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Educational (1901) Department.

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ORIGINAL

[Despatch Abstract.]

Teachers in Primary & Secondary Schools.

Comd. to the D.P.O., for report, letter from the Govt. of India on the subject of extending the postal allowance system to teachers employed in both municipal and aided primary and secondary schools.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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Government {1901} of Madras. EDUCATIONAL.

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} 1901.

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ORIGINAL

G.O., No. 348, 24th June 1901.

JUNE.

Teachers in Primary and Secondary Schools.

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction, for report, letter from the Government of India on the subject of extending the Postal Insurance system to teachers employed in board, municipal and aided primary and secondary schools.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Education), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department, dated Simla, 14th June 1901, No. 208.

I am directed to invite a reference to the correspondence which ended with your communication noted in the margin, No. 355, dated the 15th June 1899, furnishing the Government of India with the views of the Governor in Council on certain questions raised in the Secretary of State's despatch to the Government of Bombay, No. 148 (Public), dated the 16th December 1897, relating to the administration of education in India, and, in connection therewith, I am now to address the Government of Madras on the question of the improvement of the present position of school teachers employed in board and municipal schools and also of those employed in aided schools.

2. The Government of India, on a consideration of all the circumstances connected with this important question, are inclined to doubt whether the grant of pensionary allowances to these teachers would be either useful or advisable. In the first place it is not thought desirable to swell the pension list by the addition of many thousands of persons on very small pay whose identification would not be an altogether easy matter; and, again, it is extremely doubtful whether the prospect of eventually receiving a pension calculated on such a small scale would be any real inducement for better men to take service on the small rates of pay that these teachers receive.

3. The object being to remove discontent among teachers and to make the conditions of their service such as to induce them to remain in the occupation continuously, the Governor-General in Council has considered whether this object might not be attained by the establishment of a Provident fund. His Excellency in Council has, however, arrived at the conclusion that the purpose in view is not likely to be served in this manner. For, if the fund is to have any reality and is to represent something tangible to the subscribers, it will be necessary to lay down such a scale of contributions as could only be regarded as oppressive in the majority of cases. The Government of India have, therefore, felt compelled to abandon the idea of a Provident fund as well as that of a system for the grant of pensions to teachers not in Government employ.

4. It has, however, been suggested to the Governor-General in Council that the case of these school teachers might best be met by the extension to them of the benefits of the Postal Life Insurance system. The Government of India are aware that teachers in Government schools can, under existing rules, subscribe to the Postal Insurance fund should they desire to do so; but, so long as it remains with them a matter of option, it is not likely that many of them will do so. The Government of India are, therefore, disposed to think that it should be made a condition of service that no teacher should be employed in future in any Government-aided, municipal or local board primary school unless, within three months of his appointment, he takes out an insurance policy for a sum of perhaps Rs. 150, payable at the age of 50 or 55 or on death if he dies before 50. This sum represents twenty-five months' pay, and it can be secured by a monthly payment of merely nominal amount. Moreover, the policy would hold good whether the teacher left his employment or not.

5. The Government of India would be glad to be placed in possession of the views of the Governor in Council as to the advisability of extending the Postal Insurance system to school teachers of the three classes of primary schools mentioned above and whether, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, a similar arrangement is desirable in respect of the teachers in secondary schools under the same system of management.

ORDER—No. 348, Educational, dated 24th June 1901.

Communicated to the Director of Public Instruction for report at an early date on the subject of the last paragraph of Mr. Hewett's letter.

(True Extract.)

C. J. WEIR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.

Educational (190/) Department.

CURRENT No. 867 A. 4

From

[Name] _____

[Designation] Gent. of India, Home dept

[Station] Simla.

No. 208

Dated 14-6- 1901.

Received _____ 190 .

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SUBJECT.

Requesting the views on the advisability of extending the Postal Insurance system to the teachers in Board, Municipal & aided primary & secondary schools.

BACK PAPERS.

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Educational DEPARTMENT.

C. No. _____, From the Govt of India Home Deptt, No. 208, Dated 14th June 1901.

Circulated for the perusal of G. E. the Governor and the Hon'ble Members. The letter will be comm^d (without circulation of the draft) to the Director of P. S. for report.

J. B. W.
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ORDER No. 348, dated 24-6-1901.

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