

Educational (~~189~~¹⁹⁰⁰) Department.

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(12)

[Despatch Abstract.]

Law College, Madras

Recording the report on the working
of the — for the year 1899-1900.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

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Education

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} 1900.

Enclosures

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G.O., No. 423, 5th September 1900.

SEPTEMBER.

Law College, Madras.

Recording the report on the working of the — for the year 1899-1900.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. STUART, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 16th August 1900, No. 8121.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of Government, a copy of my Proceedings, No. 7771, dated 7th instant, reviewing the report on the working of the Law College for the year 1899-1900.

ENCLOSURE.

PROCEEDINGS of the Director of Public Instruction, dated 7th August 1900, No. 7771.

Read the following letter from R. A. NELSON, Esq., M.A., LL.M., Barrister-at-Law, Principal, Law College, Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 10th April 1900, No. 80 :—

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the Law College for 1899-1900.

Staff.—The following changes occurred in the teaching staff during the year under report. After the close of the spring term, 1899, Mr. J. G. Smith, the Junior Professor, was appointed Acting Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes and continued to act as such during the autumn term, 1899, his place being filled by Mr. John Adam, M.A., Barrister-at-Law (*vide* G.O., No. 418, dated 25th July 1899). During the spring term, 1900, the professorial staff was revised and constituted at two Professors and four Assistant Professors (*vide* G.O., No. 66, dated 9th February 1900), two Assistant Professorships being thus temporarily abolished in view of the fall in the strength of the classes. Mr. J. G. Smith was appointed Senior Professor and M.R.Ry. K. Narayana Rau Junior Professor, whilst M.R.Rys. T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar, K. P. Govinda Menon, V. C. Desikachari and M. R. Ramakrishna Aiyar were appointed to the Assistant Professorships.

2. *Accommodation.*—A few additions and alterations have been made in the College buildings during the year. A handsome hammered iron gateway has been erected at the entrance to the main stair-case on the ground floor so as to secure the upper floor. The lavatory attached to the clerk's office has been removed and fitted to the Professors' common room, iron doors are being erected at the foot of the two spiral stair-cases at the main entrance to the courtyard and the furnishing of the buildings with all the sanctioned furniture has been completed.

3. *The College Council.*—There was no change in the constitution of the College Council. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice H. T. Boddam has been appointed a member of the Council in place of Mr. H. G. Wedderburn, who has permanently left India. Two meetings were held during the official year, as in the previous year, there being nothing to call for further meetings. The first was held on the 30th November 1899 and the second on the 18th January 1900. The proceedings of these meetings were reported to you in my letters No. 261, dated 1st December 1899, and No. 13, dated 19th January 1900.

4. *Numbers.*—The number of students in the college rolls on the 31st March 1900 was as follows :—

Third (Senior) B.L. class	45
Second (Intermediate) B.L. class	98
First (Junior) B.L. class	90
Pleadership class	34
Total	267

The numbers of the three preceding years are added for the sake of comparison with the above figures :—

Class.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.
Third (Senior) B.L. class	191	229	121	45
Second (Intermediate) B.L. class	246	128	175	98
First (Junior) B.L. class	152	204	103	90
Pleadership class	31	51	18	34
Total	620	612	417	267

There has thus been a decrease of 150 from the strength of last year, which itself was a decrease of 195 from the strength of 1897-98. The comparison between the figures on 31st March 1900 with those of 31st March 1899 is not, however, quite fair, because since G.O., No. 690, Educational, dated 7th November 1898, prohibiting failed candidates in the F.L. Examination from proceeding in the B.L. course, the real strength of the second B.L. class of this year is not known until after the results of the F.L. Examination of 1900 are known, and the class is formed at the beginning of the autumn term.

A comparison of the above figures shows that the great falling off for the year under review is due to the fact that the second B.L. class of 1898-99, 175 strong, provided a third B.L. class of 1899-1900 of 45 only. This is chiefly due to the operation of the Government Order referred to above. Of that class of 175, 28 did not appear, and 101 failed. Thus 129 students were lost to the college, and it is from these and from the 93 students of the present provisional second class that the permanent second class will be formed next July. Under the former system these 129 students would have remained in the college, and the figures for the current year would have shown but a trifling decrease, if any, on those of 1898-99.

The new B.L. class numbers 90, as against 103 last year, or a decrease of 13 following on a large decrease of 101 in that year. In paragraph 4 (iii) of my report of last year (*vide* your Proceedings, No. 5870, dated 29th May 1899) I showed how the strength of our new class each year varies with the results in the B.A. Examination. This year the passes in the English division were 27 less than last year (341 as against 368), though those in the Science division showed an increase of 60 (457 as against 397).

It appears to me that the great fall in the strength of the college during the past two years is due to a combination of causes. *First* and foremost, the great fall in the number of passes in the Arts Examination. *Second*, the removal of the college to Black Town in January 1899 necessitated the abandonment of the early morning hours of instruction, and the substitution of later ones. Under the old system of early morning and late evening hours of attendance, a student could easily combine his college course with office employment. Now it is well nigh impossible for him to do so, and this, coupled with the general disinclination of heads of offices to employ law students, has compelled many students from the poorer classes to postpone or abandon the law course. *Third*, the increased stringency of the course by the prohibiting failed candidates for the F.L. Examination from entering on the B.L. course, which practically in the majority of cases increases the total length of the course of law studies, no doubt, is deterring some from entering upon it. The result is that whilst the college is now composed of *bonâ fide* students, practically all of whom are devoting their time entirely to the study of law, this satisfactory state of things has been achieved only at a very considerable financial loss.

The following statement exhibits the number of students on the 31st March 1900 arranged by the classes of the community. The figures of 1898-99 are appended for the sake of comparison :—

Classes of community.	Third B.L. class.	Second B.L. class.	First B.L. class.	Pleadership class.	Total for 1899-1900.	Total for 1898-99.
Europeans and Eurasians	..	..	..	..	..	..
Native Christians	1	4	2	1	8	17
Muhammadans	..	1	..	..	1	5
Brahmans	34	75	69	29	207	290
Non-Brahman Hindus	10	18	19	4	51	105
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	45	98	90	34	267	417

The percentage of each class of the community shows a decrease in each case except in that of the Brahmans, who, having fallen steadily from 1895-96 to a percentage of 69.5 (*vide* paragraph 4 of my report for last year) last year, have this year risen 8 per cent., constituting 77.5 of the total strength of the college. Native Christians have fallen from 4.07 to 2.9; Muhammadans from 1.2 to .37; and Non-Brahmans from 25.1 to 19.1.

The number of students arranged by their districts is as follows. Owing to the decrease in strength there are naturally fewer from each district, with the exceptions of Coimbatore, Salem, Travancore and Cochin which send 12, 11, 9 and 7, as against 7, 9, 7 and 6 last year:—

District or province.	B.L. classes.			Pleader-ship class.	Total strength.
	III	II	I		
Ganjām	2	..	2	2	6
Vizagapatam	..	2	1	1	4
Gōdāvari	2	2	3	3	10
Kistna	1	3	2	1	7
Kurnool	..	..	1	..	1
Nellore	..	..	1	1	2
Cuddapah	1	1	..	..	2
Anantapur	2	..	..	..	2
Bellary	1	..	..	1	2
Madras	..	11	9	3	23
Chingleput	2	3	6	1	12
North Arcot	1	6	8	3	18
South Arcot	1	2	1	3	7
Tanjore	12	17	13	3	45
Trichinopoly	3	6	4	1	14
Madura	4	2	4	4	14
Tinnevely	2	5	4	2	13
Coimbatore	..	5	5	2	12
Salem	1	6	3	1	11
South Canara	1	3	2	1	7
Malabar	2	3	12	..	17
Travancore	2	6	1	..	9
Cochin	2	4	1	..	7
Mysore	3	9	6	..	18
Coorg	..	..	..	1	1
Pudukkottai	..	2	1	..	3
Total	45	98	90	34	267

5. *Examination results*—(i) *University Law Examinations*—(a) *First Examination in Law, May 1899*.—At this examination 214 students appeared from the college direct and 63 passed, giving a successful percentage of 29.4 as against 44.4 in 1898. The exact returns for the two years are as follows:—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage of passes.
1898 .. { From Law College	250	111	44.4
.. { Other candidates	268	92	34.3
Total	518	203	39.1
1899 .. { From Law College	214	63	29.4
.. { Other candidates	244	53	21.7
Total	458	116	25.3

The passes from the Law College in 1898 and 1899 were made up as follows:—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage of passes.
1898 .. { From II B.L. class	100	40	40.0
.. { „ III B.L. class	150	71	47.3
Total	250	111	44.4
1899 .. { From II B.L. class	147	46	31.3
.. { „ III B.L. class	67	17	25.3
Total	214	63	29.4

1898 was an exceptionally good year showing a college return of successful candidates of 44.4 as against 30.2 in 1897 and 21.5 in 1896. There is no special reason that I can assign for this falling back to the lower figures of 1897. It is, of course, impossible to guarantee the candidates of each year being of equal calibre. One feature in the examination was that whereas in former years the percentage of success among the third class candidates has always been higher than that among those from the second class, the reverse was the case in this instance, the junior students securing 31.3 as against the 25.3 of their seniors. It is not improbable that this is due to the stimulus afforded by the new prohibitory rule.

(b) *B.L. Degree Examination, January 1900*.—At this examination 46 students appeared from the college direct, *i.e.*, from the III (Senior) B.L. class of 1899, and 24 or a percentage of 52.2 were successful as against 30.1 in 1899. The figures for this and the last three examinations are as follows:—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage.
1897 .. { From Law College	88	25	28.4
.. { Other candidates	121	27	22.3
Total	209	52	24.8
1898 .. { From Law College	35	10	28.5
.. { Other candidates	197	48	24.3
Total	232	58	25.0
1899 .. { From Law College	73	22	30.1
.. { Other candidates	244	72	29.9
Total	317	94	29.6
1900 .. { From Law College	46	24	52.2
.. { Other candidates	272	76	27.9
Total	318	100	31.4

It will be observed that whilst the successful percentage of other candidates has fallen 2 per cent. from the figure of 1899, that of the college candidates has increased by 22.1 per cent., which considerably counterbalances the decreased percentage in the First Examination in Law. Of the 46 college candidates who appeared, 39 had passed the F.L. Examination in due course, and had given their undivided attention to their B.L. studies during the three term course. Of these, 22, or a percentage of 56.4, passed. The remaining seven candidates only passed their F.L. Examination in May 1899. Two, or a percentage of 28.5, passed.

(ii) *Pleadership Examination, January 1900*.—The results of this examination show, as will appear from the following table, a very great decrease on the figures of the previous year:—

	Examined.	Passed.		Percentage.	
		First grade.	Second grade.	First grade..	Total passes.
1899 .. { From Law College	36	7	18	19.4	69.4
.. { Others	133	13	53	9.7	49.6
Total	169	20	71	11.8	53.8
1900 .. { From Law College	15	..	1	..	6.6
.. { Others	*185	1	24	1.2	13.6
Total	200	1	25	.5	13.0

* Of these, 85 appeared for the first-grade and 100 for the second-grade.

When I said in my report last year that the examination of 1899 must be regarded as exceptional and that its standard could not be maintained, it certainly

never occurred to me that I should this year have to chronicle so gloomy a record as the above for the examination of 1900. That only one out of 85 first-grade candidates should have passed; that of 100 second-grade candidates not a single one should have been successful; that of 15 first-grade candidates prepared in the college not one passed that grade, and only one secured a second grade, are facts which I am unable to explain, but I cannot believe that the examinees are solely responsible for these extraordinary results, and as a member of the Pledership Examination Board, I have moved the Board with a view of putting the whole scheme of examination on a better footing, and the question will be dealt with by the Board before the next examination.

6. The present number of volumes in the library is 1,641 as against 1,539 last year. Of the new additions, 11 volumes were added to the lending library and 91 volumes to the consulting library. Of the latter number, 19 are the latest editions of standard works, the editions they replaced being transferred to the lending section. The others are all new books.

Use of Library.

	Number of consultations.		Number of books lent.	
	1899-1900.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1898-99.
Students	3,799	2,436	1,768	1,344
Staff	296	199	5	11

The great increase in the use of the library, in spite of the diminution in the number of students, is due to the fact that there is in the new buildings every facility for the comfortable use of the library, and that the students now are *bonâ fide* students devoting all their time to their studies. The consequence is that many spend the greater part of the day in the college at their studies. The college calendar for the current year is just being issued from the press.

7. *Occupation of students.*—The occupation, or otherwise, of the students is given in the following table:—

	Employed.	Not employed.	Total.
Third (Senior) B.L. class	3	42	45
Second (Intermediate) B.L. class	3	95	98
First (Junior) B.L. class	2	88	90
Pledership class	* 9	25	34
Total	17	250	267

* Five of these are either teachers or clerks on leave.

Only 6.3 of the students are now in employment. In 1898-99 the percentage was 12.2. In 1897-98 it was 19.2. As pointed out in paragraph 4 above, the recent changes render it almost impossible for students to now combine office employment with their studies.

8. *Scholarships.*—*Morehead Law Scholarship.*—The previous year's holder of this scholarship, K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, having expressed his intention of abandoning his studies for the B.L. degree examination of 1900, with a view of appearing for the Provincial Civil Service Examination, and having thus failed to fulfil the main condition on which the scholarship was awarded (*vide* rule 8 of the Morehead Law Scholarship Rules), refunded the scholarship moneys drawn by him, and on his having done so, the scholarship thus vacated was awarded to P. Nelliappa Pillai, the student who stood next on the list of successful candidates in the First Examination in Law of 1898 (*vide* your Proceedings, No. 11346, dated 7th October 1899). The present holder of this scholarship is M. Narasinga Rau who stood highest, in the second class, in the list of successful candidates of the F.L. Examination in 1899, appearing from the II (Intermediate) B.L. class.

(ii) *College Scholarships under Rule XI.*—One of the old scholars, Muhammad Muhi-ud-din Husain Chida, forfeited his scholarship having failed in the First Examination in Law in 1899, and the scholarship remained vacant, there being no other Muhammadan student entitled to it. The new scholars are C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and K. Asad-ullah Khan who were awarded their scholarships in your Proceedings No. 1754, dated 17th February 1900.

9. *Financial.*—The following summary shows the receipts and expenditure for 1899-1900 as compared with 1898-99:—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net deficit.	Net profit.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1899-1900 (a)	28,391 2 0	46,620 11 9	18,229 9 9	
1898-1899 (b)	50,628 8 0	49,590 4 3		1,038 3 9

(a) Includes Rs. 33-2-0, library fines, &c.

(b) „ Rs. 16-0-0, „ do.

N.B.—The figures in the "expenditure" column do not include the amount spent on scholarships and refunds (Rs. 554 in 1898-99 and Rs. 498-0-8 in 1899-1900, respectively) but include all other items.

During the year under report, the sum of Rs. 3,492-2-0, being the balance of the special furniture grant sanctioned in G.O., No. 736, Educational, dated 13th December 1897, is included in the total expenditure. This is the first year in which the college has been worked at a financial loss, and I hope it will be the last. In paragraph 4 above I have touched upon the causes of this loss. It is the price which has had to be paid for securing a body of real students for the college. With care, in which directions steps have already been taken by reducing the staff and by raising the fees for the B.L. course with effect from next term, no deficit should be incurred this year, and I look forward to the near future when the college will again be working at a large profit to Government, together with (which has hitherto not been the case with the greater number) real educational benefit to all its students.

10. *Service Registers.*—The service registers of the pensionable members of the establishment, with the exception of those who are not required to maintain service books under the rules of the Civil Service Regulations, have been written up and verified up to date.

11. My thanks are due and are here expressed to all members of the college staff, who in a year of much difficulty to us all, have continued to discharge their duties with ability and regularity. I regret that M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur C. Ramachandra Rau Saheb, who has been so long associated with the college, is no longer Senior Professor, and that M.R.Ry. P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar Avargal has, by reason of professional engagements, similarly left the college. Both of these gentlemen have done much to maintain a high standard of legal education in the college.

Proceedings, No. 7771 of 1900.

Staff.—For the spring term of 1900 only two Professors and four Assistant Professors were appointed, two Assistant Professorships being temporarily abolished owing to the decreased strength of the college. The Director shares the Principal's regret that Diwan Bahadur Ramachandra Rau Saheb and M.R.Ry. Sivaswami Aiyar, who have done much to maintain a high standard of legal instruction, had to sever their connection with the college with which they had so long been associated.

2. *Accommodation.*—A few minor alterations and additions were made during the year in the new college buildings, and the furnishing of the buildings was completed.

3. *Library.*—Owing to the addition of 102 volumes, the number of books in the library rose to 1,641 on the 31st March last, and the students made better use of the library than in the previous year. The catalogue should be brought up to date.

4. *Strength and attendance.*—Annexed is a statement showing the strength of the several classes of the college for the last five years:—

	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.
3rd B.L. class	222	191	229	121	45
2nd „	201	246	128	175	98
1st „	273	152	204	103	90
Pleaderships class	696	589	561	399	233
„	35	31	51	18	34
Total	731	620	612	417	267

It will be seen that there has been a steady fall in the strength during the quinquennium, the fall being most marked during the last two years. As pointed out by the Principal, the loss is due to a combination of causes, the chief of which are (i) the large decrease in the number of those who passed the B.A. degree examination, (ii) the recent ruling prohibiting candidates who have not passed the First Examination in Law from continuing their studies for the B.L. course. To the latter cause especially is due the large diminution in the numbers of the 3rd B.L. class. The classification of students according to the classes of the community presents no marked fluctuations. The particulars given in the report in regard to the districts from which the students have been drawn show that Tanjore, as usual, takes the lead, with Madras coming next, while the Nilgiris was the only district not represented. Native States contributed as many as 38 students or a seventh of the total number.

5. *Examinations.*—For the F.L. Examination of May 1899, 214 candidates appeared direct from the college and of these, 63 or 29.4 per cent. passed against 44.4 in the previous year. This deterioration the Principal is not able to explain. The results of the B.L. degree examination of January 1900 were an improvement on those of the previous year, the percentage of success having risen from 30.1 to 52.2. Both these results seem to point to a want of fixity in the standard of examination.

The results of the Pleaderships Examination were simply disastrous, only one having passed, and that for the second grade, out of 15 first grade candidates. Whether the fault lay with the scheme of instruction or the nature of the examination the Director is unable to say, but it is clear that they can have had no relation to each other. As the results of the examination of outside candidates were equally disastrous it would appear that there has been some great change in the standard of examination. The Director is glad to note that the Principal has moved the Pleaderships Examination Board to put the whole scheme of examination on a sounder footing.

6. *College Council.*—Mr. H. G. Wedderburn having left India, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Boddam was appointed a member of the College Council in his place. Two meetings were held during the year.

7. *Finance.*—The large decrease in the strength of the college considerably affected its financial condition. For the first time in its annals the college worked during the year at a loss. The receipts amounted to Rs. 28,391, while the charges including scholarships and refunds but excluding the cost of furniture amounted to Rs. 43,627, the year having thus closed with a deficit balance of Rs. 15,236. Steps have already been taken to effect an equilibrium between the receipts and charges and the Director trusts that the recent reduction in the staff and the raising of the college fees to Rs. 75 per term will tend to improve the finances of the college during the current and succeeding years. The figure given in the statement in paragraph 9 of the report as the expenditure during 1898-99 does not agree with that given in the last report.

8. *General.*—The college calendar for 1899 was issued during the year under report and the one for the current year has been issued. Its usefulness would be enhanced if it were issued in January instead of as now in the middle of the year. Mr. Nelson's remarks in the concluding paragraph of the report in regard to the

staff are noted. The year was one of change and difficulty, and it is not yet possible clearly to forecast the effect of recent changes. On the whole, the Director considers that the working of the college was creditable to the Principal and the staff.

(A true Extract.)

G. H. STUART,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Law College, with twenty copies.
„ Principals of other Government Colleges.
„ President, College Council, with a spare copy.
„ Hon'ble the Chief Justice, with covering letter.
„ „ the Advocate-General, with covering letter.
„ Government, with covering letter.

ORDER—No. 423, Educational, dated 5th September 1900.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Editors' Table.

Ed. S. J. Pereira.

1900
Educational (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 1133

17 AUG. 1900

From

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

No. 8121.

Dated 16th August 1900.

Received

Registered 18-8-00

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SUBJECT.

Submitting a copy of his review of
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Pleadership class ..	31	51	18	34
Total ..	620	612	417	267

There has thus been a decrease of 150 from the strength of last year, which itself was a decrease of 195 from the strength of 1897-98. The comparison between the figures on 31st March 1900 with those of 31st March 1899 is not, however, quite fair, because since G.O., No. 690, Educational, dated 7th November 1898, prohibiting failed candidates in the F.L. Examination from proceeding in the B.L. course, the real strength of the second B.L. class of this year is not known until after the results of the F.L. Examination of 1900 are known, and the class is formed at the beginning of the autumn term.

A comparison of the above figures shows that the great falling off for the year under review is due to the fact that the second B.L. class of 1898-99, 175 strong, provided a third B.L. class of 1899-1900 of 45 only. This is chiefly due to the operation of the Government Order referred to above. Of that class of 175, 23 did not appear, and 101 failed. Thus 129 students were lost to the college, and it is from these and from the 93 students of the present provisional second class that the permanent second class will be formed next July. Under the former system these 129 students would have remained in the college, and the figures for the current year would have shown but a trifling decrease, if any, on those of 1898-99.

The new B.L. class numbers 90, as against 103 last year, or a decrease of 13 following on a large decrease of 101 in that year. In paragraph 4 (iii) of my report of last year (*vide* your Proceedings, No. 5870, dated 29th May 1899) I showed how the strength of our new class each year varies with the results in the B.A. Examination. This year the passes in the English division were 27 less than last year (341 as against 368), though those in the Science division showed an increase of 60 (457 as against 397).

It appears to me that the great fall in the strength of the college during the past two years is due to a combination of causes. *First* and foremost, the great fall in the number of passes in the Arts Examination. *Second*, the removal of the college to Black Town in January 1899 necessitated the abandonment of the early morning hours of instruction, and the substitution of later ones. Under the old system of early morning and late evening hours of attendance, a student could easily combine his college course with office employment. Now it is well nigh impossible for him to do so, and this, coupled with the general disinclination of heads of offices to employ law students, has compelled many students from the poorer classes to postpone or abandon the law course. *Third*, the increased stringency of the course by the prohibiting failed candidates for the F.L. Examination from entering on the B.L. course, which practically in the majority of cases increases the total length of the course of law studies, no doubt, is deterring some from entering upon it. The result is that whilst the college is now composed of *bonâ fide* students, practically all of whom are devoting their time entirely to the study of law, this satisfactory state of things has been achieved only at a very considerable financial loss.

The following statement exhibits the number of students on the 31st March 1900 arranged by the classes of the community. The figures of 1898-99 are appended for the sake of comparison :—

Classes of community.	Third B.L. class.	Second B.L. class.	First B.L. class.	Pleadership class.	Total for 1899-1900.	Total for 1898-99.
Europeans and Eurasians ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Native Christians ..	1	4	2	1	8	17
Muhammadans ..	..	1	..	..	1	5
Brahmans ..	34	75	69	29	207	290
Non-Brahman Hindus ..	10	18	19	4	51	105
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	45	98	90	34	267	417

The percentage of each class of the community shows a decrease in each case except in that of the Brahmans, who, having fallen steadily from 1895-96 to a percentage of 69.5 (*vide* paragraph 4 of my report for last year) last year, have this year risen 8 per cent., constituting 77.5 of the total strength of the college. Native Christians have fallen from 4.07 to 2.9; Muhammadans from 1.2 to .37; and Non-Brahmans from 25.1 to 19.1.

The number of students arranged by their districts is as follows. Owing to the decrease in strength there are naturally fewer from each district, with the exceptions of Coimbatore, Salem, Travancore and Cochin which send 12, 11, 9 and 7, as against 7, 9, 7 and 6 last year:—

District or province.	B.L. classes.			Pleader-ship class.	Total strength.
	III	II	I		
Ganjám ..	2	..	2	2	6
Vizagapatam ..	..	2	1	1	4
Górávari ..	2	2	3	3	16
Kistna ..	1	3	2	1	7
Kurnool ..	..	..	1	..	1
Nellore ..	..	..	1	1	2
Cuddapah ..	1	1	..	..	2
Anantapur ..	2	..	..	..	2
Bellary ..	1	..	..	1	2
Madras ..	..	11	9	3	23
Chingleput ..	2	3	6	1	12
North Arcot ..	1	6	8	3	18
South Arcot ..	1	2	1	3	7
Tanjore ..	12	17	13	3	45
Trichinopoly ..	3	6	4	1	14
Madura ..	4	2	4	4	14
Tinnevely ..	2	5	4	2	13
Coimbatore ..	..	5	5	2	12
Salem ..	1	6	3	1	11
South Canara ..	1	3	2	1	7
Malabar ..	2	3	12	..	17
Travancore ..	2	6	1	..	9
Cochin ..	2	4	1	..	7
Mysore ..	3	9	6	..	18
Coorg ..	..	..	1	1	1
Pudukkotal ..	..	2	1	..	3
Total ..	45	98	90	34	267

5. *Examination results—(i) University Law Examinations—(a) First Examination in Law, May 1899.*—At this examination 214 students appeared from the college direct and 63 passed, giving a successful percentage of 29.4 as against 44.4 in 1898. The exact returns for the two years are as follows:—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage of passes.
1898 .. { From Law College ..	250	111	44.4
.. { Other candidates ..	268	92	34.3
Total ..	518	203	39.1
1899 .. { From Law College ..	214	63	29.4
.. { Other candidates ..	244	53	21.7
Total ..	458	116	25.3

The passes from the Law College in 1898 and 1899 were made up as follows:—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage of passes.
1898 .. { From II B.L. class ..	100	40	40.0
.. { „ III B.L. class ..	150	71	47.3
Total ..	250	111	44.4
1899 .. { From II B.L. class ..	147	46	31.3
.. { „ III B.L. class ..	67	17	25.3
Total ..	214	63	29.4

1898 was an exceptionally good year showing a college return of successful candidates of 44.4 as against 30.2 in 1897 and 21.5 in 1896. There is no special reason that I can assign for this falling back to the lower figures of 1897. It is, of course, impossible to guarantee the candidates of each year being of equal calibre. One feature in the examination was that whereas in former years the percentage of success among the third class candidates has always been higher than that among those from the second class, the reverse was the case in this instance, the junior students securing 31.3 as against the 25.3 of their seniors. It is not improbable that this is due to the stimulus afforded by the new prohibitory rule.

(b) *B.L. Degree Examination, January 1900.*—At this examination 46 students appeared from the college direct, *i.e.*, from the III (Senior) B.L. class of 1899, and 24 or a percentage of 52.2 were successful as against 50.1 in 1899. The figures for this and the last three examinations are as follows:—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage.
1897 .. { From Law College ..	88	25	28.4
.. { Other candidates ..	121	27	22.3
Total ..	209	52	24.8
1898 .. { From Law College ..	35	10	28.5
.. { Other candidates ..	197	48	24.3
Total ..	232	58	25.0
1899 .. { From Law College ..	78	22	30.1
.. { Other candidates ..	244	72	29.9
Total ..	317	94	29.6
1900 .. { From Law College ..	46	24	52.2
.. { Other candidates ..	272	76	27.9
Total ..	318	100	31.4

It will be observed that whilst the successful percentage of other candidates has fallen 2 per cent. from the figure of 1899, that of the college candidates has increased by 22.1 per cent., which considerably counterbalances the decreased percentage in the First Examination in Law. Of the 46 college candidates who appeared, 39 had passed the F.L. Examination in due course, and had given their undivided attention to their B.L. studies during the three term course. Of these, 22, or a percentage of 56.4, passed. The remaining seven candidates only passed their F.L. Examination in May 1899. Two, or a percentage of 28.5, passed.

(ii) *Pleadership Examination, January 1900.*—The results of this examination show, as will appear from the following table, a very great decrease on the figures of the previous year:—

	Examined.	Passed.		Percentage.	
		First grade.	Second grade.	First grade..	Total passes.
1899 .. { From Law College ..	36	7	18	19.4	69.4
.. { Others ..	133	13	53	9.7	49.6
Total ..	169	20	71	11.8	53.8
1900 .. { From Law College ..	15	1	1	1.2	6.6
.. { Others ..	185	1	24	1.2	13.5
Total ..	200	1	25	.5	13.0

* Of these, 85 appeared for the first-grade and 100 for the second-grade.

When I said in my report last year that the examination of 1899 must be regarded as exceptional and that its standard could not be maintained, it certainly

never occurred to me that I should this year have to chronicle so gloomy a record as the above for the examination of 1900. That only one out of 85 first-grade candidates should have passed; that of 100 second-grade candidates not a single one should have been successful; that of 15 first-grade candidates prepared in the college not one passed that grade, and only one secured a second grade, are facts which I am unable to explain, but I cannot believe that the examinees are solely responsible for these extraordinary results, and as a member of the Pleaders Examination Board, I have moved the Board with a view of putting the whole scheme of examination on a better footing, and the question will be dealt with by the Board before the next examination.

6. The present number of volumes in the library is 1,641 as against 1,539 last year. Of the new additions, 11 volumes were added to the lending library and 91 volumes to the consulting library. Of the latter number, 19 are the latest editions of standard works, the editions they replaced being transferred to the lending section. The others are all new books.

Use of Library.

	Number of consultations.		Number of books lent.	
	1899-1900.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1898-99.
Students	3,799	2,436	1,768	1,344
Staff	296	199	5	11

The great increase in the use of the library, in spite of the diminution in the number of students, is due to the fact that there is in the new buildings every facility for the comfortable use of the library, and that the students now are *bona fide* students devoting all their time to their studies. The consequence is that many spend the greater part of the day in the college at their studies. The college calendar for the current year is just being issued from the press.

7. *Occupation of students.*—The occupation, or otherwise, of the students is given in the following table:—

	Employed.	Not employed.	Total.
Third (Senior) B.L. class	3	42	45
Second (Intermediate) B.L. class	3	95	98
First (Junior) B.L. class	2	88	90
Pleaders class	9	25	34
Total	17	250	267

* Five of these are either teachers or clerks on leave.

Only 6.3 of the students are now in employment. In 1898-99 the percentage was 12.2. In 1897-98 it was 19.2. As pointed out in paragraph 4 above, the recent changes render it almost impossible for students to now combine office employment with their studies.

8. *Scholarships.*—*Morehead Law Scholarship.*—The previous year's holder of this scholarship, K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, having expressed his intention of abandoning his studies for the B.L. degree examination of 1900, with a view of appearing for the Provincial Civil Service Examination, and having thus failed to fulfil the main condition on which the scholarship was awarded (*vide* rule 8 of the Morehead Law Scholarship Rules), refunded the scholarship moneys drawn by him, and on his having done so, the scholarship thus vacated was awarded to P. Nelliappa Pillai, the student who stood next on the list of successful candidates in the First Examination in Law of 1898 (*vide* your Proceedings, No. 11346, dated 7th October 1899). The present holder of this scholarship is M. Narasinga Rau who stood highest, in the second class, in the list of successful candidates of the F.L. Examination in 1899, appearing from the II (Intermediate) B.L. class.

(ii) *College Scholarships under Rule XI.*—One of the old scholars, Muhammad ~~Mahadeen~~ Hussain Cheeda, forfeited his scholarship having failed in the First Examination in Law in 1899, and the scholarship remained vacant, there being no other Muhammadan student entitled to it. The new scholars are C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and K. Asadullah Khan who were awarded their scholarships in your Proceedings No. 1754, dated 17th February 1900.

9. *Financial.*—The following summary shows the receipts and expenditure for 1899-1900 as compared with 1898-99:—

		Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net deficit.	Net profit.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1899-1900 (a)		28,391 2 0	46,620 11 9	18,229 9 9	
1898-1899 (b)		50,628 8 0	49,590 4 3		1,038 3 9

(a) Includes Rs. 33-2-0, library fines, &c.

(b) „ Rs. 16-0-0, do.

N.B.—The figures in the "expenditure" column do not include the amount spent on scholarships and refunds (Rs. 554 in 1898-99 and Rs. 498-0-8 in 1899-1900, respectively) but include all other items.

During the year under report, the sum of Rs. 3,492-2-0, being the balance of the special furniture grant sanctioned in G.O., No. 736, Educational, dated 13th December 1897, is included in the total expenditure. This is the first year in which the college has been worked at a financial loss, and I hope it will be the last. In paragraph 4 above I have touched upon the causes of this loss. It is the price which has had to be paid for securing a body of real students for the college. With care, in which directions steps have already been taken by reducing the staff and by raising the fees for the B.L. course with effect from next term, no deficit should be incurred this year, and I look forward to the near future when the college will again be working at a large profit to Government, together with (which has hitherto not been the case with the greater number) real educational benefit to all its students.

10. *Service Registers.*—The service registers of the pensionable members of the establishment, with the exception of those who are not required to maintain service books under the rules of the Civil Service Regulations, have been written up and verified up to date.

11. My thanks are due and are here expressed to all members of the college staff, who in a year of much difficulty to us all, have continued to discharge their duties with ability and regularity. I regret that M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur C. Ramachandra Rau Saheb, who has been so long associated with the college, is no longer Senior Professor, and that M.R.Ry. P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar Avargal has, by reason of professional engagements, similarly left the college. Both of these gentlemen have done much to maintain a high standard of legal education in the college.

Proceedings, No. 7771 of 1900.

Staff.—For the spring term of 1900 only two Professors and four Assistant Professors were appointed, two Assistant Professorships being temporarily abolished owing to the decreased strength of the college. The Director shares the Principal's regret that Diwan Bahadur Ramachandra Rau Saheb and M.R.Ry. Sivaswami Aiyar, who have done much to maintain a high standard of legal instruction, had to sever their connection with the college with which they had so long been associated.

2. *Accommodation.*—A few minor alterations and additions were made during the year in the new college buildings, and the furnishing of the buildings was completed.

3. *Library.*—Owing to the addition of 102 volumes, the number of books in the library rose to 1,641 on the 31st March last, and the students made better use of the library than in the previous year. The catalogue should be brought up to date.

4. *Strength and attendance.*—Annexed is a statement showing the strength of the several classes of the college for the last five years:—

	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.
3rd B.L. class	222	191	229	121	45
2nd „	201	246	128	175	98
1st „	273	152	204	103	90
Pleadership class	696	589	561	399	233
	35	31	51	18	34
Total ..	731	620	612	417	267

It will be seen that there has been a steady fall in the strength during the quinquennium, the fall being most marked during the last two years. As pointed out by the Principal, the loss is due to a combination of causes, the chief of which are (i) the large decrease in the number of those who passed the B.A. degree examination, (ii) the recent ruling prohibiting candidates who have not passed the First Examination in Law from continuing their studies for the B.L. course. To the latter cause especially is due the large diminution in the numbers of the 3rd B.L. class. The classification of students according to the classes of the community presents no marked fluctuations. The particulars given in the report in regard to the districts from which the students have been drawn show that Tanjore, as usual, takes the lead, with Madras coming next, while the Nilgiris was the only district not represented. Native States contributed as many as 38 students or a seventh of the total number.

5. *Examinations.*—For the F.L. Examination of May 1899, 214 candidates appeared direct from the college and of these, 63 or 29.4 per cent. passed against 44.4 in the previous year. This deterioration the Principal is not able to explain. The results of the B.L. degree examination of January 1900 were an improvement on those of the previous year, the percentage of success having risen from 30.1 to 52.2. Both these results seem to point to a want of fixity in the standard of examination.

The results of the Pleadership Examination were simply disastrous, only one having passed, and that for the second grade, out of 15 first grade candidates. Whether the fault lay with the scheme of instruction or the nature of the examination the Director is unable to say, but it is clear that they can have had no relation to each other. As the results of the examination of outside candidates were equally disastrous it would appear that there has been some great change in the standard of examination. The Director is glad to note that the Principal has moved the Pleadership Examination Board to put the whole scheme of examination on a sounder footing.

6. *College Council.*—Mr. H. G. Wedderburn having left India, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Boddam was appointed a member of the College Council in his place. Two meetings were held during the year.

7. *Finance.*—The large decrease in the strength of the college considerably affected its financial condition. For the first time in its annals the college worked during the year at a loss. The receipts amounted to Rs. 28,391, while the charges including scholarships and refunds but excluding the cost of furniture amounted to Rs. 43,627, the year having thus closed with a deficit balance of Rs. 15,236. Steps have already been taken to effect an equilibrium between the receipts and charges and the Director trusts that the recent reduction in the staff and the raising of the college fees to Rs. 75 per term will tend to improve the finances of the college during the current and succeeding years. The figure given in the statement in paragraph 9 of the report as the expenditure during 1898-99 does not agree with that given in the last report.

8. *General.*—The college calendar for 1899 was issued during the year under report and the one for the current year has been issued. Its usefulness would be enhanced if it were issued in January instead of as now in the middle of the year. Mr. Nelson's remarks in the concluding paragraph of the report in regard to the

staff are noted. The year was one of change and difficulty, and it is not yet possible clearly to forecast the effect of recent changes. On the whole, the Director considers that the working of the college was creditable to the Principal and the staff.

(A true Extract.)

15/1 E. H. Stuart.

Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Law College, with twenty copies.
 „ Principals of other Government Colleges.
 „ President, College Council, with a spare copy.
 „ Hon'ble the Chief Justice, with covering letter.
 „ „ the Advocate-General, with covering letter.
 „ Government, with covering letter.

ORDER—No. 428, Educational, dated 5th September 1900.

Recorded.

[2. The results of the year's working cannot be considered to be altogether satisfactory. Measures are, however, now under consideration for placing the college on a better footing.]

(True Extract.)

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
 Editors' Table.

Note

The results are, as far as the College is concerned, not so unsatisfactory as appears at first sight. Two points have been gained apparently—(1) the college has become much more a real college, instead of mere lecturing institute attended by a number of students who are not desisting their whole attention to law. (2) the standard of examination has been maintained in fact raised—and the college in the most important point of training students for the B.L. its position—as to the Pleadership exam in this connection.

Ext. S. J. Pereira.

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