

Home (1918) Department.
(Education)
Miscellaneous ^{ordinary} SERIES.

G.O. No. 863

DATED 1-7-18

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council Resolution.

Recording papers relating to the resolution proposed to be moved by the Hon'ble Mr. K.R.V. Krishna Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 4th April 1918 regarding the qualifications of the Assistant to the Director of Industries.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH A RESOLUTION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

[For the Meeting of the 3rd April 1918.]

[SUBJECT.— *Qualification of the Assistant to the Director of Industries.*]

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

XVIII. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a thorough and intimate knowledge of Mechanical Engineering be made the primary qualification for the appointment of the Assistant to the Director of Industries.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The post of Assistant to the Director of Industries was created in the first instance for a period of one year with a view to afford relief to the Director of Industries in the work connected with the pumping and boring operations which were then under his control. Mr. Wills, Assistant to the Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, was appointed to the post on a pay of Rs. 550 per mensem. Shortly after his appointment he left for military duty and the post became vacant. The Public Works Department were unable to spare the services of any officer of that department for the post. Mr. Tressler who was then in charge of the Department of Industries was asked to advertise the vacancy. Of the several candidates who applied for the post Mr. Tressler selected Mr. L. B. Green, who was in the employ of Messrs. Greaves Cotton & Co., Bombay, and the Government appointed him as the Assistant.

Mr. Green joined the department on the 16th December 1915; and since then he has been holding the appointment. Recently his term of engagement was extended by three years from 16th December 1917, and his pay has also been raised from Rs. 550 to Rs. 675 a month.

2. Though the post of assistant was originally created in connexion with the pumping and boring work, this work has since been taken over by the Agricultural Department and the Assistant to the Director of Industries now helps the officer in charge of the Industries Department in his work connected with industries, munitions and priority applications. Further since Mr. Tressler, who was an officer of the Public Works Department, lent to the Department of Industries, left on military duty, an officer of the Indian Civil Service (first Mr. M. E. Couchman and now Mr. C. A. Innes) has been placed in charge of the department as a temporary measure. Mr. Green is therefore the chief technical Assistant in the department.

3. As regards the qualifications of Mr. L. B. Green, attention is solicited to the statement of qualifications of the officers of the Department of Industries which was placed on the Council table in reply to a question asked by the Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. Krishna Rao Pantulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd April 1917. From this it will be seen that Mr. Green possesses the following qualifications :—

“ Taunton school and Lincoln Technical school. Advanced certificates of the Board of Education for Machine Construction and Drawing, Heat Engines and Applied Mechanics (Materials and Structures) and the Mechanical Engineering certificates of the City and Guilds, London Institute (both grades). ”

In applying for sanction to the further retention of Mr. Green's services, Mr. Innes stated as follows :—

“ Mr Green has just the kind of technical and commercial engineering experience that is required in this department. In England he served an apprenticeship of five years with the firm of Messrs. Ruston Proctor & Co., Limited, during which time he received training in all branches of engineering, including workshop, drawing office, designing, estimating and commercial experience, and where he obtained expert knowledge of oil-engine, suction gas plants and other machines which are used or are likely to be used in the near future by ryots and small factory owners. On the completion of this term of apprenticeship he joined the staff of the firm, and passed through other technical and commercial departments in order to qualify for an overseas appointment. In 1914 he joined the firm of Messrs. Greaves Cotton & Co., and prior

2
to coming to Bombay served for six months in the Manchester office of that firm to acquire preliminary experience of the East Indian trade and also visited and spent some time in the works of a number of manufacturers whose productions are marketed in this country."

It will also be seen that in the opinion of Mr. Innes, Mr. Green is, by reason of his varied engineering training, fully qualified for the post he now holds in which not only engineering ability but also commercial experience is required and that he seems to be a mechanical engineer also. From a question which the Additional Member who is the mover of the present resolution proposes to ask at the next meeting of the Legislative Council, it will appear that he doubts whether Mr. Green is fully qualified for the post. There appears to be no ground for entertaining any such doubt. In regard to the resolution itself, it is submitted that the suggestion that a thorough and intimate knowledge of mechanical engineering should be the primary qualification for the Assistant to the Director of Industries, seems to be acceptable. In paragraph 2 of his letter No. 304, dated the 19th December 1917, recommending the increase of pay to Mr. Green from Rs. 550 to Rs. 675 per mensem Mr. Innes himself has stated as follows:—

"It would be most inconvenient if I am deprived of his (Mr. Green's) services at this juncture. I should require another assistant and it is essential that the assistant should be a mechanical engineer. I do not know if Government have an officer of the Public Works Department whom they can spare for the purpose or whether there are mechanical engineers available in the Public Works Department. In any case I do not want now to be saddled with the duty of training a new assistant and I doubt if Government can give me a man who will be not only a capable mechanical engineer but also a useful all-round assistant."

4. Orders are solicited as to who should be in charge of the resolution and whether the resolution should be discussed in the Executive Council. Perhaps the file may be sent to Mr. Innes, u.o. for remarks.

S.K.—20-3-18.

T.K.—22-3-18.

C. H. BROWN—22-3-18.

Mr. Innes (u.o.) and then Member(3) who, I believe, will not be in Madras till Monday morning.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—22-3-18.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES.

The question in the linked file * makes it clear that there is something behind this resolution. I don't know the

* (Dislinked and answer to the question despatched to Legislative.) Honourable Additional Member nor, I think, does Mr. Green. He has evidently

been put up to the resolution and question.

2. If the Honourable Additional Member has any genuine doubts about Mr. Green's qualifications they are probably founded on the fact that Mr. Green does not write A.M.I.C.E. after his name. But workshop experience is more important than a degree. I am quite satisfied with Mr. Green, and I do not think that the Honourable Additional Member's doubts need be taken seriously.

3. I quite agree that a trained mechanical engineer should always find a place in the staff of the Department of Industries, and if the resolution were modified in this sense, I think that it might be accepted.

C. A. INNES—23-3-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Submitted for orders as to who will be in charge of the resolution and whether it should be discussed in the Executive Council.

S.K.—26-3-18.

N.K.—26-3-18.

C.H.B.—26-3-18.

L.D.S.—26-3-18.

I shall oppose the resolution on the ground that, while the present Assistant is a qualified mechanical engineer, the Council should not tie the hands of the Government for all time by laying down, as primary, a qualification which may not be always as important as it now is.

P. R. [AJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR]—27-3-18.

3
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 4th day of April 1918.

RESOLUTION RE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES.

The Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"Your Excellency, in view of the reply given to my interpellation, I do not propose to move resolution No. XIII at present."

With the permission of His Excellency the President, the following resolution, of which notice had been given by the Hon'ble Mr. K. R. V. Krishna Rao Pantulu, was not moved:—

"XIII. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a thorough and intimate knowledge of mechanical engineering be made the primary qualification for the appointment of the Assistant to the Director of Industries."

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

Home (Edn) Dept

Submitted that these papers may
be recorded.
order N-8638/1-7-18.

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27-6-18.

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