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Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 941, 16th July 1918

Text-books

Approving the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction to discontinue the publication of the consolidated list of approved — once in five years.

ORIGINAL

INDEXED

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

NUMBER OF COPIES { Letter.
Order.

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 941, 16th July 1918

Text-books

Approving the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction to discontinue the publication of the consolidated list of approved — once in five years.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 44, Educational, dated 24th January 1907.

ABSTRACT.—The publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the consolidated list of approved text-books brought up to December 1906 with a note that it contains the names of such books as were in use in schools in 1906 and of those which have been approved since the publication of the last list in December 1905, ordered.

G.O. No. 190, Educational, dated 2nd April 1907.

ABSTRACT.—The Director of Public Instruction informed that books which have fallen into disuse or are out of date may be excluded from the consolidated list of approved text-books to be published once in five years and stated that the list of approved text-books published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 29th January 1907 will be accepted as a consolidated list.

II

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 19th June 1918.

No.—Cur. 5205.

In inviting the attention of Government to their Order No. 44, Educational, dated 24th January 1907, and No. 190, Educational, dated 2nd April 1907, I have the honour to state that I have found in practice that the consolidated general list of approved text-books ordered therein to be published once in five years, serves no useful purpose. It is impossible to delete from the said list, during revision, all the books that have fallen into disuse or out of date or out of print and publishers generally resent such deletions, however really unimportant. Further, the consolidated lists in practice, serve a very limited purpose of verification by Inspectors when they find a book being used that they have reason to think has not been approved by the Text-book Committee. I am of opinion that a file of the approved lists of text-books published annually would serve the purpose better. In these circumstances and in view of the fact that a great deal of labour is involved in the preparation of the consolidated list and considerable expenditure of printing and paper, without any corresponding benefit, I have the honour to suggest that its publication, once in five years, be discontinued in future and that only the publication of the annual lists showing the books approved by the Text-book Committee at their meeting held in September and in February succeeding be continued each year.

2. The last consolidated list having been published in 1913 the publication of the next revised list falls due in the current year. I beg, therefore, to request the early orders of Government as to whether I may now publish as usual in the *Fort St. George Gazette* the list of books approved during the year 1917-18 only instead of the quinquennial list.

Order—No. 941, Home (Education), dated 16th July 1918.

The Government approve the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction to discontinue the publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the consolidated list of approved text-books once in five years.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 941, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 16TH JULY 1918

[SUBJECT.—Suggesting that the consolidated list of approved text books published once in five years may be dispensed with.]

Previous papers :			
G.O.	94,	Educational, 1st Mar.	1900
"	445-46	" 10th Sep.	1900
"	650-51	" 26th Dec.	1903
"	829	" 16th Dec.	1905
"	463	" 30th June	1906
"	44	" 24th Jan.	1907
"	190	" 2nd April	"
"	369	" 12th June	"
G.O.	6,	Educational, 6th Jan.	1908
"	270	" 8th Apr.	"
"	323	" 6th June	1910
"	369	" 27th "	"
"	547-48	" 7th Aug.	1911
"	764	" 12th July	1915
"	1133,	Home (Edn.), 1st Sep.	1917

From the Director of Public Instruction, C. No. 5205, dated the
19th June 1918.

Prior to the year 1907 a list of approved text books in a complete form used to be published every year in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Since the annual publication of the list was found to be unnecessary the Government directed that a consolidated list should be published once in five years—supplemental lists being published annually and books which had fallen into disuse or were out of date being excluded from the consolidated list—vide G.Os. No. 44, Educational, dated 24th January 1907, and No. 190, Educational, dated 2nd April 1907.

2. The Director of Public Instruction now suggests that the publication of the consolidated list once in five years may be dispensed with and that only the annual lists showing the books approved by the Text-book Committee at their meetings be published each year. His reasons are fully explained in paragraph 1 of his current letter. Submitted that the Director of Public Instruction's proposal may be approved.

3. A draft order is submitted for approval.

V.C.P.—25-6-18.

T.K.—26-6-18.

The proposal seems to need a little closer examination. The immediate effects of changing the existing arrangement and publishing only every year the list of books approved in that year alone (without ever publishing a consolidated list at all) will be—

(i) only books newly published will come prominently to the notice of the managers of schools specially of those which are being newly opened every year and older books irrespective of their worth will ordinarily be thrown in the shade, and

(ii) unsuitable and not up-to-date books will still continue to be in use in some of the schools and the wholesome system of periodically pruning the list introduced by G.O. No. 190, Educational, dated 2nd April 1907 (for the guidance of inspecting officers and school managers) will be done away with. As a net result the list of approved text books will be a mass of up-to-date, and unused books mixed up together.

The two main objections raised by the Director of Public Instruction to the existing approved procedure are—

(a) the objections of publishers to the deletion of books once before approved, and (b) the considerable expenditure on printing and paper.

The former is of no great moment. The personal interests of the publishers should give way to the interests of the institutions and the student.

There is no justification for maintaining unsuitable books to avoid unpleasantness with publishers.

As regards the other objection, this is advanced now for the first time. Consolidated lists were formerly published *annually* then *quinquennially*. If annual or periodical publications were found necessary in older days, they should be much more so now with the increasing number of schools, managers and inspecting officers. No doubt economy will be secured by giving up the publication of consolidated

lists*; but the question is whether this will outweigh the advantage of retaining those lists in the interest of the public and educational officers.

*It ran over nearly 30 pages of printed matter in 1908.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—29-6-18.

If the lists are not brought *up to date*, managers especially of new schools cannot have easy access to the full list of approved text books and cannot exercise their privilege of choice.

Director of Public Instruction for favour of remarks.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—1-7-18.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Of course if I thought the list really useful I should not advocate its abolition on grounds of economy.

2. As regards publishers I consider that they are entitled to every consideration compatible with proved public necessity. In mentioning them, however, I overlooked the fact that a note to the consolidated list says that the exclusion of a book from it does not prevent its use in school if it found a place in any previous list. The only purpose the list serves therefore is that of substituting a somewhat shorter list for the aggregate of the annual lists.

It is compiled in a necessarily haphazard way. We do not really know what books are out of print and it is not worthwhile to find out. In any case of doubt a schoolmaster can find out for himself. Books that are out of date fall out of use under the advice of inspectors and the experience of schoolmasters. Because a book is not used in any school it does not follow that it might not be used with advantage. If therefore schoolmasters want to find out what books are available they had better consult the annual lists than the consolidated list from which books not hitherto used are excluded. As a matter of fact they do not consult any list for this purpose. At least so I believe. Two hundred copies of the 1913 consolidated list were for sale at the Government Press and 83 copies have been sold up to date. I do not know who bought them but they certainly did not all go to schools.

3. It must be remembered that the books in the list are not recommended. They are merely declared free from serious objections. A schoolmaster who looks into it therefore obtains merely this information about the books. He knows no more about them than that they exist and are not in any way positively bad. He can, and no doubt does, get the same and more information from publishers and booksellers' catalogues and the agents who visit the schools and show him their books. If there ever was any need for Government to try and do publishers' and booksellers' work for them, I am sure that it has gone by. I have sufficient evidence in my office in the lists of books sent in for grants-in-aid that schools are very well aware

of what books are available and likely to be useful in schools. It may seem that what I have written goes to show that the whole text book machinery is useless. It has a use but a strictly limited one, i.e., to keep really bad books out of the schools.

4. I hope that the draft order will be allowed to issue, except that I should shorten it by the omission of the words following "once in five years" as there is no proposal to discontinue the publication of the annual lists as I am not prepared to recommend the substitution for them of an index expurgatorius.

J. H. STONE—11-7-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Submitted for orders whether in the circumstances explained by the Director of Public Instruction the draft order may issue with the omission of the words in brackets.

P.R.—12-7-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—14-7-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—15-7-18.

P[ENTLAND]—15-7-18.

Issue.

R.R.—16-7-18.

[G.O. No. 941, Home (Education), dated 16th July 1918.]

11-10 (a)-12-1-15
Text-books

3. 458 Home Edn, 5 DEPARTMENT

Approving the proposal of the D.P.I to discontinue the publication of the consolidated list of approved — once in five years.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 44 Sol, dated 24 - 1 - 1907. (J)

" " " " 190 Sol, " 2 - 4 - 1907. (M)

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1304, From the *Dr. J.*, No. 5205, dated 19 6 191

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

" " " " " " " " 191

ORDER.

No. 941, dated 16.7.191

PS
(Notes to be printed)

The Govt. approve the proposal of the D.P.C. to discontinue the publication in the Fort St George Gazette of the consolidated list of approved text books once in five years and to publish only the annual lists showing the books approved by the Text-Books Committee at their meetings held in September and in February succeeding in each year.

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 15/7/68
 R. Ramachand

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19.7.18

To The D. 12.9 (9th)

217

W. W.

For approval
28/7-18
The Secy to Govt

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2 NOTES TO G.O. No. 941, HOME (EDUCATION), 16TH JULY 1918
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Issue.

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[G.O. No. 941, Home (Education), dated 16th July 1918.]

ORDINARY.

PRESS SLIP.

PREFERENCE.

URGENT (a).

DEPARTMENT.

Current No. dated 191 ..

G.O. No. 741, dated 16-7-1918.

Number of MS. pages sent { Correspondence (b) 3
(b¹) 5
Notes

Brief subject. Text Books

(e) Number of copies required when struck off (not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press).	E. T. copies to supply requisitions for purchase by the public.	Complete correspondence and orders.	Notes.
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT.

(a) If a paper is marked to be printed urgently, the Superintendent of the section concerned should sign the Press slip. The Superintendent should exercise a careful discretion in the matter.

(b) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item has been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(b¹) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 315 of the office Manual.

(c) The number of copies and the details of distribution should be filled in by the Superintendent or Referencer concerned.

(d) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for one week, and larger papers for two weeks only. The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.

(e) This slip, properly and completely filled in, should accompany every paper sent to Press; it will be returned by the Press when proofs are furnished; it should be sent to the Press when a call is made for revised proofs or when a corrected proof is sent for striking. When finally returned by Press it should be filed with the original order or letter.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESS.

(a) If, in the opinion of the Superintendent of the Press, a paper has been marked urgent unnecessarily, he should send the Press slip to the Registrar with a remark to that effect.

(b) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

(c) Signature copies of letters to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India should be printed on hand-made paper.

(d) This slip should be returned by the Press to the Secretariat when proofs are furnished; it will be sent back to the Press when proofs are returned corrected and should be finally returned to the Secretariat when struck-off copies are supplied.

(e) The names of the Secretary and Members should be printed in full when they occur on the right hand side, only the first time when they appear on the left side, the initials alone being printed later.

* Copies distributed on (Press Clerk).

† Copies distributed on (Press Despatcher).

‡ To be initialled and dated.

TO PRESS, MADRAS OOTY.

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B
Proof returned corrected. Please strike off and send number of copies as indicated.

C
As the matter is clear manuscript and has been carefully edited, (b) proof need not be sent. Please print and supply number of copies as indicated.

Type may be released after usual interval at once.

Type may be released after usual interval.

Referencer.
Clerk.

Referencer.
Clerk.

Referencer.
Clerk.

Supdt.

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Supdt.

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Revised proof furnished on.....	
Corrected proof received for striking on.....	
Final copies supplied on.....	

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