

Home (1919) Department.

Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. *639*

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INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council.

Recording notes connected with the resolution to provide for the establishment of an Islamic College in connection with the Madrasa Ibtidaiya of the Vengaloori Muhammadan Educational Society moved by the Hon'ble *Yaqub Hasan Salih* Bahadur at the meeting of the ----- held on 15th February 1919.

BACK PAPERS.

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NOTES.

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NOTES CONNECTED WITH A RESOLUTION REGARDING
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

[For the meeting of the 5th February 1919.]

[SUBJECT.—*Colleges for Muhammadans in Madras.*]

The Hon'ble YAQUB HASAN SAHIB :—

XIII. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that the provision of Rs. 15,048 for the College for Muhammadans, Madras (temporary), under the head "22-C." be omitted and that an additional provision of Rs. 15,000 be made under the head "22-G. Education—Grants-in-aid—Teaching grant to Colleges—General, to be paid to the Vaniyambadi Muhammadan Educational Society for establishing Islamia College in connexion with its Madrasa Islamia.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The circumstances under which a college for Muhammadans came to be opened in Madras by the Government are as follows.

2. In 1916, His Exalted Highness the Nizam made a gift of Rs. 25,000 non-recurring and Rs. 1,000 recurring for a college to be opened in connexion with the Islamia Secondary school at Vaniyambadi (letter No. 1416, dated 22nd December 1916). There was sharp difference of opinion among Muhammadans as to whether the gift was to be utilized to establish a college in connexion with the Islamia school at Vaniyambadi or a college independent of it bearing the name of His Exalted Highness the Nizam should be started. A large number of members of the executive committee of the Vaniyambadi Muhammadan Educational Society expressed a desire to raise the Islamia school to the status of a college and requested Government not to permit the location of the proposed Usmania College at Vaniyambadi. The controversy lasted for more than a year and the result of the discussions which the Government had with the representatives of the community in the matter will be found summarised in the two press communiqués, dated 20th July 1917 and 7th January 1918, respectively (page 61 of G.O. No. 1019, dated 6th August 1917). After personal conference with Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim, the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan Sahib and other representative Muhammadans, it was decided that any funds available should be utilized for the benefit of the Presidency as a whole and not for the benefit of a particular locality, and that with a view to meeting the special circumstances and needs of the Muhammadan community throughout the Presidency the first Muhammadan college should be located in the Presidency town itself. The Government also expressed the hope that wealthy Muhammadans in the Presidency would by their generosity enable the first steps towards the establishment of such a college to be taken before long.

3. In the budget estimate for the current year a lump provision of Rs. 75,000 was entered for the improvement of Muhammadan education. This included a sum of Rs. 9,000 to be paid as a recurring grant to the proposed Usmania College and another Rs. 25,000 (non-recurring) towards the construction of buildings for the college. The scheme for the establishment of a Usmania College in Madras did not however mature and in the end the Government decided to take independent action and to open intermediate college classes in the Madrasa-i-Azam for the benefit of Muhammadan students—vide G.O. No. 820, Home (Education), dated 24th June 1918.

4. The Additional Member who once strongly advocated that the College for Muhammadans should be established in the Presidency town has apparently since changed his position. He now recommends that the college classes already opened in the Madrasa-i-Azam should be closed and the aid should be given to the Vaniyambadi Educational Society to raise the status of the Islamia school to that of a college. As pointed out in the press communiqués a college located at Vaniyambadi would serve only the needs of a fraction of the Muhammadan population of the Presidency and in order to provide facilities for collegiate education to Muhammadans throughout the Presidency there should be a central institution located in the Presidency town. The proposal to abolish the college classes in the Madrasa-i-Azam is obviously unsound and may be rejected and the provision made in the budget cannot be omitted or diverted.

5. If however, the Muhammadan community want to start a college of their own at Vaniyambadi, it is open to them to do so. The Director of Public Instruction will no doubt be prepared to consider any application for a grant-in-aid that may be made on its merits. Till such an institution comes into existence the question of budget provision does not arise. Besides it may not be very difficult for the Director of Public Instruction to find any amount that may be needed by way of grant from the total provision made in the budget under the head "22. Education."

6. It is submitted that the resolution may be opposed. Orders are solicited as to whether any further particulars should be called for, whether the resolution should be discussed in the Executive Council and who should be in charge of it.

7. The file may be sent u.o. to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks.

N.K.—29-1-19.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—30-1-19.

A. This does not represent the resolution accurately. The wording of the resolution does not contemplate necessarily at Vaniyambadi. The Honourable Additional Member, I have reason to suppose, thinks of a Moslem College in Madras itself.

2. The gist of the resolution is to favour an aided Muhammadan college under a Muhammadan Council of supervision as against a college under Muhammadan management. It is clear that there is no room for two such colleges in Madras city (or perhaps in the Presidency) at present.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—30-1-19.

A. This does not represent the resolution accurately. The wording of the resolution does not contemplate necessarily at Vaniyambadi. The A.M., I have reason to suppose, thinks of a Muslim College in Madras itself.

2. The gist of the resolution is to favour an aided Muhammadan College under a Muhammadan council of supervision as against a College under Government management. It is clear that there is no room for two such colleges in Madras City (or perhaps in the Presidency) at present.

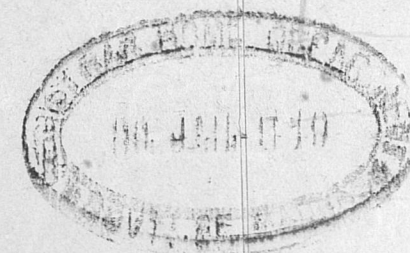
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D P I (u.o.)

I have nothing to add to the note. The College comes in the Madras. I am sure to be continued.

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Extract from the Proceedings of a 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 assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 5th day of February 1919.

RESOLUTION RE GRANTS-IN-AID TO THE VANIYAMBADI MUHAMMADAN EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE ISLAMIA COLLEGE.

The Hon'ble YAQUB HASAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I beg to move—

'**XII. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that the provision of Rs. 15,048 for the College for Muhammadans, Madras (temporary), under the head 22-C. be omitted and that an additional provision of Rs. 15,000 be made under the head 22-G. EDUCATION—Grants-in-aid—Teaching grant to Colleges—General, to be paid to the Vaniyambadi Muhammadan Educational Society for establishing Islamia College in connexion with its Madrasa Islamia.**'

"The Government College for Muhammadans for which Rs. 15,048 are provided in the Financial Statement has come into existence in sudden and mysterious manner. In the Financial Statement that we discussed in this Council in March last a lump sum of 75 thousand was provided for the improvement of Muhammadan education including 'grants to a Muhammadan College.' This referred of course to the Usmania College for which His Exalted Highness the Nizam had sanctioned a monthly grant of Rs. 1,000.

"There is a difference between a Muslim College and a College for Mussalmans. One is a national institution managed and maintained by the Mussalmans themselves in which student are trained on Islamic lines under Muslim influences in Muslim surroundings, and Koran, Hadis (traditions) theology and Muslim history form part of the curricula of the studies. Government sympathised with the movement for the founding of the Muslim College and we are grateful to Mr. Stone, who, I am glad, has been knighted recently, for the valuable help he gave in the initial stage of the scheme. Unfortunately dissensions arose in the managing body of the Islamia High School at Vaniyambadi in connexion with which the college was to be

(Mr. Yaqub Hasan.)

[5TH FEBRUARY 1919.]

established. The obvious course for the Government to adopt at such a juncture was to try to bring about reconciliation between the two warring elements in the managing body. There have been instances of more serious quarrels at Aligarh and Lahore in the managing bodies of the Muslim Colleges, but Government always intervened as peace-makers and restored harmony. I had personally appealed to your Excellency to take similar course. Your Excellency was at one time prepared to act on this request and with a view to give your Excellency free hand to arrange matters satisfactorily I even offered to resign the secretaryship of the Usmania College Board. This is what I wrote to your Excellency on the 18th June 1917 :—

‘ Allow me to thank you most heartily for the warm interest you have shown in the establishment of the Usmania College at Vaniyambadi and the kind efforts you are making for a satisfactory settlement of the differences that have unfortunately arisen. I beg to repeat what I have already told your Excellency that should my resignation of office as Secretary to the Board of the Management be in any way useful in bringing about an amicable arrangement that will ensure the placing of the institution on a stronger and more stable basis and secure the hearty co-operation and financial support of all the parties concerned, I shall, indeed, be quite willing to tender it to the Board at its very first meeting. I will do this most cheerfully, as the one thing I was longing for all these years is the establishment of a college for the advancement of education among my co-religionists. But the careful thought and consideration you have bestowed on this subject and the generous and sympathetic manner in which you propose to deal with it, will I am sure result in bringing the college into existence under more happy auspices than would have been the case otherwise.’

‘ But your Excellency, for reasons best known to yourself, did not take any steps to carry out your original intention. In reply to Sir Stone’s letter of the 21st June I wrote to him on the 24th as follows :—

‘ I am surprised that His Excellency the Governor has thought it fit to change the attitude he had taken in the matter of the Usmania College. When I had an interview with him at Ootacamund on the 13th instant, I understood distinctly that he had resolved to help the movement with a view to have the Usmania College established at Vaniyambadi in July next and to make it the best equipped and most efficient institution possible. He told me that the Government owed it to His Highness the Nizam that the object of his generosity should be realized in the way he would naturally desire it. He assured me that the Government would help the Usmania College with funds and place on the board of management additional educationists who would help in making the institution the best of the kind. His Excellency at the same time said that something might be done to conciliate the other party who were opposing the movement. I offered to resign the secretaryship in order that His Excellency’s scheme of reconciliation might be carried out. His Excellency also told me that he would send for the three leaders of the Islamia party and tell them that the Government was resolved to help the Usmania College and ask them to set aside all personal considerations in the same spirit as, His Excellency was good enough to observe, I was prepared to do. His Excellency as well as myself felt sure that this scheme was bound to succeed and I proceeded to carry out my part of it. I had informed His Excellency at the same interview that with your approval I had made all the necessary arrangements for starting the Usmania College early next month, and His Excellency did not think there would be any need for disturbing them. I gave His Excellency on the 18th instant when he came to Madras my undertaking in writing. His Excellency again expressed his intention of meeting the Islamia party at an early date with a view to bring about the compromise. Since then I am not aware of any new developments that have led the Government to change their attitude. If His Excellency had acted on his original proposal and has seen the Islamia party I am sure the object in view would have been attained. Without any attempts in that direction it cannot be said that there is no prospect of any immediate restoration of harmony. If the Government do not think that they can grapple with the situation they may leave it to the Board to meet it as best as possible. The Board is bound to carry out the purpose for which it has been constituted. If, however, the Government think that they have not had sufficient time to arrive at a definite conclusion as to their attitude towards the Usmania College, its establishment may be postponed for a year, although all arrangements have been made for the college classes and the lodging of the students, necessary furniture has been made and a good staff can be appointed from among the numerous applications already received. Applications from students are also pouring in in response to the notice I had sent to all the eligible students of the year.’

‘ At the particular request of Sir Stone the Usmania College Board in its meeting held on the 2nd July 1917 resolved ‘ that, in view of the fact that the arrangements for opening the college were very far from completion the Board is of opinion that the opening of the college be postponed till July 1918 and that meantime all necessary steps for securing this object be taken.’

‘ Very soon after this your Excellency made up your mind that Madras would be a better place for this college than Vaniyambadi. Your Excellency called half a dozen Mussalmans at a few hours’ notice to the Government House on the 19th of July 1917 and got your Excellency’s premeditated resolution subscribed to by the majority of those present. Two press communiqués followed in which the Government sympathized with the desire of the Muslim community to

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have a college of its own but at the same time made the community understand that the Government have decided that any financial aid which they are able to promise to the advancement of this branch of Muhammadan education shall be given towards the establishment of a college in Madras.’

‘ After having indicated their attitude (in such unmistakeable terms) as to the location of the college the Government ought to have left the matter to the Usmania College Board to do the needful. Your Excellency did not allow the President or the Secretary of the Board to negotiate with His Exalted Highness the Nizam but carried on the correspondence yourself. We are quite in the dark as to what passed between the two Governments and what decision was eventually formed by His Exalted Highness the Nizam in respect of the monthly grant of Rs. 1,000. We can only surmise that he has refused to transfer to a college in Madras what he had specifically granted to the community at Vaniyambadi in appreciative furtherance of the great work it had already done there. I referred to this question in the budget meeting of last April, but Sir Stone was not in a position then to tell me definitely what would be the fate of the Usmania College scheme, and yet within two months the Government from the hills arranged to open the college in connection with the Madrasa-i-Azam in a most precipitate manner. I repeat what I had written to Mr. Stone in the letter I have quoted above :—

‘ Please allow me also to state that if the Government intervention results only in frustrating the scheme of the Usmania College which has not been launched without a good deal of consideration it will do great harm to the community—harm,—which cannot be counterbalanced by any scheme for advancing Muhammadan education which Government may see fit to launch on their own responsibility.’

‘ The college that Government have started can never prove to be as useful to the community as the national college founded and maintained by Mussalmans is bound to be. I say this for the following reasons :—

‘ (1) No satisfactory arrangement can be made in a Government College for the compulsory teaching of Koran, Hadis, theology, Islamic history, etc. ;

‘ (2) Religious discipline and Islamic manners and etiquette cannot be enforced ;

‘ (3) Islamic culture cannot be imparted in an institution with the help of the staff which is not responsible to a Muslim management ; and

‘ (4) Healthy traditions cannot be built up and public interest and enthusiasm cannot be created about an institution in the fortunes of which the community is not closely and keenly interested.

‘ It will be a waste of money for Government to equip and maintain a college in an efficient and up-to-date condition for Mussalmans in the town of Madras where the Government Presidency College is close at hand to serve the same purpose. There can never be any special feature in the Umdah Bagh College to attract Muslim students to it in preference to the Presidency College or for the matter of that to the Christian College. On the other hand a new disability is created for the Mussalmans by the establishment of this college and that is that Mussalmans will not be admitted in the other colleges of Madras and they have to be content with the second or third rate teaching of the Umdah Bagh College.

‘ Another disadvantage is that Mussalman students are denied the benefit of healthy competition with the bright Hindu fellow students. In the school stage of education we cannot help having separate schools and classes for Mussalmans on account of the vernacular but no such difficulty exists in the upper secondary and college classes. Hindu boys are freely admitted in the higher forms of the Vaniyambadi Islamia School and it was intended to admit Hindu students in the proposed college too.

‘ I therefore beg to urge upon the Government to give this matter their earnest consideration while there is yet time to retract the steps they have hastily taken. The college has not yet been affiliated to the University and can be given up in favour of a better and more acceptable scheme. If the Government persist in maintaining this college they will block the way for another Muslim college to come into existence. In the first place considering the small number of Muslim students two Muhammadan colleges will be too many and the University will not allow a superfluous institution to be established in competition with the Government College. Large amount of money and labour has been spent in making the Madrasa Islamia of Vaniyambadi the centre of Muslim learning and culture in this Presidency and great hopes were entertained about its becoming one day the Aligarh of the south. The active sympathy and munificent support of the great Muslim Prince His Exalted Highness the Nizam was enlisted on its behalf with that end in view. The inconsiderate, though of course well meaning action of your Excellency’s Government has put a check, I hope only a temporary check, on the ordered progress of that institution. I appeal to your Excellency once more to remove this embargo that has been placed on our one solitary national institution in this Presidency and give it a chance to develop on the lines its founders have thoughtfully laid down for it. I understand that the managing body of the Vaniyambadi Madrasa has resolved last year to raise it this year to the status of a second-grade college. In this resolution I beg of your Excellency to transfer the amount earmarked for the Umdah Bagh College to Vaniyambadi as a grant-in-aid for the Islamia College to be established there in connection with the Islamia High School. It will arouse the interest and the enthusiasm of the community afresh and stimulate them to further educational activities to attain the new goal the Government

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will be placing before it. It may even be possible for the community to regain the sympathy and patronage of His Exalted Highness the Nizam by making their own efforts worthy of such generosity. Like God, Princes and Government help those who help themselves. We want your Excellency to help us in our attempts at self-help in the matter of education and not to kill this spirit in us by setting up to do for us what we are prepared to do for ourselves. The Muslim community had great expectations from the sympathetic attitude your Excellency had adopted towards Muslim education in general and the Vaniyambadi Madrasa in particular ever since your visit to that institution at my personal invitation. Let not your Excellency's career in this Presidency end in an act which can mean a death knell of the cherished hopes and aspirations of the community in the matter of their projected national college."

The Hon'ble Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES :—"Your Excellency, the college for Muhammadans in Madras was opened to meet a recognized public demand for a college for Muhammadans, a demand which was expressed freely throughout the whole Presidency. The resolution that has been now proposed is to close down this existing college and to pay over the funds allotted for its maintenance to an educational society which has as yet not started a college. So far as the University and so far as the department of education are aware, no scheme has been formulated for starting a new college or for its maintenance in a state of efficiency. I do not enter into the arguments of the Honourable Mover of this resolution regarding the site on which the single college for Muhammadans, which is all that he thinks is needed to meet the present requirement of the University, should be ; but I think it would be a retrograde step if the college that has already begun were now to be closed. It is a college for Muhammadans to meet the demand of the Muhammadans. It is not intended to compel all Muhammadans to go to it. That is not the intention of the Government. Muhammadans will be free to attend any other college as they have been accustomed hitherto. But there is a certain section of the community which desires a college for Muhammadans pure and simple, and the Government have met that demand, and the existing provision in the budget is merely for the continued maintenance of the college."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR :—"May I ask for information as to whether the apparent implication in this resolution is correct? Evidently a grant of Rs. 15,000 for the college at Madras seems to imply that Rs. 15,000 or some other grant that will be required for the development of the Vaniyambadi Muhammadan educational institution would not be forthcoming. Is there any basis for the idea that if the Vaniyambadi Educational Society should make an application for starting certain classes and the department should consider that there is no objection to their being started the money would not be forthcoming from the general grant-in-aid provided already?"

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—"I do not know whether the Hon'ble Mr. Littlehales can say whether there is any application."

The Hon'ble Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES :—"There is no application. It is useless to make budget provision until an application is made."

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD AZIZ-UD-DIN SAHIB :—"With your Excellency's permission I should like to say a few words in my individual capacity as a member of this House. I am not prepared to make any lengthy speech in reply to the long written speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan, but I am bound to say this much, that the whole Mussalman community is very grateful to your Excellency for establishing a college for them in Madras. The question as to the location of the college was very carefully considered by your Excellency and in that conference the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan was also present. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim was very strong on the point that Madras was the best centre for the Muhammadan college. The local Mussalman press expressed its grateful thanks to your Excellency for the location of the college in Madras. It is unnecessary for me to narrate the grounds which induced your Excellency to establish it in the town of Madras in preference to any other place in the Presidency. The Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan has repeated the ancient history connected with the Usmania and Islamia Colleges and he has ventured even to remark that, when dissensions arose at Vaniyambadi on account of the unauthorized and ill-considered action of the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan, your Excellency's Government or your Excellency was not pleased to reconcile the two parties there. As far as I could see, it was impossible for the Government or anybody else to bring about any reconciliation at Vaniyambadi. Even as matters stand now, I think that it is not possible to bring about a reconciliation there. This very morning the leading Mussalmans of Vaniyambadi came to me and begged me to speak against the resolution of the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hassan. It was no doubt unfortunate that the Vaniyambadi people did not accept to associate their intended college with His Exalted Highness the Nizam. That, I consider was a political blunder, but for all that the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan has to thank himself a great deal. I do not understand why the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan has thought it fit to call the Government College in Madras a temporary one or to say that no grant should be made to it. That is a college which has come into existence as a matter of fact. It is progressing and is appreciated by the Mussalman public. The idea of the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan running back again to the name of the Islamia College when he once so much asserted himself against it passes my comprehension. I do not know what changes

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have taken place since then. All that I know is that the dissensions among the Mussalmans of Vaniyambadi are now almost the same as they were when the apple of discord was thrown there by the rather ill-thought of action of the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan, who had no business to go to Hyderabad and to entreat the authorities there to give a certain name to the college without consulting those who were responsible for all the financial assistance they were prepared to give to the Islamia Madrasa at Vaniyambadi or to the proposed Usmania College. It was most unfortunate that the name of His Exalted Highness the Nizam was at all dragged in. But for all that mistake the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan was responsible. If he had only consulted the donors and the Mussalmans of Vaniyambadi before he undertook his trip to Hyderabad, I do not think all that trouble would ever have seen the light of day. However, as matters stand, the Mussalmans of Southern India are most grateful to your Excellency for having established a college for them in Madras. As to all those ideas of a National college and matters connected with it I think it is premature now to discuss them. The college has been started, and I am sure as it is going on, it will develop and the future government will do for its development all that may lie in their power. If objections are started the moment the college is started, that will be prejudicial to the interests of the college.

"I am taking this opportunity on behalf of the Mussalmans of Southern India for all that your Excellency has been pleased to do to advance the cause of Mussalmans. Several lower secondary schools have been established throughout the Presidency. Mussalman boys have been sent to England with the help of the Government and now the Government college in Madras is an accomplished fact. Everything is progressing in the right direction, and I hope that the resolution of the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan will not be accepted.

"One thing which the Mussalmans of Vaniyambadi requested me to do is to ascertain from the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan what has become of the Rs. 25,000 which His Exalted Highness the Nizam gave for the College at Vaniyambadi. They want, in case the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan is earnest about the advancement of the education of Mussalmans, that that amount, in case it stands in his name, may be made over to the Government College in Madras."

The Hon'ble Yaqub Hasan Sahib Bahadur :—"Your Excellency, the Hon'ble Mr. Littlehales has said that this college was brought into existence in response to the demand for a Muhammadan college. The demand was for a private Muhammadan college. That demand was recognized by the Government and in the two press communiques that I have quoted, it was stated that the Government sympathised with the demand of the Muhammadans, and whatever help they could give towards that college would be given by the Government if it was established in Madras. That itself shows that the College was to be a private college and that the demand was for a private college. The Government recognized the demand for a private college. There was no demand that the Government should establish a college. When the Government have established this college, they have done it on their own responsibility without any demand for it; at any rate it is not in response to that demand to which the press communiques referred.

"Then it was said that there was no other college started, and as far as the University was concerned there was no scheme for any other college. It is unfortunate that Sir J. H. Stone is not here. Mr. Littlehales succeeded him lately and he does not know the past history. But your Excellency knows there were two schemes before your Excellency. There was the scheme of the Islamia College and the scheme of the Usmania College and the Government chose to support the Usmania College scheme. That scheme was supported till April last. The Government corresponded with His Highness the Nizam with a view to transfer the grant of Rs. 1,000 from the college in Vaniyambadi to the college in Madras. That itself shows that all along it was a private college that the Government wanted to help. Of course, the Government at the same time tried to bring it under their own control for reasons known to themselves. In those days there was very much in the air about students taking part in politics, and the Government perhaps felt that if the college remained in the hands of persons who took interest in politics the students might be led astray, and if the college were founded in Madras it would be under better control and under the direct eye of the Government. Whatever reason it was, it was a private college which the Government wanted to bring under their own control, and there was never any mention of their starting a Government college. Because that grant of the Nizam was withdrawn, it was thought that Government had gone too far to recede. There were two schemes. The Islamia College they discouraged and they encouraged the Usmania College. Now that the Nizam's grant to the Usmania College was withdrawn the Government started a college in Madras without consulting the community. That college was started when the Government were on the hills. All of a sudden the college was started, and it cannot be said that it was a considered action on the part of the Government. In my speech I have characterized that action as inconsiderate. At the same time I have given your Excellency's Government credit for good intentions. They intended that our education should prosper, and I have myself in my speech expressed the gratefulness of the community for that.

"The Hon'ble Mr. Littlehales has said that they have started a college but they do not compel students to go there. Compulsion can be brought about indirectly. One student went to the Principal of the Madras Christian College and was told that this year he would not admit Mussalman students because it would be unfair to the Muhammadan college. Two second year students were brought over from the Presidency College against their will.

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The Presidency College refuses to admit students who take up subjects which are provided for in the Umdah Bagh College. If that is not compulsion, I do not know what compulsion means. What is the distinguishing feature between the Umdah Bagh College and the Presidency College? Both are Government colleges, and only secular education is arranged for and there is nothing to attract Mussalman students to the new college simply because it is called a Muhammadan college. If there were a Muhammadan college under the control of Muhammadans with Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim as president, there would have been great enthusiasm throughout the country and many people would have come forward and subscribed several thousands of rupees. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim got promises and expected to raise about two lakhs. All this money is lost to our education. The Government could not ask us to pay that money to the Government college. In one of the press communiques the Government have stated that Muhammadans would show their generosity in order to enable the first steps to be taken. Was it for the purposes of the Government college that Muhammadan generosity was asked for and not for a private college?

"The Hon'ble Mr. Aziz-ud-din chose to say something on this subject. His position in this Council is very peculiar. He is an official and he often speaks on behalf of the Government, but somehow or other when some Muhammadan question comes up he takes up his individual capacity and begins to speak on behalf of the community as if he represented that community in this Council or anywhere else. He chooses to say things which are not in keeping with the true facts of the matter. For example he now tells us that a body of Vaniyambadi Mussalmans asked him to oppose this resolution. The Mussalmans who went to him must be really most foolish people when they asked him to oppose the very thing that I was going to do for the sake of Vaniyambadi Mussalmans. They have got Rs. 70,000 for a college. The other day they negotiated for the purchase of a building in order that the income might be utilized for the college. Last year they wanted to start an Islamia college and they opposed the proposal to start the college here. I am trying to make it possible for the Islamia college to be started there. If the Government college becomes permanent, this Islamia college would not be started because two colleges would not be allowed. I am helping these very Muhammadans of Vaniyambadi who want this college to be started. If this resolution is thrown out and this college becomes permanent, the very object of the Mussalmans who went to the Hon'ble Mr. Aziz-ud-din will be thwarted. Here the Hon'ble Mr. Aziz-ud-din comes in as the representative of these Muhammadans and tells us that he opposes the resolution on their behalf. They may as well say, 'save us from such a friend.'

"Then he says dissensions exist still in Vaniyambadi. It takes two people to make a quarrel. In Vaniyambadi dissensions existed because there were two parties. One party has retired—the party who had to do with the Usmania college. I have not taken any part in Vaniyambadi affairs for the last one year and a half nor my friend Mr. Kalam who was associated with me in this matter. He has not gone there for two years. The dissensions do not exist now, because there are no two parties. How dissensions can exist even now passes my comprehension. If there are any Mussalmans there who do not like me personally, that does not mean that there are dissensions about the college or school there. Then he says it is impossible even to-day to reconcile these two parties. No reconciliation is necessary as there are no two parties existing.

"Then he accuses me of going into the ancient history about the Usmania college. But he himself goes into it. I went into the history as far as it referred to this matter, as far as it helped this resolution. But he goes into that ancient history and rakes up the quarrel about the name of His Highness the Nizam being given to that college. That is a different matter altogether. It does not arise at all out of this resolution. Whether I went there with or without the permission of the people is a different matter. I do not want to go into it. It will suffice to say that many officials of the Government helped us in that scheme. It was that scheme which His Highness the Nizam accepted on the recommendation of some friends of the Muhammadan community, and it was only lately when other people who posed as friends came in, this trouble began. When I saw the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew last time at Ootacamund about this matter, I said that the Hon'ble Mr. Aziz-ud-din was interfering in this matter and if he continued to do so he would spoil the whole thing. I find now that the scheme has been frustrated on account of the kindly interest that the Hon'ble Mr. Aziz-ud-din took in the matter of Vaniyambadi. That was not his concern and he ought not to have interfered in it. What he did in connexion with it has been responsible for the mischief that has arisen. Your Excellency you will recognize from the tone of my speech that I was very humble in my request. I appealed to Your Excellency in the most pleading manner I could command that I wanted everything that was controversial to be kept out. I did not want any heat to be introduced into this discussion. As I have said, we are grateful to Your Excellency for all that you have done for the community in the matter of our education. I want Your Excellency's career not to end without that beneficent work that Your Excellency has undertaken to do in connexion with this coming to fruition. Unfortunately something has occurred to upset the even tenor of that educational scheme. This college, I sincerely believe—the Government college—is not so very necessary for the promotion of my community's education as a college maintained by Muhammadans. When the decision that Your Excellency arrived at about the location of that college was come to, it is true that some people hailed that decision with pleasure

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(Mr. Yaqub Hasan; the Rev. Pittendrigh.)

and in the Mussalman press it was endorsed, because the Usmania college was in view and not the Muhammadan college which the Government have started. If the Hon'ble Mr. Littlehales had said that if the other scheme of Vaniyambadi matures at a later date and it was represented to the Government that they wanted the Islamia college to come into existence, then the Government would reconsider the matter and would not stand in the way of the Islamia college coming into existence, I would have felt satisfied. There is no doubt that in my resolution there is a technical flaw, that is to say, a grant cannot be given to a college that does not exist. But the Government college is a temporary one. I did not use the word 'temporary', but I quoted the language of the Civil Budget Estimate. That word temporary was not my word. The Hon'ble Mr. Aziz-ud-din thought I called it temporary and he wasted so many words over it. That is not my word. It is stated here and it is temporary so long as it is unaffiliated. I understand that an application has now been made for its affiliation. All that I want is not to get that college affiliated, but to continue to teach the students they have taken in and allow them to appear as private students according to the regulations of the University, and next year probably you may reconsider the matter and consult the Muhammadan community and the Vaniyambadi Educational Society that has done so much for the education of Muhammadans. If Your Excellency concluded after consulting the community that they prefer the college to be maintained by the Government and not by Muhammadans or the Vaniyambadi Society, then Your Excellency's Government may come to that decision and on that decision the Government and the Muhammadan community may act. But before they do that, this college should not be affiliated and should not become a permanent institution. Once it becomes a permanent institution, the Educational Society will have to give up all their aspirations and all the noble aims that they have concerning their institution. That will be doomed to remain a high school and it will become parochial in its character. It will lose its character as a school for the whole Presidency, and the students who go there from all over the Presidency will cease to go there because they will find that this school will remain only a school and will never become a college. I appeal to Your Excellency once more not to destroy this scheme of a national college for Muhammadans that they have taken nearly twenty years to build up.

"One word more, Your Excellency: Reference was made to the 25,000 rupees grant which His Highness the Nizam has already paid for the Usmania college. That amount was paid for the building and equipment of the proposed Usmania college and the monthly grant of Rs. 1,000 was promised to be paid when the college came into existence. That amount is invested as a deposit in the Madras Bank as resolved by the Usmania College Board, of which the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim is the President and the Director of Public Instruction is also a member. Sir J. H. Stone was a party to that arrangement. With reference to that there is a letter from Mr. Glancey, the Finance Assistant Minister of Hyderabad, saying that that amount is to be paid to the Board of the college that is to come into existence in Madras. That itself shows at any rate that Mr. Glancey is not aware that there is no such board and no such college as he has in view. This college is a different thing. Last time the board resolved that the wishes of His Highness the Nizam should be ascertained as to the disposal of the 25,000 rupees, and as soon as they are ascertained, that amount will be disposed of as His Highness directs. At the same time the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdur Rahim at the last meeting appealed to Mr. Duncan and said that 'when the Government are going to spend so much money on the college why should they take this Rs. 25,000 also; let this 25,000 rupees go towards the scholarship fund for Muhammadan students.' And he said if that amount was left with him he would be able to get some more money and create good scholarship fund. Even after that I have received a letter from Mr. Duncan asking me to hand over the Rs. 25,000 with interest. I appeal to Your Excellency's Government not to press for the payment of that small residue that has been left out of the generosity of the Nizam, to the Government college. It may be utilized more usefully in the other way."

The Hon'ble the Rev. G. PITTENDRIGH:—"May I rise to a question of fact? I do not propose to enter into the discussion because I presume it is closed. But the Hon'ble Mr. Yaqub Hasan has made one statement which it seems to me requires explanation. He said that the Principal of the Christian College refused to admit Muhammadan students because they should be sent to the Muhammadan college. I think he must be under some misapprehension because there are a number of Muhammadan students in the junior Intermediate class admitted by Dr. Skinner. I simply mention it because in case the statement made in this Council should go forth without contradiction it would cause misapprehension."

The Hon'ble YAQUB HASAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I saw Dr. Skinner at his house. I took the student and I asked him to admit him into the college. He said—why not I take this boy into the Muhammadan college and why should he come to the Christian College? And he told me what I repeated in my speech, that because that college was opened he thought it was fair that these students should go there. The fact that there are some students in the Junior class of the Christian College does not show that all those who sought admission got admitted. There are some subjects which are not taught in the Muhammadan college; perhaps in those subjects they may have been admitted; and this boy that I took had taken a subject which was taught in the Muhammadan college, and still Dr. Skinner was good enough to admit him as a special case in the Christian College."

(The President; Mr. Yaqub Hasan; [5TH FEBRUARY 1919:
Mr. Ranga Achariyar.)

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"Does the Honourable Gentleman press the resolution?"

The Hon'ble YAQUB HASAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur T. RANGA ACHARIYAR:—"I wish to know whether the Government have definitely committed themselves to any policy with reference to the Educational Society."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"What does the Honourable Gentleman mean?"

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur T. RANGA ACHARIYAR:—"Whether they are prepared to encourage that society in case they open a college."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"The Government cannot answer hypothetical questions of that kind. The Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction has stated all the facts, and we will now take the division."

The resolution was put and lost.

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

Extract from the Proceedings of the
Council held on 5 Feb 1919.

Regr.

The resolution was put to
the vote & lost. A draft order
recording the papers is onbd.

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