

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 881, 16th July 1919

Report

Recording the report on the working of the Presidency College, Madras, during 1918-19.

INDEXED

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READ—the following papers:—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES, M.A., Acting Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

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

Dated—the 17th June 1919.

No.—R.C. 3531.

I have the honour to submit herewith for the information of Government a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 3531, dated 13th June 1919 reviewing the report on the working of the Presidency College, Madras, for the year 1918-1919.

ENCLOSURE

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, R.C. No. 3531, dated 13th June 1919.

Read—the following paper:—

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

To—the Director of Public Instruction.

Dated—Madras, the 12th April 1919.

No.—C. 180/19.

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the college during the year ending 31st March 1919.

2. *Changes in the staff.*—Mr. Mark Hunter, Professor of English, having been offered and accepted the appointment of Director of Public Instruction, Burma, left on the 31st May forenoon. Mr. H. C. Papworth, Acting Additional Professor of English, was appointed to act as Professor and Mr. P. I. Painter, I.C.S., as Acting Additional Professor from 16th July 1918. These arrangements were made purely as a temporary war measure.

Mr. R. Littlehailes, Professor of Mathematics, appointed to act as Director of Public Instruction, Madras, handed over charge to me on the forenoon of 3rd February 1919. His work during the remaining part of the year was divided among his Assistant Professors.

The services of Dr. J. L. Simonsen, Additional Professor of Chemistry, were, under G.O. No. 417, Home (Education) Department, dated 27th March 1918, again placed at the disposal of the Government of India, Indian Munitions Board, for a period of two months from 1st May 1918. He accordingly left on the 26th April afternoon, but the period of his deputation was extended first by one month in G.O. No. 848, Home (Education) Department, dated 28th June 1918, and subsequently till the termination of the war [G.O. No. 978, Home (Education) Department, dated 25th July 1918], as Deputy Controller (Vegetable oils) on the headquarters staff of the Indian Munitions Board. During his absence M.R.Ry. M. Damodara Kini, Assistant Professor in Chemistry, was appointed to act as Additional Professor with effect from 6th July 1918. In their Order No. 1303, Home (Education) Department, dated 5th October 1918, Government were pleased to sanction the post of a Research Assistant on Rs. 200 per mensem for a period of one year. M.R.Ry. M. Gopala Rao, M.A. (Honours), a University Research student for the past three years, was appointed to it from 1st July 1918 and not only carried on his own research but handled in addition the lectures formerly delivered by Doctor Simonsen.

Mr. H. C. Papworth, acting Professor of English, was confirmed as Junior Professor, Training College, Rajahmundry, in the Indian Educational Service without prejudice to his present acting appointment.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur K. Ramunni Menon Avargal, Professor of Zoology, was promoted to the Indian Educational Service.

M.R.Ry. H. Narayana Rao Avargal, First Junior Assistant Professor and Lecturer in Geology, was confirmed as Professor of Geology in the Provincial Educational Service.

In their Order No. 887, Home (Education) Department, dated 5th July 1918, Government were pleased to sanction the employment of an Additional Professor of Physics in the ninth grade of the Provincial Educational Service by reducing the number of Assistant Professors in the Physics Department from three to two. M.R.Ry. P. K. Anantanarayana Ayyar, M.A., L.T., one of the Assistant Professors, was promoted to the above service with effect from 5th July 1918. He was, however, obliged to take privilege leave on medical certificate for 2½ months from 29th July. M.R.Ry. M. C. S. Anantapadmanabha Rao Avargal, M.A., L.T., Lecturer, Teachers' College, Saidapet, appointed to act for him, joined duty on the 16th August forenoon.

In their Order No. 226, Home (Education) Department, dated 21st February 1918, Government were pleased to sanction the continuance, for a further period of three years from 1st July 1918, of the post of Additional Professor of History in the Provincial Educational Service, originally sanctioned in G.O. No. 533, Educational, dated 18th May 1915. M.R.Ry. T. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar Avargal continues to hold this post.

M.R.Ry. D. Subrahmanya Sarma, Acting Junior Professor of English, was obliged by ill-health twice to take leave—privilege leave on half pay for about two months from 21st October and combined privilege leave and leave on medical certificate for two months and three days from 29th January 1919. In the first case M.R.Ry. K. Amrita Rao, Assistant Professor in English, was appointed to act as Junior Professor and M.R.Ry. V. Venugopalan, M.A. (English), L.T. (who however did not join duty till the 19th November), as Assistant Professor; on the second occasion M.R.Ry. K. V. Subbaya Ayyar, M.A., L.T., Assistant Inspector of Schools, Godavari district, on leave, was recalled to act as Junior Professor and joined duty on the 7th February forenoon.

M.R.Ry. T. Suryanarayana, B.A. (Cantab.), Lecturer in Mathematics, Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, was temporarily transferred on the 7th January 1919 in connexion with the transfer of four students who, owing to the difficulty of obtaining laboratory apparatus, could not satisfactorily continue their studies for the B.A. in Mathematics at Anantapur.

M.R.Ry. G. A. Srinivasan, B.A. (Honours), sub. *pro tem*, Assistant Professor in Mathematics, was deputed to the Teachers' College for trainings. He was relieved by M.R.Ry. K. R. Rama Ayyar, B.A. (Honours), on the forenoon of the 8th July.

M.R.Ry. P. Narasimham, Assistant Professor in Mental and Moral Science, transferred to the Arts College, Rajahmundry, was succeeded by M.R.Ry. A. Raghava Ayyar, M.A., L.T., from the Kumbakonam College, who took charge on the forenoon of 3rd August.

M.R.Ry. T. K. Duraiswami Ayyar, Assistant Professor in History, appointed Lecturer, Teachers' College, Saidapet, was relieved on the forenoon of the 25th July by M.R.Ry. S. Hanumanta Rao, M.A. (Honours), who had previously put in a service of 3½ years as a teacher in the Maharaja's College, Vizianagram.

M.R.Ry. V. Rangacharya, Assistant Professor in History, appointed Lecturer in History, Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, was relieved in anticipation on the afternoon of the 2nd August, but his successor M.R.Ry. C. N. Ekambara Mudaliyar, M.A., L.T., from the Arts College, Rajahmundry, was unable to join until the afternoon of the 23rd idem.

In their Order No. 709, Home (Education) Department, dated 5th June 1918, Government were pleased to sanction the employment with effect from 1st July 1918 of an Assistant Professor in the fifth grade of the Subordinate Educational Service,

Collegiate Branch, to do work in both the English and Philosophy Departments. M.R.Ry. J. C. Chinnappa, M.A., L.T., Headmaster, Government Panchama Training School, Madras, was appointed sub. *pro tem*, to fill the above post. He joined duty on the forenoon of 25th July.

M.R.Ry. S. Appaswami Ayyar, Assistant Professor in Physics, was on privilege leave for nineteen days from 17th October 1918. No substitute was appointed and his work during his absence on leave was divided among the other members of the staff.

M.R.Ry. M. Rajagopala Ayyangar, Assistant Professor in English, was on privilege leave for one month from 11th November 1918, but his *locum tenens*, M.R.Ry. N. Venkatasubbayya, M.A., L.T., was unable to join his acting appointment until the afternoon of 22nd idem.

The temporary appointment of the Junior Professor of Arabic on Rs. 200 sanctioned in G.O. No. 265, Educational, dated 13th March 1916, for three years was, under G.O. No. 820, Home (Education), dated 24th June 1918, transferred to the Government Madrasa-i-Azam, and Muhammad Naimur Rehman Sahib, the Professor was accordingly relieved on the forenoon of the 15th July.

M.R.Ry. G. Sambamurti and M.R.Ry. S. Subba Rao, Assistant Professors in Chemistry and Sanskrit, respectively, were confirmed in the Provincial Educational Service and M.R.Ry. P. A. Narayana Ayyar and M.R.Ry. L. R. Ramachandra Ayyar continued sub. *pro tem*, in their places.

M.R.Ry. C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai, Acting Assistant Professor in Geology, was confirmed as Sub-Assistant Inspector of Schools, Karur range, without prejudice to his present officiating appointment.

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. No. 833, Educational, dated 3rd August 1915, up to 31st March 1916 and renewed from year to year, has been further extended to 31st March 1920 in G.O. No. 184, Home (Education) Department, dated 12th February 1919.

M.R.Ry. Mahamahopadaya V. Swaminatha Ayyar Avargal, the Tamil Pandit, after a service of over 39 years was permitted to retire with effect from 1st April 1919 and M.R.Ry. K. Venkateswara Sastriyar, the Malayalam Pandit, from the 5th idem.

3. *Accommodation and equipment.*—In G.O. No. 1167 W., dated 3rd October 1918, a revised estimate amounting to Rs. 3,41,200 for the construction of a new Chemistry block and for other improvements was sanctioned in supersession of the estimate amounting to Rs. 3,04,400, sanctioned in G.O. No. 1094 W., dated 20th August 1917. A lakh of rupees was provided for expenditure during the year but out of this a sum of Rs. 70,000 was resumed in G.O. B. No. 17 W., dated 15th January 1919. With the remaining grant of Rs. 30,000, the foundations have been excavated and are being strengthened with wells, sand and concrete, while bricks, teak logs, and steel girders for future operations have been collected in large quantities—vide my letter R.C. No. 847/13, dated 6th March 1919.

4. *Strength and attendance.*—The number of students on the rolls in the first and second terms of 1917-18 and 1918-19 was as given below:—

	1917-18.		1918-19.	
	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.
First year class	99	92	87	80
Second year class	94	90	96	87
Third year class (Pass)	116	110	116	112
Do. (Honours)	60	58	60	56
Fourth year class (Pass)	135	129	104	97
Do. (Honours)	45	45	57	57
Fifth year class (Honours)	33	36	43	43
Total ..	687	560	563	532

The number of students who left during the first and second terms was 14 and 17. The average number on the rolls was 545 and the average daily attendance

489. In this connexion I may call attention to the sickness rife throughout the year attaining at times to the dignity of an epidemic. Two waves of influenza passed over Madras, while for some weeks plague was in close proximity in Triplicane.

5. *Distribution of students.*—The distribution of students on the 31st March 1919 according to (1) 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, as usual, continued to supply the largest number, Malabar and Madras ranking next.

The number of lady students was seven, exclusive of the 21 from the Queen Mary's College, Mylapore, who came for classes in the Intermediate Groups I and II.

6. *Statistics of the groups and branches.*—The statement subjoined shows the number of students in each of the groups or branches offered by the college:—

	First year.		Second year.	
	First term.	Second term.	First term.	Second term.
Group I	37	34	34	32
" II	21	18	17	12
" III	29	28	35	33
Total	87	80	86*	77*

* Excludes ten 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	23	23	17	15	20	19	14	14	12	12
Physics	16	16	3	3	20	18	2	2	3	3
Chemistry	15	15	4	4	5	5	3	3	1	1
Botany	6	6	4	4	2	2	4	4	1	1
Zoology	4	4	2	1	4	4	1	1	..	..
Geology	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Mental and Moral Science.	21	19	4	4	20	20	8	8	3	3
History	25	23	14	14	29	25	11	11	11	11
Group VI—Sanskrit ..	3	3	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..
English Language and Literature.	..	..	5	5	..	..	9	9	4	4
Sanskrit Literature ..	..	..	5	4	..	..	8	3	6	6
Total	116	112	60	56	104	97	57	57	43	43

7. *Statistics of language students other than English.*—The popularity of the various second languages in the Intermediate classes was as shown below:—

	Composition.		First year class.	Second year class.
Tamil	..	..	28	40
Telugu	..	..	16	14
Kanarese	..	..	2	4
Malayalam	..	..	4	3
Urdu	..	..	5	10
			55	71

	Translation.		First year class.	Second year class.
Sanskrit	..	..	21	14
Latin	..	..	3	2
French	..	..	1	..
			25	16

The combinations allowed in Group III were taken as under:—

	First year class.	Second year class.
Ancient History, Modern History and Logic	21	31
Ancient History, Modern History and a classical language ..	7	2
	28	33

8. *Library.*—Mr. H. C. Papworth who succeeded Mr. Mark Hunter as acting Professor of English remained in charge of the library.

Four thousand and twenty-six volumes were issued on loan as against four thousand one hundred and eight in the previous year as follows:—

	1917-18.	1918-19.
History, Economics and Biography	790	695
Literature	2,932	3,081
Mathematics and Science	348	236
Philosophy	36	14
Total	4,108	4,026

The number of books issued to the staff was 205 as against 193 last year. This decrease is due to the fact that the majority of advanced books required by the staff have been removed from the general library and are now kept in the separate departmental libraries, from which they are taken by the staff without being entered in the general library register.

Considerable delay in filling the annual indent from England has been experienced but books to the approximate value of Rs 3,000 have been added during the year.

The general library and class libraries have been checked and the card catalogue kept up to date.

It has been found necessary to restrict the issue of books in certain ways—a regrettable step. But the most urgent need of the library is a trained librarian as to which I have already addressed you.

9. *Promotions.*—

		First-year class.	
		Number in class.	Number promoted.
Group I	..	34	28
" II	..	18	11
" III	..	28	25
Total	..	80	64
		Third-year class (Pass).	
Group I	..	23	21
" II-A	..	16	16
" II-B	..	15	12
" III-A	..	5	5
" III-B	..	4	4
" III-C	..	4	4
" IV	..	19	19
" V	..	23	23
" VI	..	3	3
Total	..	112	107

		Third-year class (Honours).	
Branch I	..	15	12
" II-A	..	3	3
" II-B	..	4	4
" III-A	..	4	4
" III-B	..	1	1
" III-C	..	2	1
" IV	..	4	4
" V	..	14	14
" VII	..	5	5
" VIII	..	4	4
Total	..	56	52

Fourth-year class (Honours).

Branch I	Number in class.	Number promoted.
II-A	14	12
II-B	3	3
III-A	4	4
III-B	1	1
III-C	2	2
IV	8	8
V	11	11
VII	9	9
VIII	3	3
Total	57	55

The promotions of the third-year Honours students have been made provisionally pending the results of the preliminary examination in English.

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

1. Lord Elphinstone prize ... No competitors.
2. Do. scholarship ... N. Mahadeva Ayyar.
3. Conolly scholarships ... P. A. Narayanaswami.
P. R. Subbaraman.
4. Thompson scholarship ... J. D'Souza.
5. Subrahmanya Ayyar scholarship ... Senior—N. A. Ramaswami Ayyar
Junior—P. Krishnamurti
6. Norton prizes ... Tamil—V. Venkatasubba.
Telugu—V. Venkatasubba Rao.
Tamil—R. Vasudevan.
7. Bourdillon prizes... Telugu—Ch. Sankara & atri.
8. Maharaja of Travancore prize ... H. Srinivasa Rao.
9. Powell and Morehead Vernacular prize ... Not awarded.
10. Maharaja of Vizianagram prize ... H. Parameswara Ayyar.
11. Arbutnot prize ... S. A. Venkataraman.
12. Gordon prize ... R. Jagannadhan.
13. Kunjambu Nambiyar prize ... T. P. Padmanabha Mannadiyar.
14. Innes prize ... S. Narasimha Ayyangar.
15. Thompson prizes ... Senior—A. Ranganatha Rao.
Junior—S. Narayanaswami.
16. Elliot prize ... V. K. Krishna Menon.
17. Scott prize ... G. Ramaseshan.
18. Oppert prize ... O. Kunhan Raja.
19. Mackintosh prize ... S. Narasimha Ayyangar.
20. Gadgil prize ... S. Venkateswaran.

The following students were elected to college scholarships:—

First-year class.

1. S. Krishnamurti
2. K. Lakshmana Rao.
3. G. K. Ramachandran.
4. D. K. Nagaraja Rao.
5. T. P. Navaneethakrishnan.

Third-year class (Honours).

1. S. Venkateswaran.
2. P. N. Chandrasekharan.
3. F. Virraju.
4. C. R. Krishnayya.
5. B. Janakram Singh.
6. S. Sundaresa Ayyar.
7. S. Thothadri.
8. Ch. Venkatappayya.
9. P. R. Krishnan.
10. R. Krishnamurti.

The total number of college scholars at the end of the year was 43.

11. *University examinations.*—The results of the University examinations of March and April 1918 are given in Appendix C.

It will be seen that only in a single class (B.A. History) did our percentage of passes fall below the presidency average; generally we were well above it and in the Intermediate and B.A. (Honours) our results were specially satisfactory. We obtained 26 first classes [Intermediate 20, B.A. 1 and B.A. (Honours) 5] and 14 University prizes or scholarships. Here too may appropriately be mentioned the distinctions recently obtained by former students. K. C. Srinivasan has competed

successfully for the Curzon prize with an original thesis; S. Sengodiyar, the Government of India scholar (University), has achieved the I.C.S. while U. Shankara Rao is reported to have repeated the performance of his former classmate C. K. Ananda Rao and to have carried off a Smith's prize at Cambridge.

12. *Admissions.*—On the strength of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate or of the results of the European High School examination 454 students as against 483 in the previous year applied for admission. Of these 91 were selected but only 80 joined the college.

Seven hundred and ninety-five students as against 694 in the previous year applied for admission to the third-year class. From these were selected 60 for the Honours and 131 for the pass courses, but of these last not more than 100 actually appeared. Students passing the Intermediate from the college contributed 17 and 30 to these figures.

13. *Fees.*—The number of paying students in the first term was 528 and in the second 497. Of these 254 and 227 respectively paid their fees by instalments. Four students transferred from Anantapur college were in the first term credited with the fees already paid there, while three of them, reported poor, obtained, under G.O. No. 147, Home (Education), dated 4th February 1919, free admission for the short term as well.

14. *Receipts and charges.*—The receipts and charges during the years 1917–18 and 1918–19 are given in the subjoined statement:—

	Receipts.			Charges.		
	1917-18.			1918-19.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Fees	55,736	7	0	53,255	0	0
Miscellaneous	488	6	5	463	0	0
Total	56,224	13	5	53,718	0	0
Principal, professors and assistant professors.	1,83,329	2	8	1,72,350	14	8
Masters and teachers including sergeant.	6,530	14	3	6,753	0	0
Establishment including clerks, librarian and mechanic.	9,617	14	7	10,601	9	10
Demonstrators	2,333	15	9	2,697	12	9
Travelling allowance	4,544	5	6	2,398	12	6
Library and class books	3,416	8	8	2,890	0	0
Apparatus, laboratory and Europe stores.	5,504	2	4	3,602	13	3
Furniture purchased or repaired	1,387	12	0	1,835	15	9
Rents, rates and taxes	6,068	8	10	6,068	8	10
Other contingencies	6,034	12	9	6,335	3	5
Total	2,28,765	1	4	2,15,534	11	0

15. *College Council.*—Mr. H. C. Papworth continued to be the Secretary throughout the year. Besides the routine business of making promotions, awarding prizes, scholarships, etc., two subjects were considered. The suggestion to open special French and German classes was not approved as it was felt that the students have already as much as they can do in their ordinary work. On the question of the B.Sc. course the council resolved that with the present staff, equipment and accommodation it would be impossible to teach science for both B.Sc. and B.A. and that it would be inadvisable to undertake the B.Sc. courses until a sufficient period had elapsed to render supplies and apparatus readily available.

16. *Tutorial system.*—The tutorial system continued throughout the year and worked on the whole satisfactorily though too much must not be expected of it. The students in general are ready to consult their tutors on questions of work but to pass from this to more intimate details they are less inclined. Indeed it is obvious

that here temperament and personal idiosyncrasy must largely enter, especially in the absence of any tradition. It will be seen from the reports of the professors that even Indian members of the staff are not agreed in their verdict.

17. *Student activities*.—Mr. H. O. Kershaw was appointed Honorary Secretary of the Athletic Association, but even his energy could not dissipate the cloud under which our athletics seem to lie just now. Our inability to secure a single trophy in the Madras Collegiate Athletic Association competitions need not perhaps be stressed, for trophies are usually won by a small section in any college. More depressing is the general indifference, the lack of a desire to play games. It was with difficulty that an eleven could be got together in a college of over 500; football and hockey were no more popular; in fact only tennis now appears to attract the Indian student. As tennis is the game for elderly gentlemen it may be asked whether we are growing old too rapidly in this country.

The Union Society, on the other hand, had a highly successful year. In addition to essays on the 'Subliminal Self' and the 'South Sea Islanders' contributed by Messrs. Painter and Jeffreys (of the Christian College) it debated such soul satisfying problems as 'Is modern civilisation an illusion and a curse,' 'Is the league of nations practicable', etc. Two special meetings were held at which the society had the privilege of listening to distinguished visitors. Captain Ardent of the Belgian Army lectured on the War, while Sir Rabindranath Tagore read us one of his unpublished plays. This distinction was greatly appreciated and will long live in the memory of the audience. Nor was the society content to take its drama as read; it aspired to enact one! Under Mr. Painter's stage-management a highly successful production of 'the Rivals' was given and encored. This also was much appreciated.

18. *Residence of students*.—Out of 532 students in the college at the end of the year 172 lived in the Victoria Hostel, Triplicane, seven in the hostel attached to the Queen Mary's College, Mylapore, 220 with their parents or guardians and 133 in separate lodgings; these, as usual, were 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 1919.

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

The acting Professor of English (Mr. H. C. Papworth) writes—

"In his report of last year, my predecessor called attention to the curious discrepancy between the degrees of success obtained in the Intermediate Examination by the several groups. In the 1917 Examination 82 per cent of Group I passed, 70 per cent of Group II and only 48 per cent of Group III. This year the percentage of passes in Group III has risen to 53, that in Group II has fallen to 50, whilst that in Group I has risen to the gratifying figure of 90. So that, whilst Groups II and III have equalised themselves, they are still far below the excellent standard of Group I. Evidently the best students have a partiality for Group I: but this year's equalisation of the remaining groups is, I think, as it should be.

"The work of the department during the past academical year has been seriously handicapped by an abnormal amount of illness amongst members of the staff, for which the recent epidemic of 'Influenza' has been largely responsible. The acting junior Professor of English has been on sick leave almost continuously since 21st October 1918. He has therefore been absent from duty for the greater part of the academical year. During this time, too, the first Assistant Professor was absent on sick leave for a month whilst another member of the English staff was taken away for about ten days to preside over the Government Examinations. With such misfortunes crowding one upon another, the work of the department has been carried on with the greatest difficulty; and it will not surprise me if, as a result of the changing of classes and lecturers which these illnesses have entailed, our usual standard of proficiency is not reached in the ensuing University Examinations.

"At the beginning of the year an experiment was made by which the Junior English class was divided into two sections for teaching purposes; half being assigned to one lecturer and half to another.

"I regret that owing to the illnesses amongst the English staff already referred to, this experiment had to be abandoned within a few weeks of its inception with the result that it has not been given a fair trial. Next year, however, I hope to try the experiment again under more favourable circumstances.

"My colleagues in the English Department have endeavoured to fulfil their duties under the tutorial system. I am myself tutor to the Honours students, with whom, by the very nature of their advanced work, one is continually in close contact. Tutorial work with them is thus rendered easy. We all find, however, that as a rule our only influence over the students is through their studies: it is very exceptional to feel that we have any influence over them in any other direction. One Indian member of the staff in his report to me on his work as Tutor writes: 'Only on a few occasions have students come to me of their own accord to take my advice, and that too on matters relating exclusively to their studies. The paucity of common interests other than those connected with college work is a great drawback. The life of an average Indian student is rather narrow and runs in well marked grooves, which do not generally bring him into touch with his Tutor. . . . The social functions connected with the college and the growing interest in sports and games have given us some opportunities of realizing our object: but from what I can gather from my own experience and that of other tutors, we are yet far from the goal.'

"This seems to be the general feeling of my colleagues: but still I feel that even if at present the system has only given us a greater control and influence over the students' studies, that in itself is a considerable benefit, and perhaps an omen of a more extensive influence in the future."

On behalf of the Mathematics department I have to report that three first classes in the B.A. Honours were secured but that—as in the Chemistry section—two of these have betaken themselves to the Law College. To give them a practical idea of the working of the chief instruments there the students of the fourth and fifth year classes visited the Observatory; while the Mathematics Association by its vitality throughout the year showed that the interest of students was not confined to those portions of the subject included in the examination course.

The Professor of Mathematical Physics (Mr. P. V. Seshu Ayyar) writes: "The short course on 'Calculus' reported last year as having been arranged for the benefit of the Chemistry (Honours) students, has been made a regular part of the work of this department. Also in the year under report two short courses of lectures, one on 'Hydrodynamics' and the other on 'Vector analysis' were given to the Physics (Honours) students in addition to the regular courses on 'Higher Mathematics,' 'Equations of Mathematical Physics' and 'Analytical Mechanics' usually given to them. Further a course on 'Heat conduction' was given by me as ordinary University lectures which were attended by the fourth and fifth year (Honours) students of Branches I and II-A and also by some post-graduates who were preparing for the M.A. Examination under the transitory regulations. Thus it will be seen that this department is gradually developing in scope and usefulness. The tutorial system worked as satisfactorily as was reported by me last year."

The Professor of Physics (Mr. R. L. Jones) writes: "The two students who formed the fifth year Honours class in Physics appeared for their examination and passed in the second class. One of them is now working in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and the other is working in the laboratory as a research student. "Of the thirteen who appeared for the B.A. (Pass) Examination in Group II-A, seven passed in the second class.

"At the beginning of July Mr. Anantanarayana Ayyar was appointed Additional Professor of Physics, and the number of Assistant Professors was reduced from 3 to 2.

"With regard to the tutorial system I personally have very little change to report. But the Additional Professor tells me that the students in his charge are coming to him for assistance and consulting him much more freely than did those he had charge of last year."

The Acting Professor of Chemistry (Mr. H. O. Kershaw) writes: "Three candidates were presented for the B.A. Honours in April 1918. One obtained a second and two, thirds. The former is doing research work at the Central College, Bangalore, the two latter proceeded to the Law College as the appointments offered to them were not considered remunerative enough.

"In the final pass examination fourteen were presented of whom ten passed. In the Intermediate Examination two failed out of forty-six presented; the number of distinctions being nine.

"Fifteen students were admitted into the third year as compared with six in 1917 and eight in 1916 and four into the third year honours. The quality of the applications for admission was of a much higher standard than usual, making it difficult to select the candidates for honours."

The Professor of Botany (Mr. P. F. Fyson) writes: "A new development in the class work has been the use of a projection-lantern. Last year connexions were made by which current of suitable strength for an arc lamp could be supplied by the Department of Physics to the Intermediate Laboratory. I have to thank Mr. Jones for suggesting this arrangement and for supplying the current whenever it has been needed. The connexion was not, however, continued to the main laboratory and lecture room. But I was fortunate enough to find in Bombay a new type of projection lamp which can be used with the ordinary town supply, and secured one of the only eight in that city. With this I have been able to use the lantern freely for lectures to the second, third and fourth year classes, and have been able to show diagrams and figures superior to any one could draw on the blackboard and much more conveniently than by using wall-diagrams even when those can be obtained. So far I have by the kind permission of the Lecturer in Geology been using the lantern purchased for his department, but it will be necessary to have one for Botany alone.

"The general arrangement of the time table and of the work done by the Professor and the Assistant Professor, indicated in my report of last year, has been followed and proved satisfactory. The concentration of the main Physiology teaching in Mr. Ekambaram, who is not constantly interrupted by administration and routine work, has been an advantage. Two courses of lectures of the biennial series I referred to, have been given for the first time—one on the History of Botany bringing each branch up to the most recent date, the other on Oecology. These courses are both unusual, and were not given in England in my day. The latter subject requires a knowledge of the vegetation of different parts of the country *in situ* and has been rendered possible only by the tours I have been with students, and by myself. It is perhaps the branch of Botany which is developing now most rapidly, and promises to yield results of economic importance, especially in connexion with Forestry. For its full study touring is essential, and an intimate knowledge of the genera and species met with is also necessary.

"In conjunction with the department of Geology a tour was conducted during the Michaelmas vacation to the Palni Hills and to Pamban. In the former the students were able to work on fresh material of mosses and liverworts not procurable in Madras, and to become acquainted at first hand with the grass-land formation peculiar to such climates. At Pamban they found sea-weeds in quantity and of kinds quite foreign to Madras, where the sandy beach prevents their growth. Altogether a good deal was learnt on this tour. One valuable result of touring is the insight it gives me into a student's real worth and interest in his work. The incidents of a tour bring out points in character that are hidden in the laboratory and class room, but a knowledge of which are often of first rate importance in connexion with a recommendation for an appointment. One whose grit came to my notice on one of these tours has since earned unstinted praise from his superior officers.

"The Herbarium keeper A. Srinivasaya continues to look after our collections of plants very efficiently, the neatness and care shown in his work deserving great praise. From what I have seen elsewhere our Herbarium would, I believe, bear comparison with that of any other college in India. A development in recent years has been the use made of this department by people outside the college. A correspondent at Coimoor whom I have never met and another near Guntur, send plants at

frequent intervals, for naming. A batch of 45 was recently received from a correspondent in Tinnevely whom likewise I have never met, and the Department of Fisheries are sending for identification samples of water-weeds from their culture stations (a recent lot was of 24 species). All this identification of plants entails a good deal of work, but the knowledge thus gained of the distribution of certain species is useful; and on more than one occasion plants have been sent which were wanted for class work but could not be got locally, and which have then been procured from the correspondent in exchange for the information given.

"Additions are constantly made to the Herbarium both by collections made while on tour, and by exchange from other parts of India. Interesting species of *Acacia* were kindly sent by Professor Kashyap of the Government College, Lahore, and a large collection of plants of the Western Ghats by Mr. L. J. Sedgwick, I.C.S., of Bombay Presidency.

"Two papers were read by me before the section of Botany at the Science Congress in January last. The opportunity afforded by going to this meeting was taken of seeing three special types of grass-land on the high plateau to the west of the Deccan: and also two botanical formations near Bombay. I am indebted to Mr. Sedgwick for showing me the former; and to Professors Blatter and Halberg of St. Xavier's College, Bombay, for putting me in the way of seeing the latter and also for most kindly having lantern slides made for this college from some of the splendid photographs they have of the Rajputana Desert and of the region round Khandala. These have been used as illustrations in my Honours course on Oecology. As were also slides made from photographs taken in the Deccan.

"The Natural History Society founded some years ago had a vigorous and successful year. Papers have been read by members of the staffs of other colleges, and by students, and the general level has been high for a society of this character."

The Professor of Zoology (Mr. K. Ramunni Menon) writes: "The results of the University examinations of 1918 were entirely satisfactory as far as Zoology is concerned, a noticeable feature being that all the fifteen Senior Intermediate Group II students who sat for the examination were successful in the optional part which includes Botany, Physics and Chemistry in addition to Zoology. The B.A. results were equally satisfactory. Few opportunities for advancement or for Zoological work present themselves to those who pass in Zoology and this, I think, is the main reason why the subject does not attract a larger circle of students than at present; the few particularly good students that I sometimes get are quite unwilling to take up post-graduate Zoological work for the simple reason that such work does not carry with it any assurance of future employment. This being the general position, it is with pleasure that I note that Mr. Srinivasa Rao who passed from the college in 1918 with Zoology (Honours) has been, after serving as demonstrator here for a few months, appointed to a post under the Government Mycologist at Coimbatore.

"Mr. R. Gopala Ayyar, the Assistant Professor, attended the meeting of the Indian Science Congress held at Bombay in January of this year, and read a paper on the development of a Polychaete worm which formed the subject of his thesis for the Maharaja of Travancore Curzon Prize.

"The students were taken on two Zoological excursions, one to the Adyar and the other to the Harbour and out into the sea, and though, on the latter occasion, most of the party were sea-sick, the opportunities were well appreciated. The Natural History Association was under the secretarship of one of the Zoology students this year and has had a successful session; on one or two occasions, the students were able to conduct the whole business without the assistance of any external lecturer or president.

"There is no longer, I think, any tendency on the part of the students to view the tutorial system with suspicion or mistrust. They all generally come and consult us and some of them fully avail themselves of the opportunities to get their doubts and difficulties in their studies cleared; and they also quite willingly talk about their life outside the college and the attendant difficulties. The system is working quite well and is tending to establish easy and friendly relationship between teacher and pupils."

The Professor of Geology (Mr. H. Narayana Rao) writes: "In the year under report two tours were undertaken. In the first tour which was a combined Botanical and Geological tour, students were taken first to Kodaikāñal where they witnessed some striking and interesting objects of scenery such as the Pillar Rocks and had an opportunity for studying the formation of valleys and cascades. From Kodaikāñal we proceeded to Madura and visited the Annamalais and other hills round about Madura town. The tour ended with a visit to Pamban where we had a very good example of a 'raised beach' with its coral reef, etc. In the second tour we visited the 'Fossil Wood' area at Tiruvikarai and the marine cretaceous rocks at Vanur near Pondicherry. Advantage was also taken of this tour to visit Pondicherry with its artesian wells. Besides this general tour in which all the students, both main and subsidiary, joined the fifth year Honours students with Geology as main subject who have got to map a selected area to complete their training in field work, visited the Kanjamalai iron-ore area where they spent more than a fortnight and they have sent in a detailed report of the work done there.

"The attender attached to this department has been trained to cut sections of rocks, a work which was hitherto done outside at some cost; so that we are now in a position to cut in the laboratory sections of all the rock specimens that we collect in our tours.

"Tutorial work was conducted as usual. For the most part it consisted in a scrutiny of the applications for leave from students."

The acting Professor of Philosophy (Mr. A. Chakravarti) writes: "The department which is undermanned derived considerable relief by the appointment of Mr. Chinnappa who has been doing partly philosophy work. I hope the arrangement will continue for the next year also."

“Three students went up for the B.A. Honours and all the three passed, two securing second class. Twenty-four students appeared for B.A. (Pass) of whom 19 passed. Of the 5 that failed only one failed in philosophy alone. For the Intermediate Examination (Logic) 31 appeared and 22 passed. None failed in Logic alone.

"The tutorial work this year has been satisfactory. It is hoped that the students will continue to appreciate the tutorial meetings and avail themselves of the benefits thereof."

The Professor of History reports: There is nothing that calls for special mention in the year's working. The B.A. (ordinary) results were very poor but on the other hand in the Honours we maintained our standard and took the Ramaswami medal for Politics. The Additional Professor reports favourably on the new Honours students—they are, he thinks, more self-reliant than those we have had for some time; among them are two lady students. An interesting result of the system of external examiners adopted in recent years by the University is, he says, that the feverish excitement for tips and examiners' notes has largely subsided. This is good news.

The Professor of Sanskrit (Mr. S. Kuppuswami Sastri) writes : "The Government have directed the retirement from April 1919 of M.R.Ry. Mahamahopadhyaya V. Swaminatha Ayyar Avargal, the Tamil Pandit, and of M.R.Ry. K. Venkateswara Sastriyar Avargal, the Malayalam Pandit. A special meed of praise is due to these two gentlemen for their long and valuable services to the cause of Tamil and Malayalam learning. The world of Tamil letters and all interested in South Indian History and culture ought to feel profoundly grateful for having been enabled to gain access to many a priceless treasure of Tamil literature by the indefatigable literary zeal and the superior type of deep scholarship and careful research which Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit V. Swaminatha Ayyar has brought to bear upon his numerous Tamil publications."

“ In all its branches, the work of the Oriental department has been carried on in an efficient and satisfactory manner. The examination results were good. The one student that appeared for the B.A. (Honours) Degree Examination from this

college in Branch VIII in April 1918 took a first class. In addition to his usual course of college lectures in Sanskrit Philology and other subjects comprised in the Honours course for Branch VIII, the Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology of the Presidency College delivered at the College, under University auspices, a full course of twenty-two lectures on 'Indian Epistemology', which were attended by the Honours students of Branches VIII and IV, as also by certain graduates and Assistant Professors interested in the subject."

22. *General.*—The year has been a difficult one and the college has afforded the spectacle of 'a good man struggling with adversity.' Though happily—unlike some recent year—death passed us by, we have been hit hard in other ways; promotion, war service and influenza have each in turn taken toll of the staff. Before the year had even started Mr. Hunter had crossed the Bay to Burma and not only the common room and the college but the University itself had been rendered poorer by the loss of a vigorous personality, a ripe educational experience, and an acquaintance with the English language that presided over even its pre-natal quickenings. Taking Dr. Simonsen on loan for a vacation 'Muniboard' has as yet exhibited no desire to return him. Throughout great part of the year Messrs. Littlehailes, Fyson and Kershaw have had to combine the duties of professors and mobilised officers while for some weeks Mr. Candeth's services were lost to the college by reason of his Indian Defence Force training. As for our contributions to influenza are not their names written in the casual leave register? The close of the academical year saw Mr. Littlehailes being called away to wider responsibilities, while even as I write those veterans of the staff Mr. Jones and Mahamahopadhyaya V. Swaminatha Ayyar are passing into the ranks of the 'emeriti.' On all sides the same fact emerges—the Presidency College is 'swept and garnished' awaiting a new generation:

To Miss Alexander of the Queen Mary's College who kindly assisted us by delivering a course of lectures on 13th Century literature to students of Branch VII my thanks are due. I desire further to thank my colleagues and the other members of the staff for their ready and valuable assistance throughout the year.

APPENDIX A.

1.—Distribution of students according to caste or race.

Europeans and Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Indian Christians ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Muhammadians ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Hindus { Brahmans ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	441
Non-Brahmans ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Total ...								532

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

Richer classes	...	...	...	...	/...	...	...	...	41
Middle	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	451
Poorer	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
							Total	...	582

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

Officials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	409
Petty officials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Landholders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Traders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Artizans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
						Total			582

APPENDIX B.

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

	I.	II.	III. Pass.	IV. Pass.	III. Honours.	IV. Honours.	V. Honours.	Total.
Anantapur	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2
Aravali, North	3	4	1	4	2	3	..	17
Aravali, South	2	3	3	3	1	3	4	19
Bellary	..	1	3	1	1	..	..	6
Kanara, South	..	1	6	6	4	7	..	23
Chingleput	2	6	4	2	1	3	..	18
Chittoor	1	1	3	..	..	1	1	7
Coimbatore	5	5	6	5	2	2	..	24
Cuddapah	1	3	1	1	..	1	..	7
Ganjam	..	2	1	3	1	2	1	10
Godavari	..	1	3	1	..	1	2	8
Guntur	4	..	6	..	..	2	1	13
Kistna	3	..	3	4	3	1	4	17
Kurnool	2	..	2	2	..	1	1	8
Madras	13	19	7	5	3	2	..	49
Madras	1	3	1	4	1	2	..	13
Malabar	5	1	20	11	10	7	..	54
Nellore	6	3	1	2	..	..	4	16
Ramanad	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	6
Salem	..	2	3	2	3	1	1	12
Tanjore	16	19	21	17	9	8	12	102
Tinnevely	2	3	5	4	5	6	1	26
Trichinopoly	6	4	4	2	2	1	19	38
Vizagapatam	2	1	..	2	2	1	..	8
Cochin	1	1	8	2	3	..	3	18
Hyderabad	2	..	1	..	..	..	3	6
Mysore	1	..	3	3	2	..	..	9
Pudukkottai	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	5
Travancore	2	1	1	2	2	3	..	11
Goorg	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	8
Dharwar	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
Total ..	80	87	112	97	56	57	43	532

APPENDIX C.

Results of the University examinations.

Examinations.	Number applied.	Number examined.	Number passed.				Percentage passed from the college.	Per cent for the University.
			I.	II.	III.	Total.		
Intermediate—								
Whole examination	85	84	20	34	..	54	64.3	24.9
Part I-A	88	87	..	..	..	69	67.8	27.3
Part I-B	88	87	..	..	..	80	91.9	85.2
Part II—								
Group I	30	30	..	..	..	27	90.0	26.2
Group II	17	16	..	..	..	16	100.0	19.4
Group III	39	39	..	..	..	27	69.2	24.7
B.A. Pass Degrees—								
Part I	120	118	1	81	..	82	69.5	50.5
Part II—								
Group I	14	13	..	7	..	9	69.3	37.6
Group II	13	13	..	7	..	9	69.3	37.6
Group III	16	16	..	9	..	9	56.0	52.4
Group IV	8	8	..	8	..	8	100.0	87.1
Group V	5	5	..	5	..	5	100.0	87.1
Group VI	2	2	..	2	..	2	100.0	87.1
Group VII	24	24	..	19	..	19	79.2	73.1
Group VIII	29	26	..	10	..	10	38.5	42.2
Group IX (Arabic)	1	1	..	1	..	1	100.0	80.6
Total ..	111	107	..	70	..	70	..	..
B.A. Honours Preliminary	68	68	..	..	..	67	86.4	86.6
B.A. Honours Degree Examination—								
Branch I	10	10	3	3	2	8	80.0	56.0
Branch II	2	2	..	2	..	2	100.0	83.3
Branch III	2	2	..	..	2	2	100.0	100.0
Branch IV	1	1	..	1	..	1	100.0	100.0
Branch V	2	2	..	1	1	2	100.0	100.0
Branch VI	3	3	..	2	..	2	..	..
Branch VII	11	10	..	6	..	6	100.0	92.9
Branch VIII	10	6	1	1	2	4	66.7	86.4
Branch IX	1	1	1	..	..	1	100.0	100.0
Total ..	38	37	6	16	13	35	..	..

* Excludes two students who were granted B.A. Pass Degree.
 † " one student who withdrew during the examination.
 ‡ " one M.A. student.

R.C. No. 3531/19, dated 13th June 1919.

Recorded.

2. The report in which are embodied extracts from the reports of the various professors is as usual full and interesting.

3. There have been numerous but unavoidable changes in the staff of which the most important were the departure from this Presidency of Mr. Mark Hunter on his appointment as Director of Public Instruction, Burma, the transfer of Doctor Simonsen the Additional Professor of Chemistry for duty under the Munitions Board, the appointment of the Professor of Mathematics as acting Director of Public Instruction and the confirmation of M.R.Ry. H. Narayana Rao Avargal as Professor of Geology.

4. The college acquitted itself creditably at the University examinations while the success of former students is particularly worthy of notice.

5. The Principal and the staff are congratulated on the efficient condition of the institution during the year.

R. LITTLEHAILES,
 Acting Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Presidency College.
 " Principals of other Government Colleges.
 Copy to Government, for information, with C.L.

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(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
 Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction,
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