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Educational (190 /) Department.

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INDEXED.

ORIGINAL

[Despatch Abstract.]

Law College

Recording the report on the working
in the working of the — during 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.

Government {1901} of Madras. EDUCATIONAL.

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ORIGINAL

G.O., No. 292, 29th May 1901.

MAY.

Law College.

Recording the report on the working of the — during 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, 3rd May 1901, C. No. 3831.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of Government, a copy of my Proceedings, No. 2747, dated 30th April 1901, reviewing the report on the working of the Law College, Madras, during 1900.

ENCLOSURE.

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, Dis. No. 2747, dated 30th April 1901.

Read the following letter from R. A. NELSON, Esq., M.A., L.L.M., *Barrister-at-Law*, Principal, Law College, Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated 26th March 1901, No. 52 :—

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the Law College for the calendar year 1900, prepared in accordance with the instructions conveyed in your Proceedings, Dis. No. 1472, dated 11th March 1901, which was received by me only on the 23rd instant.

Staff.—The following changes occurred in the teaching staff during the year under report. M.R.Ry. Dewan Bahadur C. Ramachandra Rao Saheb, the Senior Professor, having retired at the close of the autumn term, 1899, and M.R.Ry. P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar having left the college owing to professional engagements, Mr. J. G. Smith was appointed Senior Professor and M.R.Ry. K. Naraina Rau as Junior Professor for the spring term, 1900, Messrs. T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar, K. P. Govinda Menon, V. C. Desikachariar and M. R. Ramakrishna Aiyar being appointed to the Assistant Professorships. Thus the professorial staff during the spring term, 1900, 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. After the close of the spring term, Mr. J. G. Smith, the Senior Professor, was appointed Acting Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes and continued to be on other duty during the autumn term, 1900. His place was filled by M.R.Ry. K. Naraina Rau, the Junior Professor, Mr. T. W. Barton, *Barrister-at-Law*, being appointed to succeed him. Both these officers continued to act as such until the close of the autumn term, 1900. M.R.Ry. T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar, the First Assistant Professor, resigned his place at the close of the spring term and consequently the then existing staff was moved up, M.R.Ry. T. Rangachariar, who had acted on previous occasions, being appointed Fourth Assistant Professor for the autumn term, 1900.

2. Accommodation.—As stated in paragraph 2 of my report on the college for the official year 1899–1900—*vide* your (review) Proceedings, No. 7771, dated 7th August 1900, a few additions and alterations were made in the college buildings during the year. A handsome hammered iron gateway was 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 was removed and fitted to the Professors' common room. Iron doors were 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 was completed.

I may, however, observe, in this connection, that there is an urgent need for a wall round the compound of the college buildings which closely adjoin the China Bazaar. As reported in my letter to you, No. 24, dated 3rd February 1900, numerous inconveniences are daily and incessantly caused to the college owing to the entire absence of any sort of wall, and under existing conditions it is almost impossible to keep the premises clean, and free from undesirable loafers and intruders. Further, the want of a play-ground attached to the college is much felt. In this connection

I would invite your attention to the marginally-noted correspondence which passed through your office in 1899 on the subject of securing a portion of the vacant ground lying to the south of the college compound to be used as a play and recreation ground for the college. The college compound, on the southern side, as defined by the Consulting Architect to Government, is too small to admit of a

play-ground being formed. Perhaps arrangements could be made under which the college could rent a portion of this unused ground on the understanding that it should not be permanently fenced in and should be vacated when required. This has, I believe, been recently done in the case of the Christian College.

3. The College Council.—No change has taken place in the constitution of the College Council. The Council held three meetings during the year, there being nothing to call for further meetings. The first was held on the 18th January, the second on the 4th April, and the third on the 6th December 1900. The Proceedings of these meetings were reported to you in my letters No. 13, dated 19th January, Nos. 68 and 81, dated 7th and 10th April, and No. 183, dated 7th December 1900.

4. Numbers.—The number of students on the rolls on the 31st December 1900 was as follows :—

Third (Senior) B.L. class	44
Second (Intermediate) B.L. class	108
First (Junior) B.L. class	85
Pleadership class	23
Total	260

The figures for the year 1899 were as follows :—

Third (Senior) B.L. class	120
Second (Intermediate) B.L. class	45
First (Junior) B.L. class	99
Pleadership class	34
Total	298

The average number on the rolls was 246 in 1900, as against 320 in 1899 and the average daily attendance was 197 in 1900 as against 256 in 1899.

As to this decrease of 38 on 31st December 1900, a reference to paragraph 4 of my report for 1899–1900 will show that the strength of the college on 31st March 1900 was 267 (a diminution of 150 on the figures of 1899) which fell to 260 by 31st December. Since then, however, the numbers have risen to 310—the present strength—which shows a decrease on the strength in 1899 of 107 only, and an increase on the figures of 31st March 1900 of 43.

The number of students on the 31st December 1900 arranged by the classes of the community is shown in the following table. The figures of 1899 are also appended for the sake of comparison :—

Classes of community.	Third B.L. class.	Second B.L. class.	First B.L. class.	Pleaser-ship class.	Total for 1900.	Total for 1899.
Europeans and Eurasians	1	2	1	..	4	11
Native Christians	..	1	..	..	1	4
Mohammadans	33	85	68	15	201	215
Hindus .. { Brahmins	10	20	16	8	54	68
{ Non-Brahman Caste Hindus	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Others	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	44	108	85	23	260	298

It will be observed that the ratio of decrease has been much less in the case of the Brahmins than in the case of the other classes, the ratio being 6·5 as against 75 per cent. in the case of Muhammadans, 63·6 per cent. Native Christians, and 20·6 per cent. Non-Brahman Hindus.

The following tables show the distribution of the students in regard to the occupation and the wealth of parents or guardians, and vaccination of students for the year 1900 :—

Occupation.

Classes.	Officials.	Traders.	Land-holders.	Others.	Total.
Third B.L. class	12	8	26	8	44
Second do.	44	3	54	7	108
First do.	34	5	40	6	85
Pleaser-ship class	4	1	17	1	23
Total	94	12	137	17	260

Wealth.

Classes.	Richer classes.	Middle classes.	Poorer classes.	Total.
Third B.L. class	6	34	4	44
Second do.	14	88	6	108
First do.	10	71	4	85
Pleaser-ship class	..	23	..	23
Total	30	216	14	260

Vaccination.

Classes.	Vaccinated, whether small-pox marked or not.	Small-pox marked only.	Unprotected.	Total.
Third B.L. class	34	10	..	44
Second do.	80	28	..	108
First do.	61	24	..	85
Pleaser-ship class	10	13	..	23
Total	185	75	..	260

The following statement shows the distribution of students on the 31st December 1900 according to the districts from which they are drawn. The figures for 1899 are also added for comparison :—

District or Province.	B.L. classes.			Pleaser-ship class.	Total for 1900.	Total for 1899.
	Third.	Second.	First.			
Ganjám	1	2	2	3	8	5
Vizagapatam	2	2	1	2	7	5
Godavari	1	8	3	3	15	12
Kistna	..	..	2	1	3	10
Kurnool	..	..	1	..	1	..
Nellore	..	..	1	1	2	4
Cuddapah	1	1	..	..	2	3
Anantapur	2	..	..	..	2	2
Bellary	1	3	..	..	4	2
Madras	..	12	9	2	23	41
Chingleput	2	4	6	..	12	7
North Arcot	1	8	8	2	19	15
South Arcot	1	3	1	..	5	10
Tanjore	12	19	11	1	43	45
Trichinopoly	3	4	4	1	12	16
Madura	4	1	4	1	10	16
Tinnevely	2	5	3	1	11	16
Coimbatore	..	4	5	2	11	6
Salem	1	3	3	..	7	9
South Canara	1	5	2	..	8	7
Malabar	2	5	10	2	19	26
Travancore	2	5	1	..	8	8
Cochin	2	3	1	..	6	6
Mysore	3	9	6	..	18	24
Coorg	..	..	1	1	1	..
Pudakkottai	..	2	1	..	3	2
Ceylon	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	44	108	85	23	260	298

5. Examination Results—(i) University Law Examinations—(a) B.L. Degree Examination, January 1900.—At this examination 46 students appeared from the college direct, i.e., from the Senior B.L. class of 1899, and 24 or a percentage of 52·2 were successful as against 30·1 in 1899. The figures of this and the last four examinations are as follows :—

	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage.
1896.. { From Law College	61	16	26·2
{ Other candidates	69	12	17·3
Total	130	28	21·5
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. 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.

(b) First Examination in Law, May 1900.—At this examination 83 appeared from the college direct and 63 passed, giving a successful percentage of 75·9 as against

29.4 in 1899. The exact results for this and the last four examinations are shown below :—

		Examined.	Passed.	Percentage.
1896..	{ From Law College	265	57	21.5
	{ Other candidates	219	35	15.9
	Total	484	92	19.0
1897..	{ From Law College	245	74	30.2
	{ Other candidates	246	55	22.3
	Total	491	129	26.2
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
1900..	{ From Law College	83	63	75.9
	{ Other candidates	319	161	50.5
	Total	402	224	55.7

The examinees from the Law College for 1900 were all from the second (intermediate) B.L. class, and none from the third (senior) B.L. class, this being the first year after the new rule was introduced, under which the senior class is composed alone of students who have passed the First Examination in Law. It will be observed that whilst the general percentage of success has risen from 25.3 in 1899 to 55.7, a rise of 30 per cent., the percentage in the case of the students appearing direct from the college shows an increase of 46 per cent. In this connection I may add (though the examination does not fall within the scope of this report) that at the recent B.L. Examination of 1901, a percentage of 71.4 of students appearing from the college passed (being an increase on the previous year of 19 per cent.) as against 38.8 amongst other candidates (being an increase of 11 per cent.). It is impossible, I think, not to attribute the high percentages of success during the year 1900 in a great measure to the new prohibitory rule of G.O., No. 690, Educational, dated 7th November 1898, which has unquestionably afforded a great stimulus to hard work in the classes, which, in its turn, naturally effects the record of success in the examinations, as anticipated in your review on the report of the college for 1898-99 (No. 5870, dated 29th May 1899), paragraph 6.

(ii) *Pledership 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
	{ Other candidates	133	13	53	9.7	49.6
	Total	169	20	71	11.8	53.8
1900..	{ From Law College	15	1	1	6.6	
	{ Other candidates	* 185	1	24	1.2	13.5
	Total	200	1	25	.5	13.6

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

With reference to my remarks on this examination which appear in paragraph 5 of my report for 1899-1900, I am glad to be able to report that the High Court has, on the recommendation of the Pledership Examination Board, remodelled the scheme of examination by grouping the subjects and reducing the papers from 10 to 7, at the

same time reducing the papers requiring a prescribed minimum from 5 to 4, and the aggregate minimum from 50 per cent. to 40 per cent. for the first grade and from 33 per cent. to 25 per cent. for the second grade. The severity of the examination has thus been much reduced, and I hope that in the future a reasonable percentage of success will accordingly be the rule, and results such as the above be rendered impossible.

6. *Library.*—The number of volumes in the library on the 31st December 1900 was 1,730 as against 1,641 on the 31st March 1900. Of the new additions, 18 volumes were added to the lending library and 71 volumes to the consulting library. Of the latter number, 16 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.	Calendar year 1900.	1899-1900.	Calendar year 1900.
Students	3,799	3,366	1,768	1,836
Staff	296	217	6	4

The slight increase noted in the number of books lent may be ascribed to the fact that the students of the college now devote all their time to their studies. The college calendar for the current calendar year is daily expected from the press.

7. *Occupation of Students.*—The following summary shows the occupation or otherwise of the students on the 31st December 1900 :—

Class.	Number employed.	Number not employed.	Total number.
Third (Senior) B.L.	3	41	44
Second (Intermediate) B.L.	4	104	108
First (Junior) B.L.	2	83	85
Pledership	* 8	15	23
Total	17	243	260

* Of these, four were either teachers or officials on leave, two were teachers, one was a clerk under a vakil and the other was a reporter to the *Hindu*.

Only 6.5 of the students were employed. In 1899 the percentage was 9.4. As pointed out in paragraph 4 of my report for the official year 1899-1900, the recent changes in the working of the college render it almost impossible for students to now combine office employment with their studies.

8. *Scholarships*—(i) *Morehead Law Scholarship.*—The holder of this scholarship for 1900 was 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 second B.L. class.

(ii) *College Scholarships under Rule XI (i).*—The holders of these two scholarships 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 Summary.*—The following summary shows the receipts and expenditure of the calendar year 1900 as compared with 1899 :—

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net deficit.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1900	(a) 30,333 1 0	40,576 8 3	10,243 7 3
1899	(b) 35,654 0 0	45,398 15 9	9,744 15 9

(a) Includes Rs. 45, library fines, &c.

(b) Includes Rs. 16, library fines, &c.

N.B.—The figures in the "Expenditure" column do not include the amount spent on scholarships and refunds (Rs. 408-11-4 in 1900 and Rs. 428-0-8 in 1899, respectively), but include all other items.

During the year under report a sum of Rs. 1,701-14-5 being the half-yearly municipal assessment due for the previous year was paid with the special sanction of Government in addition to the sanctioned allotment for the year, viz., Rs. 3,403-12-10, and is included in the total expenditure. Further, 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 also included.

As to the deficit shown above, this must not, of course, be compared with the deficit of Rs. 18,229-9-9 which occurred in the last official year 1899-1900, the causes of which I had explained fully in paragraph 4 of my report for 1899-1900. I may add in this connection (though the transactions do not fall within the scope of this report) that if the official year be taken into account, the current year (1900-1901) closes with a deficit of only Rs. 503-4-9 as against the large deficit of Rs. 18,229-9-9 in 1899-1900, the receipts and expenditure (excluding scholarships and refunds, but including all other items) having amounted to Rs. 34,915-14-3 and Rs. 35,419-3-0, respectively. Thus it may be remarked that the calendar years 1899 and 1900 are the only years in the annals of the college in which the college had to work at a financial loss, and I believe that they are the last, and that no deficit is likely to occur during the current calendar year, steps having already been taken to ensure financial equilibrium by reducing the staff and by raising the fees for the B.L. course to Rs. 75 per term.

10. *Service Books.*—The service books of all the members of the establishment, who are required to maintain them under the rules of the Civil Service Regulations, have been written up and verified up to date.

11. *Conclusion.*—As stated in paragraph 1, M.R.Ry. T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar, then First Assistant Professor, resigned at the close of the spring term after a service of seven years in the college, during which time he did much to maintain the standard of the instruction which is necessary. The acting clerk G. V. Appa Rao, who has been in that capacity for four years, was confirmed in his appointment in your Proceedings, Dis. No. 1711, dated 18th March 1901, and the college has thereby secured the services of an excellent official who is exactly suited to the position. On the establishment generally I addressed you recently in my letter, No. 31, dated 21st February 1901.

The staff generally has well earned my thanks for their exertions, which have contributed to make the year under report one of success.

Proceedings, Dis. No. 2747 of 1901.

Under recent orders of Government, the report deals with the calendar instead of the official year and consequently includes the operations relating to a portion of the period covered by the last report.

2. *Staff.*—The changes that occurred during the spring term and the reasons that led to reduction in the staff have been noticed in connection with the last report. During the autumn term, M.R.Ry. T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar, First Assistant Professor, severed his connection with the college and in the arrangements made to fill the vacancy thus caused M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Chariar was appointed fourth assistant professor.

3. *Accommodation.*—A compound wall round the college and a play ground are reported to be absolutely necessary. The Principal is requested to address the Director separately on these points. It is possible that the Military Department may be willing to let part of the land on the esplanade for the use of the College, the Government of India having only prohibited exclusive appropriation of any portion of it.

4. *Library.*—During the period from the 1st April to the end of the year 89 volumes were added to the library. It should be reported whether steps are being taken to bring the catalogue up to date.

5. *Strength and attendance.*—The statement given below compares the strength of the college on the 31st December 1900 with that at the close of the previous year:—

	31st December 1899.	31st December 1900.
Third B.L. class	120	44
Second „	45	108
First „	99	85
Peadership „	34	23
Total	298	260

It will be seen that the number on the rolls at the close of last year showed a decrease of 38 below the figure of the previous year, while compared with the strength on the 31st March preceding there was a fall of only seven. It is reported, however, that, since the close of the year, the strength has risen to 310. It is hoped that this increase will continue. The distribution of students according to the districts from which they were drawn shows that, with the exception of the Nilgiris, every district was more or less represented, Tanjore, Madras and Malabar continuing to retain their positions at the head of the list. Nearly a seventh of the number were from outside the jurisdiction of this department. Only nine of the students in the B.L. classes are reported to have outside employment.

6. *Examinations.*—A decided improvement is noticed in the results of the First Examination in Law, the percentage of success having risen from 29 to 76. All the students that went up were from the second B.L. class and the better results secured at the examination are mainly to be attributed to the prohibition of students who have not passed this examination continuing their studies further. The results of the B.L. and the Peadership Examinations of January 1900 have been noticed in connection with the last report. It is now reported that the scheme of the examination has been remodelled and the Director notes the Principal's expectation that better results will be secured in future.

7. *College Council.*—The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subrahmanya Aiyar resigned his seat on the Council during the year; but the vacancy was not filled up, Government considering it unnecessary to do so. Three meetings were held, the most important subject discussed being the future constitution of the college, proposals in regard to which are now under the consideration of Government.

8. *Finance.*—Including the expenditure on scholarships and refunds, the charges during 1900 aggregated Rs. 40,985, while the receipts amounted to Rs. 30,333. There was thus a deficit of Rs. 10,652, which, if the special items referred to by the Principal be excluded, reduces itself to Rs. 5,458. Steps have already been taken in the way of reducing the staff and raising the fees to ensure financial equilibrium and the Director shares the hope expressed by the Principal that the college will in future be worked at a profit. It is observed that the figures for the financial year just past show a deficit of Rs. 500 only.

9. *General.*—It should be reported whether the suggestion made in the last review to issue the college calendar in January can be conveniently carried out. The question of reorganizing the establishment will be considered on receipt of the orders of Government on the reorganization of the college. The Principal and the staff deserve to be congratulated on the great improvement in the state of the college.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) G. H. STUART,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Law College, with 20 spare copies.
" Principals of other Government Colleges.
" President, College Council, with a spare copy.
" Honourable the Chief Justice, with C.L.
" the Advocate-General, with C.L.
To Government, with C.L.

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Recorded.

(True Extract.)

C. J. WEIR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.To the Director of Public Instruction.
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Educational (190/) Department.

CURRENT No. 640

From

[Name]

The Hon'ble Mr. G. H. Stewart, M.A.,
Bar-at-Law.

[Designation]

Director of Public Instruction.

[Station]

Madras.

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3 MAY 1901

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Dated

3rd May 1901.

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Educational Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit,
for the information of Government, a copy
of my Proceedings N^o 2747, dated 30th April 1901
reviewing the report on the working of the
Law College, Madras, during 1900.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

G. H. Stuart
Director of Public Instruction

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190

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