

Law (1921) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1558

DATED 26 10 21

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council meeting - 18th October 1921 -
Resolution - L.T. Degree - practical examination -
revival - not moved - notes recorded.

BACK PAPERS.

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

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LC Resolution

~~184~~ 140



Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest.

SUBJECT.—No. 184

for the meeting of the Legislative

Council to be held on the 1st September 1921.

SUBMITTED that two copies of this Resolution may be forwarded to the

Law (Edu) Department with reference to Nos. (1) and (4) of the rules regulating Secretariat procedure in dealing with these Resolutions in the Legislative Council. The Resolution has been admitted.

17/8

L. D. S.
17-8-21

U.O. No 2154-Dated 19th Aug 1921

To

The Law (Edu) Department

140 1404 2
Resolved by the Council
 15/10/21

NOTES CONNECTED WITH A RESOLUTION ON MATTERS OF
 GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

[Meeting of the 12th October 1921.]

[SUBJECT.—*Revival of the Practical Examination in teaching for the
 L.T. degree.*]

COUNCIL OFFICE.

Mr. A. T. PALMER :—

140. That this Council recommends to the Government that the old rule of making practical examination in teaching compulsory for the L.T. degree be revived.

LAW (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Under the old University Regulations, the examinations for L.T. degree were both theoretical and practical—vide Regulation 215 on page 47 of G.O. No. 841, Educational, dated 27th December 1906. This practical examination consisted in testing the candidates' *practical skill in the management of a class and in teaching* and this test was made by their teaching a class in the presence of at least two of the examiners—Regulation 219 on page 48 of G.O. No. 841, Educational, dated 27th December 1906. When the regulations relating to the L.T. degree examination were revised in the year 1909, the practical portion of the examination was abolished—vide regulations approved in G.O. No. 624, Educational, dated 25th November 1909, and paragraph 4 of office note on page 1 of the notes to the Government Order. Under the present regulations, however, candidates for the L.T. examination have to undergo a course in the training college, in *practical training including instruction in school management and practice in teaching*, but there is no examination in this respect at the end of the course—vide sub-paragraph (ii) of Regulation 4 in Chapter XXV of the University Regulations as amended by G.O. No. 1344, Home (Education), dated 15th November 1920. The ground on which a course was substituted for the old examination is not known. It is not also clear why the member seeks to revive the examination. *The file may, it is submitted, be sent to the R.P.D. no. for remarks.*

K.A.—23-8-21.

T.K.—23-8-21.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—23-8-21.

P.C. DUTT—24-8-21.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The recommendations should be made not to Government, but to the University of Madras. It is not within the competence of Government to alter an existing university regulation. It is within its competence to sanction or to reject alterations in the regulations which are proposed by the University.

R. LITTLEHAILES—31-8-21.

LAW (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

If the position is explained to the Member, he may probably withdraw the resolution. For orders whether the resolution should be discussed in the Cabinet and as to who will be in charge of it.

T.K.—1-9-21.

C.R.—1-9-21.

P.C.D.—1-9-21.

No discussion in the Cabinet is necessary. I take charge.

A. P. P[ATRO]—8-9-21.

To
THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,*Law (Edn)* DEPARTMENT.*See 3095 B*
*15.*The following resolution was ~~not moved and was therefore deemed to have been withdrawn.~~ *LW*

Resolution No. 140 (184)

Revival of the practical examination in teaching for the L.T. degree.

MR. A. T. PALMER:—

140 [184] That this Council recommends to the Government that the old rule of making practical examination in teaching compulsory for the L.T. degree be revived.

Amendment.

LW Swamikannu

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OFFICE,

15 Oct 1921.

Secretary to the Legislative Council.

The notes may be

1558 of 1921/22 *Order* *Recorded**mis*
21.10.21
*5**Legislative Council Meeting**12th October 1921 — Resn**L.T. Degree —**Practical exam — revised**not moved — notes*
recorded

Mr. A. T. PALMER :—"Sir, the resolution that stands in my name runs as follows:—

"140. That this Council recommends to the Government that the old rule of making practical examination in teaching compulsory for the L. T. degree be revived."

"Sir, as most of the honourable members here are aware L.T. is a degree which the local university confers on graduates who undergo a year's training in the art of teaching. The course consists of two parts, the theory and the practice in the profession of teaching. The late Mr. Hall of the Teachers' College—may his tribe increase—was a great believer in the practical part of the L.T. course and insisted as long as he had anything to do with the University affairs on making the practical test of the L.T. examination compulsory. But just at the time he was retiring there was a hue and cry raised against this part of the L.T. degree. It was said that to place a candidate before a Board of Examiners in a strange place amongst strange boys and judge of his merits in the ridiculously short period of an hour or less was cruel. It was also said that similar tests were not in vogue in the West. It was also mentioned that the passports given by the

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with
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155-8
26/10/21

1258 REVIVAL OF THE PRACTICAL EXAMINATION IN TEACHING FOR THE L.T. DEGREE

[Mr. A. T. Palmer]

[15th October 1921]

professors in the Teachers' College as to the capability of the students under training was enough for the purpose. And I have no doubt that the University had also financial considerations in favour of it and the result was the practical test was abolished for the L.T. degree examination. It seems to me, Sir, that this was a retrograde step. L.T. is a professional degree, a degree which has no counterpart in the West. It is peculiar, I think, to the Indian Universities. It presupposes that the holder of the L.T. degree is an expert in the art of teaching. Any professional degree that does not take into cognisance the practical side of it is not worth the name, much less the L.T. degree. It seems to me that a sound teacher is the foundation for sound education. A German missionary was constantly in the habit of saying that he did not care how much a teacher knew unless he had the ability to impart his knowledge to the students that come under his influence. I admit, Sir, the practical portion of the L.T. degree examination was a somewhat precarious test but not a real, practical test. Unless one is proficient in the art of handling the boys one is apt to fail in the test. The practical test for the L.T. examination as was practised in those days brought out in the short space of a few minutes the grit of the teacher, his resourcefulness in handling the boys, and his skill, his ability and discipline. If the University thought that it was a haphazard test, they could have attempted some other method of testing the students for the practical course. I suppose I would be raising a nest of hornets round my ears if I say that the abolition of the practical test has deteriorated the L.T. But if the opinion of a teacher of an experience of nearly a quarter of a century is worth anything I must say that the teaching material is losing its efficiency. But at the same time, Sir, after second thoughts I thought I had not better jump this resolution on the House especially after my friend the Minister for Education has whispered into my ears that there is a technical objection, and so I had better withdraw this resolution and allow the University to thrash out this question. I therefore beg leave to be permitted to withdraw this resolution."

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT :—"I fear the honourable member has forgotten the standing orders. I am sure it is due to inadvertence. Under Standing Order 55 a member withdrawing a resolution by not moving it should not make a speech. The whole speech of the honourable member has been against the standing orders, but I have no doubt that it was due to inadvertence."

The resolution not having been moved was deemed to have been withdrawn.

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 When signed _____

192 .

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

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO O. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT. _____

STATEMENT WITH DITTO. _____

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

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