhat smaller than in the previous year. In view of the not inconsiderable proportion of students who every year fail to secure promotion or to pass the University examinations it cannot be said that admissions are made too strictly.

4. The development of the tutorial system will be watched with interest. The Director followed the newspaper campaign against the college and its authorities, was kept fully informed of the circumstances which were made pretexts for attack and entirely approves the action taken in them.

Please see reference
Not to be printed



THE OLD COLLEGE,
NUNGAMBAKAM.



unpublished attacks on the
College last year about
which I had a conversation
with him on Tuesday.
I have mentioned them
in my review and
H.E. is I think
to all something

Yours sincerely

L. Stone

by Mr. C. W. B. B. B.

I don't know whether
the President's report would be a
valuable source of information
regarding the matter, but if not
I think he would wish to see
it as a check of the

H.E. has not added anything
to the draft.

A
22/6/18
I have seen
27/6/18

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