

Government of Madras

LAW (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1531, 20th October 1921

Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam

Report on the working—1920-21—Recorded.

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G.O. No, 1531, 20th October 1921

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READ—the following paper:—

Letter—from R. LITTLEHAILES, M.A., M.L.C., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

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

Dated—the 8th October 1921.

No.—Ref. on Cur. 6135.

Submitted to Government.

2. The general management was satisfactory, except in the single point that the members of the hostel are permitted to increase the rates by ordering rich and costly tiffins.

ENCLOSURE

Letter—from the Committee of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel, Kumbakonam.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department (through the Director of Public Instruction, Madras).

Dated—the 14th June 1921.

We have the honour to submit our report on the working of the Victoria Jubilee Hostel during the academical year ending 30th April 1921.

2. *The Committee.*—Three meetings of the Committee were held during the year. Two meetings could not be held for want of a quorum. There were no changes in the personnel of the Committee during the year.

3. *Strength.*—There were 103 admissions and 9 withdrawals. The distribution of the members of the hostel is indicated in the following table:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.
IV class	31	46
III class	49	23
II class	13	15
I class	6	10
Total	99	94

The strength was slightly lower than that in the year before and is due to the October examinations introduced by the University.

4. *Accommodation.*—As in the previous year, the bungalow adjoining the hostel was rented during the year; 20 members were accommodated in it and a kitchen for the Malabar Nayar section was opened in one of the basement rooms. The Committee have now resolved not to renew the lease of the building partly owing to the dilapidated condition of the building and mainly from economical considerations. The walls and the terraced roof of the non-vegetarian kitchen presented by the late Ratnaswami Nadar have cracked, are in a dangerous condition and require immediate attention. Since an urgent necessity for a separate Tamilian Saivite kitchen was keenly felt, the building with the above drawback was allowed to be used as such for some time.

As usual several of the students were allowed to make their own arrangements for boarding, etc., for want of accommodation.

5. *Sections and charges.*—There were five sections working separately this year as against four of last year. The average strength of each section and the average monthly rates of the boarding charges including establishment were as follows :—

	Number.	Charges for the month, about
		RS.
Tamil (Smartha)	55	18
Do. (Vaishnavite)	15	20
Do. (Saivite)	6	24
Malabar (Smartha)	8	19
Do. (Nayar)	10	22

All the sections excepting those from Malabar were run by the warden as requested and the members of the several sections rendered invaluable help to the authorities by checking purchases, by supervising the work in the kitchen, by drawing programmes for the menu and by casting the monthly rates. Since the members go in for rich and costly tiffins and since too many feasts intervened, the charges given above are justifiable considering the high rates at which the provision sells also.

The Malabar members managed their sections themselves to our satisfaction.

6. *Financial position—*

<i>Receipts.</i>		RS.	A.	P.
Room-rent		2,615	0	0
Boarding		13,675	0	0
Interest on Government securities		157	8	0
Garden lease		70	0	0
Hostel association fees		94	8	0
Collection of old arrears		92	0	0
<i>Charges.</i>		RS.	A.	P.
Provisions		13,313	4	10
Lighting		164	2	0
Establishment		1,142	8	3
Repairs		249	15	0
Vessels		147	8	3
Miscellaneous		103	15	7
Nilgiris bungalow rent		720	0	0
Arrears		362	4	9

The financial position stood thus on 20th April 1921—

In Government securities	4,500	0	0
In cash with Accountant-General	75	12	0
In the sub-treasury	896	14	11
Cash on hand	42	4	6

Most of the arrears of the previous year have since been collected and an amount of Rs. 362-4-9 has to be collected from the members of this year. This state is inevitable since the members generally leave the hostel before the rates of the final month are notified. The amount is small as compared with large collections and disbursements.

7. *Compound and garden.*—The compound has been kept in as satisfactorily a condition as possible. The ground opposite to the western wing of the main building and to the south of the sub-warden's quarters has been levelled and 30 cocoanut seedlings have been planted. The casuarina trees are maturing and may be cut in a couple of years.

8. *The work of the students.*—The tone and discipline of the members of the hostel have been, as usual, excellent and praiseworthy. Fifty-four members joined the College Volunteer Corps for social service in connexion with the late Mahamakam festival; they divided themselves into seven batches, each with a captain of its own and did excellent service to the pilgrims under the guidance of the warden.

A dozen members formed themselves into a "Labour Corps" for gardening work and showed very keen interest in gardening. They brought under cultivation a waste land run over with heavy weeds and realized about Rs. 10 by the sale of the produce which we consider to be creditable considering the lateness of the season at which they began to work.

The results of the hostel members in the University and other examinations were, as in previous years, creditable. Medals and prizes in Tennis, Badminton, Canoeing and Athletic were won by some of the members and as usual the hostel contributed the best sportsmen. The hostel association did very good work; the ambitious programme which they sketched out early in the year was mostly gone through. English and Tamil journals of repute were well in circulation and the members were considerably benefited. Some of the hostel members took part in the College dramas "As you like it" in English, "Sakuntala" in Tamil and "Ratnavali" in Sanskrit and their histrionic talents were much appreciated. To make their life cheerful and optimistic, the members organized and carried out successfully several social functions, the members themselves being the actors. Musical entertainments, katha performance, humorous recitations, fancy dresses, etc., were some of the activities to which they turned their attention and were eminently successful. Photography interested several of them and there were at least six cameras amongst the members and the successfully probed into the mysteries of the Art.

9. *Improvements and extension.*—The following have to be noted :—

(1) The non-Brahman kitchen requires reconstruction urgently.

(2) A night urinal and emergency lavatory for night use in or very near the building is a desideratum.

(3) The filling up of the pond referred to in paragraph 6 of the reports for 1918-19 and 1919-20 is quite essential.

(4) Arrangements will have to be made for providing a building to accommodate another 50 students.

The available fund at the disposal of the committee is so small that it is better to allow it to lie over, as a reserve to be drawn on in times of very great emergency, rather than use it for any one of the above items, for the smallest of which it may be just sufficient. The committee have pondered over the matter deeply and have come to the conclusion that, since they have been appointed only as trustees to 'administer' the available funds, they are neither able nor competent to find out ways and means for carrying into execution the several proposals specified above. The matter may be taken up by the Government and remedial measures carried out since the Hostel is made an adjunct to the College, a Government institution.

Conclusion.—M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib P. Rajagopala Ayyar Avargal continued as Warden, and M.R.Ry. K.C. Viraraghava Ayyar continued as Sub-Warden throughout the year and the committee thank them for the efficient and careful working of the Hostel.

Order—No. 1531, Law (Education), dated 20th October 1921.

Recorded.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education)

P. C. DUTT,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction,
Accountant-General,
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4 Law (En) DEPARTMENT.
Victoria Fabrice Holt, Kumbakonam
Report on the works - 1920-21.
Records.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____, dated _____, 192

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READ ALSO:—

C. No. 4937A, From the DP. J. Rec. No. 6135 dated 8. x. 192

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ORDER.

No. 1531, dated 20-10- 1921

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Interest on Government securities	...	...	...	167	8	0
Garden lease	...	...	...	70	0	0
Hostel association fees	...	...	...	94	8	0
Collection of old arrears	...	...	...	92	0	0
				<i>Charges.</i>		
Provisions	...	...	...	13,313	4	10
Lighting	...	...	...	164	2	0
Establishment	...	...	...	1,142	8	3
Repairs	...	...	...	249	15	0
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P. C. Durr,

Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
Accountant-General.
Editor's table.

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(b) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 815 of the office Manual.

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