

Law (Education) (1925) Department.

End SERIES.

G.O. No. 748

DATED 11. 5. 25

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council Budget Motion -
Queen Mary's College, Madras.
Management - Notes Recorded

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Demand XVII - Education - Transferred.

Mr. S. Satyamurti.

P. 197. 1545. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,500 for Queen Mary's College by Rs. 100.

(To raise the question of the management and the future of the college.)

Law (Education) Department

A.S.

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The same member brought forward a motion last year for the reduction of the allotment for the Queen Mary's College for Women by Rs 100. He then stated that he wished to raise the question as to the manner in which the college ought to be conducted in order to provide the right type of education for women. He pointed out that the college was a reproduction mutatis mutandis of the Presidency College and suggested that the real spirit of Indian womanhood should be introduced into the walls of the college and the hostels attached to it.

He raised the question "in order to draw forth from the Hon'ble the Minister a conscious, deliberate statement of policy that he will orientate the education in the Queen Mary's College and that as a result of that there will go forth not the poor specimens of modern education thrown out from the Presidency College, but better, more refined, more national, more Indian specimens of womanhood that will adorn our land"

The Hon'ble the Minister replied as follows:-

"With regard to the point raised by the

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"Member for the University, I entirely agree with
"him that in the matter of female education, the same stand-
"ard, the same curriculum should not be applied as is
"applied to boys. This was indicated by me in a speech
"at the Conjeevaram girls' school. Since then, I have
"been endeavouring to see how that can be best effected.
"This opinion is reflected in the report of the Secondary
"Education Committee appointed by me with Diwan Bahadur
"Venkataratnam Nayudu as its President. It had con-
"sidered the question as to what should be the standard
"of education for girls, whether it should be the same
"as that for our boys or it ought to be altered to suit
"the economical and social conditions of our society.

"They have not made any detailed recommenda-
"tions but indicated on what lines the curriculum may
"be readjusted. I entirely agree with the principle
"which they suggested, namely, that we should begin the
"alteration of methods at the secondary education stage.
"If the foundation is properly laid and if modifications
"are effected with regard to secondary education in the
"curriculum and the course of studies, then the question
"as to how best we could bring out the spirit of our
"society, as to how best we could reflect the moral,
"economic and social conditions of our society in the
"education of our women is a matter which has to be
"considered. A committee is going into the whole matter
"of secondary education and this will be one of the
"matters that will be considered by them. So, the
"principle of the nature of education of girls is not
"lost sight of but is being considered. As regards the
"suggestion made, whatever may be the phraseology which
"any ^{Honorable} Member of the House or any other public person
"may use, we are all agreed on this principle, namely, that
"there should be some radical change in the method of
"instruction or education. The principle is not that
"every Hindu girl that is educated in a high school or

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"college should be prepared to go out into the world as
"every Hindu boy would go out, but that the Hindu girl re-
"quires a different kind of instruction. I may say inci-
"dentally that I put this question to one of the learned
"principals of one of the women's colleges in Madras. She
"replied that she consulted some girl students of the
"B.A. class, and that all her girls' students revolted
"against the idea of making any difference between the
"curriculum for boys and that for girls. They said that
"they are by no means inferior in the matter of intellec-
"tual or understanding (~~Hear, hear~~) and that their acquirements
"are by no means inferior to the acquirements of the
"boys. And they asked, 'Why should such a differentia-
"tion be made. We are prepared to work out the curriculum
"as the boys are prepared to work it out'. This is the
"view which the Principal gave me, as having been ex-
"pressed by her students on this suggestion of change.
"Apart from this, as I said already, the Government is lay-
"ing down the principles of education, and will consider
"this principle, namely, what is the system of education
"that is best suited to the requirements of society, what
"are the ideals that should be aimed at by education,
"so that there may be a building-up of real national life
"in the country? It is that aspect of women's education
"that we have to consider and it is in that light that
"we have to review the courses of studies. As you know, it takes time. We
"have to make careful investigation of the matter and
"adjust the curriculum gradually and not suddenly. As
"regards the main purpose, we are all agreed, and we are
"looking into the matter, and hope that in course of time
"change may be effected"

(D)
The report of the Secondary Education Com-
mittee has been forwarded to the University for obtain-
ing the opinion of the Academic Council in regard to
the main question of the control over Intermediate
education. When the report of the Academic Council is re-
ceived, the recommendations of the Committee will be con-

sidered.

2. The member wishes to raise the question of the management and future of the college. It is not clear whether he intends to ^{criticise} ~~continue~~ the management of the institution by Government and whether he wishes to suggest that Government ^{management of} ~~discontinue~~ the institution should ~~be~~ withdrawn.

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The motion was not discussed in the Council. The notes may be

order 748 d/11-5-25
Revised.

8/5-25

9.5.25

Legislative Council
Budget motion -
Queen Mary's
College. Madras.
Management
and future.
Notes. Recorded.



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