

Home (19 49) Department.

Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 913

DATED 23-7-49

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Resolutions

Recording copy of ----- passed at a public meeting held at Chittoor regarding the large number of failures at the S.S.L.C. Public examination of 1919.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

CNO 1375 B

15/7/19 2

Chittoor.
11th July, 1919.

To

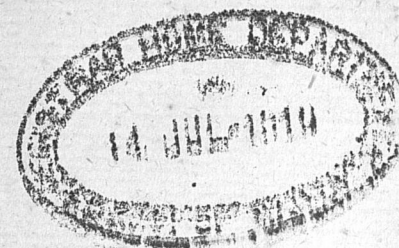
The Secretary for

Educational Department,

The Government of Madras

Fort St. George,

Madras.



Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith the copy of the
proceedings of a Public Meeting held at Chittoor on 3-7-19
and I request you will place it before His Excellency, the
Governor of Madras.

Yours faithfully,

Chinniparambath

Chairman.

Proceedings of a Meeting of parents and guardians
of pupils held at the premises of the Chittoor Association
at 6-30 P. M.



The following resolutions were passed:-

(1) Proposed by and seconded by Messrs. C. R. Parthasarthi Aiyengar and C. Narasayya Garu.

That M. R. Ry. C. Doraswami Aiyengar Avl. B. A. B. L.,
President, Taluk, Board, do take the chair.

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by M. R. Ry. C. R. Parthasarthi Aiyengar
and seconded by C. Sreenivasa Aiyer avergal.

That considering the fact that a very large number
of the students failed in History in the S. S. L. C. Examination
this year and the difficult nature of the questions put in
History, it is necessary that the minimum in the subject
should be reduced to 30% this year enabling a larger number of
students being declared eligible.

(2) That the minimum in English not only this year but
here after should be reduced to 35%.

Carried unanimously.

(3) Proposed by Mr. K. R. Arunachalla Aiyer and seconded
by Mr. D. Vasudeva Rao.

That students failing in any one or more of the
subjects should be allowed to pass in these subjects only
in to the succeeding Examinations and on passing in those
subjects should be declared eligible for admission into
College.

Carried unanimously.

*Confair-
mental
system*

(4) That His Excellency the Governor of Madras should be requested to move in the matter immediately and do justice.

(5) That a copy of the resolution should also be sent to the Secretary of the S. S. L. C. Board and to the Editors of the New India, the Hindu and the Madras Mail.

Chittoor.

3rd July, 1919.

(Sd) C. Doraswami Aiyengar,

Chairman.

1919.

Lamel Edu



CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper--

New India

2. Published at--

Madras

3. Dated--

18 July 1919

HM (in rel to Bd) For perusal
5/7/19

A GRAVE NEGLECT OF DUTY

WE PUBLISH ON THE ADJOINING page the full text of a pathetic letter from one of the many unfortunate students in this Presidency who have failed to satisfy the examiners in the recent public examinations. It is not too much to say that both the style of questions set and the system of marking are nothing short of scandalous, and reflect the utmost discredit on all concerned. In the case of the S.S.L.C. Examination this year, the history paper proved the stumbling-block to large numbers of students, and no wonder when we look at the kind of questions asked. As our young correspondent quite rightly says, these questions might well have been asked in a B. A. degree examination, and are nothing short of preposterous for lads only just finishing the school course. Take at random the following question: "Mention the causes of Colonial rivalry between England and France in the 18th century," or "Draw a map of North America and mark in it the English settlements of the Stuart period and the physical features which limited the early settlements to the East coast line." Who is the examiner who sets such outrageous questions, and who are the moderators, if any, who pass them? What would English boys have to do with questions similar to these on Indian history? And above all, why is not more emphatic protest made by the public at large? Why are not Parents' Associations formed to protect India's growing sons from the detestable perils to which the existing system of examinations yearly subjects them? It is the same story year after year; the public remains indifferent and allows India's youth to be spent and wasted before the country has had the slightest chance of benefiting from the vigour it should infuse into National life.

We agree with the correspondent of the *Hindu* who said that it would be better if parents sent their children to National institutions. After all, the supposed uncertainty of future livelihood in the case of students passing out of National institutions cannot be worse than the yearly certainty of 88 students out of every 100 failing in their examination, some of them failing over and over again. And from what we know of the training given in, for example, the National High School in Sudder Gardens, Teynampet, where there is a first-class staff of very high qualifications, we have no hesitation in asserting that a student passing out of that school, even if he can go no further, will be much better equipped for the struggle of life, with his vigour and energy alive and under good control, than the poor, unfortunate, lifeless specimen of humanity who is taught to love any other country but his own, crams useless facts into a brain which grows every day more and more devitalised, and at the end of it all is crushed by failure—starting life in despair and indifference, and with every ambition strangled through constant failure in striving against almost insuperable difficulties.

Our young correspondent asks that we intercede on behalf of those who have suffered. We fear he overestimates our powers. That one student has already committed suicide as a result of his failure in the examination, that 12 per cent of passes utterly condemn the system of examination or the methods of school inspection or both, that the rules by which it is determined whether a student passes or fails are ridiculous and most unjust—all these facts, which recur from year to year, leave our Madras Board unaffected and indifferent. His Excellency Lord Willingdon has publicly stated that he is eager to be of service to the people whom His Majesty the Emperor has called him to govern.

CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. *Name of Paper--*
2. *Publish-d at--*
3. *Dated--*

We can most earnestly assure him that he could hardly confer any greater boon upon the people of this Presidency than that of looking into the whole system of the S.S.L.C. Examination, without allowing himself to be prejudiced by those who are responsible for the present mischief. Surely it is the duty of a Governor to care for the children who are under his rule, and we tell His Excellency that these Indian children are treated as no other country would for one single moment allow its own children to be treated. We commend our young correspondent's letter to His Excellency's perusal, and we fervently hope that his powerful sympathy may be evoked to rescue the despairing hosts of youthful citizens from sinking into hopeless lethargy. The public have long since found that their words, their prayers, their petitions, are as if spoken to the wind. A friend told us the other day that next to a death an examination failure was the most dreaded, and at the same time most oft-occurring, event in the life of the family. What is the use of spending large sums of money, which in reality cannot be afforded, on a youth's education, if the overwhelming probabilities are in favour of failure at the end? And yet what else can be done? Under the existing system of examinations—we are referring to the S.S.L.C.—debts, failures, despair, anxiety are the inevitable result. Is this the right way of educating India's young citizens for their National and Imperial duties?

DEPARTMENT.

CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper--

2. Published at--

3. Dated--

A PATHETIC LETTER

[We publish just as we have received it the following letter from one of the 88% failures at the recent S. S. L. C. Examination. We have referred to the whole question in a leading article on the opposite page. Is it too much to hope that some redress may be found for the wrong done to so many? ED. NEW INDIA]

This is a letter written by one of those many poor broken-hearted students of the School Final class, whose health has been shattered, whose growth has been stunted and whose life has been made miserable, all due to the rigour of the S. S. L. C. Examination and the vagaries of the valuing of the answer papers. I purposely address this cover to you personally rather than official designation, so that it may be put into your own hands. The letter is necessarily long, and while I beg your pardon for the liberty I take to write this letter to you, I entreat you to have pity on me and on those of my position who are too many in number, and have the patience to go through this letter. With this introduction I shall proceed to my grievances with the earnest hope that you will pay

proper attention to this letter and do your best as far as it lies in your power.

The Southern Slaughter festival of Leaving Certificates viz., S. S. L. C. Examination has come and gone this year also, and, as is usually the case, it has carried away many victims. In 1917, the slaughter was in History. In 1918 the turn came to English. And now in 1919, the year in which we are living, the slaughter is in

would have it, I don't get the required marks and am found wanting. I am afraid I am taxing your patience, but I pray you to go through this letter carefully. I am now asked either to discontinue my studies and go to a quill-driving job, or to waste, uselessly waste, another precious year of my life (mind, it is the 4th year in my case) and try another chance as if it is a lottery business. Am I to go on making experiment after experiment with no tangible result, with nothing but sheer waste of time, money, energy and what not? Perhaps you may suddenly jump to the conclusion, as it is quite natural, that I may be weak in History and may be unfit for the college course. My school record will convince you that it is exactly the opposite.

LONDON, JUNE 26.—The Labour Party Conference opened at South Rhine and Polish Conventions. British Dominion representatives signed after the British Delegations. They included General Smuts and Botha. Mr. Monaghan and the Mahatma of Bikanir. Mr. Clemenceau was curiously unimpressed. The last signature was the Czech-Slovak one. When guns were fired and the sirens shrieked, Mr. Lloyd George departed together and Mr. Clemenceau, President Wilson and the cheering crowds, while the guns continued to fire and aeroplanes hummed above.—(Ren.)

M. Clemenceau's Warning
LONDON, JUNE 26.—Paris, M.—Clemenceau in a note to the German Delegation says:—The sinking of the Fleet at Scapa Flow is a violation of Articles 23 and 28 of the Armistice and an act of gross bad faith. It is open to the Allies to bring before the military tribunals the individuals responsible for the destruction of the ships. The Allies are also justified in taking measures to secure reparation for the loss. Furthermore the sinking of the Fleet is a deliberate breach of the Peace Treaty. It is not an isolated act, but the beginning of a series of such steps.—(Ren.)

The Labour Conference unanimously passed a resolution moved by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald urging a speedy admission of Germany to the League of Nations, and the immediate revision of the Treaty which are in conflict with the conditions on which the League of Nations was founded. The Conference also passed a resolution favouring the conscription of wealth.—(Ren.)

Government's Explanation
LONDON, JUNE 26.—In the House of Commons at question time Mr. Short said: Six French delegates to the South Port Conference were detained pending enquiries. They were subsequently allowed to proceed but two preferred to return to France. The detention was due to allegations which it was absolutely impossible to ignore. (Cheers.) Mr. Green observed that Longuet had been notorious—

Protest Resolution
The Conference passed a resolution protesting against the Government's action in preventing certain French delegates attending the Conference, also protesting against Canadian Government's attempt secretly to deport British-born Labour leaders for participating in the recent industrial dispute in the Dominion of Moab.

Protest Resolution
The Conference passed a resolution protesting against the Government's action in preventing certain French delegates attending the Conference, also protesting against Canadian Government's attempt secretly to deport British-born Labour leaders for participating in the recent industrial dispute in the Dominion of Moab.

Protest Resolution
The Conference passed a resolution protesting against the Government's action in preventing certain French delegates attending the Conference, also protesting against Canadian Government's attempt secretly to deport British-born Labour leaders for participating in the recent industrial dispute in the Dominion of Moab.

1919.

Home (Edy) DEPARTMENT.

CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper-- New India
 2. Published at-- Madras
 3. Dated-- July 7, 1919

See
 14/7/19
 Imperial
 CA
 12/7/19

THE S.S.L.C. TRAGEDY

WE HEARTILY CONGRATULATE Chittoor on its excellent meeting in connection with the S.S.L.C. scandal. Every town in the Presidency ought to have a similar meeting for the purpose both of awakening public attention to the yearly misery this examination inflicts upon our students, and of bringing forcibly home to the authorities the universal disapproval—to use no stronger term—of their grave mismanagement of the task entrusted to their care. The matter is urgent. The public have too long neglected their duty towards the younger generation; and the result is seen in the preposterous result of the 1919 examination. Our readers will remember that Mahatma Gandhi sent in 1918 a message to the National Education movement in Madras recommending every parent and guardian to send their children to National institutions only. Unfortunately there are not enough National institutions in this Presidency to make it possible for parents and guardians to carry out this suggestion, although both at Madinapalle, at Prodattur and in Madras, there are National High Schools in excellent working order and able to take more students than they already have on the rolls. It is, therefore, the solemn and urgent duty of the public—especially, of course, of those who have directly to do with the young—to insist on institutions which receive grants from public funds being properly conducted, and on the School Leaving Examination being managed by persons who have an up-to-date acquaintance with the methods of conducting examinations. At present, the S.S.L.C. Examination authorities clearly show gross incompetence, and Lord Willingdon's drastic use of his powers and authority was never more needed than in the case of a Board which has the face to declare

a result such as that of the recent S. S. L. C. Examination.

Something has got to be done, and that quickly. The Central School Board of the Society for the Promotion of National Education has decided to permit Headmasters of National High Schools to admit into the 11th Class of their schools—a class which corresponds to the 1st year class of the College—a necessarily limited number of students who satisfy the Headmasters as to their fitness for the class, irrespective of their being declared eligible or not by the S.S.L.C. authorities, whose pronouncements are obviously worthless. But there is accommodation only for a very small number, and while we recognise and gratefully appreciate the patriotic action of the Board, it must not be forgotten that there are probably hundreds of students who ought to be in a College, but who are forced either to give up study altogether or to waste another year in practically going over again the whole ground, and in any case are met, at their first contact with the official machine, by an injustice and an unfairness which make a deep and most unfortunate impression upon their young minds.

Madras is not going to be inactive. Signatures are being obtained for the purpose of convening a public meeting on Saturday next to convey to the authorities the profound indignation of the public of Madras at the way in which the candidates for the recent S.S.L.C. Examination have been treated. The following gentlemen have already signed the notice convening the meeting:

(Sd.) S. Subramaniam, L. A. Govindaraghava Aiyar, T. V. Venkatrama Aiyar, S. Kasturiranga Iyengar, T. R. Venkatrama Sastri, C. Rajagopalachari, T. Audinarayana Chetti, V. C. Seshachari, Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar, K. Balasubramania Aiyar, T. V. Kalyanasundara Mudaliar, T. V. Gopalaswami Mudaliar, George S. Arundale. (More signatures to follow.)

CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper--
2. Published at--
3. Dated--

But meetings are not enough. Members of the Legislative Council should seek interviews with H.E. the Governor and represent to him the tragedy of the situation in the most forcible terms at their command. The Corporation of Madras ought to have a resolution on the subject placed before it, no matter whether ignorant and interested opposition negatives it or not. The Corporation of Madras has schools of its own, is an educational body, and has the duty of making its view known on any educational matter vitally affecting the children of Madras citizens. Every Municipality, every District Board, every Association of whatever kind, should pass a resolution on the S. S. L. C. tragedy. The citizens of every town, the inhabitants of every village, ought to bring all possible pressure to bear in every influential quarter, and should call upon local Headmasters sending in strongly-worded protests. Something must be done without delay to induce the S. S. L. C. authorities to revise their pass-list, and a recurrence of the scandal must be made impossible. We earnestly trust that all who love India will eagerly seize this fine opportunity of championing the cause of her young sons in such dire distress.

Ja
11-7-19

Home (200) Sept

6.1375 B

Letter. 1375 B-1
24.7.19
To

MARY L. Duraiswami
Ayyangar Aol
President
Tahak Board
Lehihor

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 11.7.19 forwarding a copy of the resolutions passed at a public meeting held at Lehihor on 3.7.19 regarding the large number of failures in the recent public examination under the S.S.L.C. Scheme.

18.7.19

I have etc

18.7.19
18.7.19

please receive letter

23/7

Rai

24/7

18.7.19

Home (Educ) Dept

6.1375 B - From MARY L. Duraiswami
Ayyangar d 11. 7. 19

Subject:— Resolutions of a public
meeting held at Behitoor regarding
the large number of failures in
the recent public examination
under the S.S.L.C. Scheme

A draft letter of acknowledgment
is submitted. Resolutions 1 and 2 aim
at an increase in the number of
Candidates declared eligible for ad-
mission to the Intermediate courses of
Study by fixing a lower minimum
of marks than that hitherto adopted by the Uni-
versity. This is a matter in which the
University should take the initiative.
No action appears necessary as regards
Resolution 3.

The file may be subd.
to H.M. for perusal and for orders
whether the resolutions may be
'recorded.'

18.7.19

21.7.19

Not necessary to trouble H.M.

No. 913
23.7.19

22/7/19

When signed

18

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH LITTO.

PAKES NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A — Copy in full.

B = Not to be copied.

P = Copy abstract only.

Q = Copy heading only.