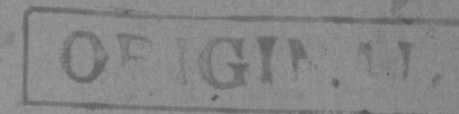
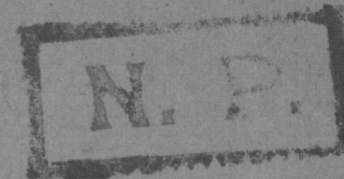


Educational (1904) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 228

DATED 8.4.04



[Despatch Abstract.]

Diploma in apiculture.

*Says the proposals of the Board
of Rev for raising the maxima
of marks assigned to some of the
subjects for the —*

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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ORIGINAL

G.O., No. 228, 8th April 1904.

N. P.

APRIL.

Diploma in Agriculture.

Sanctioning the proposals of the Board of Revenue for raising the maxima of marks assigned to some of the subjects for the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 54, dated 17th February 1904.

Read—the following letter from C. BENSON, Esq., M.R.A.C., Deputy Director of Land Records and Agriculture, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 17th August 1903, No. 1102-A :—

Referring to the arrangement, sanctioned in G.O., No. 1046, Revenue, dated 24th November 1902, whereby an appointment on Rs. 40 per mensem is guaranteed to the “best student” who obtains the Agricultural diploma, I have the honour to draw the attention of the Board to two points, viz.—

(i) The necessity for prescribing some scheme for determining which is the “best” student; and

(ii) the effect which this promise must have on the chances which this department will have of obtaining a choice of men for purely agricultural work.

2. The first question is mixed up with the system on which the examinations for the diploma are conducted at present, and that by which the results are reported. Formerly, the system was a very objectionable one and the grant of a diploma in agriculture depended on a series of absolutely independent passes—nine in all—but this has, in some measure, been rectified by the orders passed last year for the revision of the course of study at the Agricultural College—G.O., No. 429, Educational, dated 24th July 1902. Under these orders no one can appear for what is practically the diploma examination until he has qualified in certain preliminary subjects. I am not sure from a perusal of the Government Order quoted (*vide* paragraph 2, clause (3)), whether or no the proposal of the Committee that “Agricultural Engineering” should be regarded as one of the preliminary subjects was accepted. But, in future, the real diploma examination will comprise three subjects only—Agriculture, Agricultural Chemistry and Veterinary science and Hygiene (as prescribed for this examination). My recommendation is that the position of the candidates should be determined by the marks awarded in these three subjects—a mere pass being, in the other subjects of study, accepted as sufficient. But, if this suggestion be approved of, it will never do to follow the automatic system which has been in practice heretofore of deciding the question purely and simply by a number of separate passes. The relative importance of the several subjects should be brought into prominence. For this reason, I would suggest that the marks should be awarded on the following scale :—

Agriculture	400
Agricultural Chemistry	200
Veterinary sciences, etc.	100
Total	700

Before too, the result is published the whole marks in these subjects should be considered by the Board of Examiners in agriculture, so that they may, at their discretion, say whether each candidate is fit to receive the diploma. Mr. Keess has

made certain proposals to the Director of Public Instruction on this subject, but I do not see that it is either necessary or advisable to take into consideration the marks which a student may obtain in each and every subordinate subject of study at the college. Such a method would not help us to determine which is the best *agricultural* student which, I take it, is the object of the Government, and would to my mind place an altogether too great a weight in favour of the preliminary studies of the students as compared with the final and special studies which it is desired to encourage. If the results for the diploma were recorded and reported on a scale of marks such as I have suggested, the one who does best in agriculture, and especially in practical agriculture, would almost infallibly appear at the head of the list. According to the plan favoured by the Director of Public Instruction, no such security could be felt, as on his system the same weight would attach to a subject to which nine months' study has been given as to one which is studied throughout the course.

3. On the second question, it is sufficient to point out that at present, under G.O., No. 490, Revenue, dated 4th June 1902, we can only offer to passed students posts as probationers on Rs. 25 per mensem. The prospects of promotion in the Revenue Department must always be superior to any that we can offer, and our only hope of securing a choice amongst the young men who have received an agricultural education must be that we shall be enabled to offer a better initial opening. That this is of the greatest importance will not I think be contested, and the only way out that I can see is to suggest for the consideration of the Board that Government may be asked to sanction the offer to the best student, determined somewhat as I have proposed, of a post as Agricultural Inspector under this department on Rs. 50 per mensem. This is the initial pay at present sanctioned for such posts. This offer might be made whenever we are in want of men; which, it would appear likely, will be pretty frequently in future, as the work of the department expands. Such appointments would have to be probationary at first, but it will be necessary to lay down a satisfactory scale of pay for these men to look forward to. The scale at present in force is not satisfactory, and, in my note, dated 6th January 1899, printed in G.O., No. 740, Revenue, dated 21st August 1901, I proposed a revision thereof; but Government postponed consideration of the matter. In view of the altered circumstances alluded to above, my proposals then made will need some modification. What I would now suggest is, that the scale should be as follows :—

	Pay per month.
	RS.
First and second years	50
Third to fifth year	60—5—70
Sixth to tenth year	75
Eleventh to fifteenth year	90
Sixteenth to twentieth year	120
Twenty-first year and after	150

I would maintain the conditions regarding promotion which I suggested in 1899. If this scale is not sufficient to attract the best material, it will have to be increased; and if any of the present staff wishes to be placed on the revised scale, he should be eligible for it, but this should not be given as a matter of right.

4. So far as regards the inspectors: but I venture to point out that we should be able to give to promising men something better than this. There is, it is true, one post of Sub-Assistant on Rs. 200–10–250 in the department, but that is only a very small chance, and the opening is not great; while the fact remains that, whilst the Board has on more than one occasion tried to obtain some more adequate recognition of his work for the present occupant of the post, this has not been successful. This matter is one which I think demands attention, if it be desired to attract young men of ability to Agricultural study and work. It will be useless to expect that any such supply will be forthcoming, unless it is clear that there is at least as good a prospect in life for them as in other lines.

As work develops it will be necessary to have more men of the grade of Sub-Assistant, and their prospects should, I venture to think, be on a par with that of a Deputy Collector.

Reference on the above, No. 1793, dated 21st August 1903.

Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Deputy Director's letter will be referred to the Director of Public Instruction for favour of opinion.

R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Rev. Sett., L. Rds. and Agri.), Mis. No. 2993, dated 31st August 1903:—

Read—the following letter from C. BENSON, Esq., M.R.A.C., Deputy Director of Land Records and Agriculture, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Camp, Khadiam, 23rd August 1903, No. 1150-A:—

With reference to my letter No. 1102 A, dated 17th August 1903, I have the honour to point out that in writing it I overlooked the case of those probationers who may be or have been appointed under the existing orders, and I think that these men, if after probation they be appointed to be Inspectors, should at once be placed on a rising salary of Rs. 50-5-70 and not be kept at Rs. 50 for two years, as I have suggested should be done in the case of men who are or may be selected for an appointment as Inspector direct on Rs. 50 as being the "best students" of their year at the Agricultural College.

Resolution—Mis. No. 2993, dated 31st August 1903.

Recorded, pending receipt of reply to Reference No. 1793, dated 21st August 1903.

(True Extract.)

R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

Read—the following letter from the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. STUART, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Madras, 25th September 1903, Ref. on Cur. No. 6382:—

In reply to Board's Reference No. 1793, Rev., dated 21st August last, I have the honour to say that I am of the opinion that the marks obtained in all the prescribed subjects should be taken into account in determining the best student for purpose of the guaranteed appointment as is the case in the College of Engineering, and that Mr. Benson's object may be attained by assigning the agricultural subjects named by him higher maxima than the others. I may add that the present examination scheme was drawn up by a Committee, of which Mr. Benson was a member, and that it has not undergone any material alteration.

2. As regards the award of the diploma, it seems to me that if the maxima assigned to the subjects are arranged according to the relative importance of the latter, and if the examination is properly conducted, the results should be a fairly good criterion of the fitness of passed candidates to receive the diploma. To make this

further dependent on the discretion of the examiners would be introducing an element of indefiniteness which might work unsatisfactorily. I think sufficient predominance would be given to agriculture if the maximum for that subject be 400, for agricultural chemistry 200 and for each of the other subjects 100.

Resolution—No. 54, dated 17th February 1904.

In paragraphs 1 and 2 of his letter read above, the Deputy Director of Agriculture submits proposals for determining who is the "best passed student" of the Agricultural College in each year for the purpose of the appointment of Rs. 40 guaranteed in G.O., No. 429, Educational, dated 24th July 1902.

2. A candidate for the "Agricultural Diploma" is required to pass in nine subjects, three of which—Agriculture, Agricultural Chemistry and Veterinary Science and Hygiene—are the most important, the remaining six subjects being only preliminary. Mr. Benson considers it undesirable to take into consideration the marks which the candidate may obtain in each of these subordinate subjects, on the ground that it would give undue prominence to them and would not help in determining who is the best agricultural student. He accordingly recommends that the position of the candidate should be determined by the total of the marks obtained in the three important subjects only, a mere pass in the other subjects being accepted as sufficient, and that to bring into prominence the relative importance of these three subjects, the maximum marks allotted to agriculture and agricultural chemistry should be raised to 400 and 200, respectively. Mr. Benson also considers that discretion should be given to the Board of Examiners to decide upon a consideration of the total marks obtained whether each candidate is fit to receive the diploma.

3. These proposals were referred to the late Director of Public Instruction, and the Director of Agriculture has discussed them with Dr. Bourne and the Inspector-General of Agriculture during his recent visit to this Presidency.

4. Neither the late Mr. Stuart nor the present Director of Public Instruction approves the suggestion that the marks in the preliminary subjects should be wholly ignored, and the Board concurs with them. As long as these subjects form part of the curriculum, they must be considered of some value, and to ignore altogether the marks obtained in them would be to discourage students learning those subjects. Mr. Benson's object that only the best agricultural student should obtain the diploma will be attained by accepting his proposal to raise the maxima in agriculture and agricultural chemistry. As all the officers consulted are agreed on this point, the proposal will be submitted for the sanction of Government.

5. The Board is unable to accept Mr. Benson's last suggestion that the Board of Examiners should be allowed discretion to decide whether even a candidate who obtains the highest aggregate number of marks is fit to receive the diploma. As observed by the late Mr. Stuart, if the maxima are revised as suggested in the preceding paragraph and the examination is properly conducted, the results should be a fairly good criterion of the fitness of candidates to receive the diploma. The present Director of Public Instruction concurs with his predecessor. The adoption of Mr. Benson's proposal would introduce an element of undesirable uncertainty in the examinations and should therefore, in the opinion of the Board, be rejected.

6. On the question of revising the scale of pay of Agricultural Inspectors and improving the prospects of agricultural students, the Board considers it unnecessary to pass orders at present.

(True Copy and Extract.)

V. K. RAMANUJA CHARL,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 228, Educational, dated 8th April 1904.

The proposal of the Board of Revenue in paragraph 4 of its Proceedings read above is sanctioned. The Director of Public Instruction will make the necessary alterations in the syllabi in the subjects of Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry for the diploma in Agriculture.

(True Extract.)

A. G. CARDEW,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
„ Commissioner for Government Examinations.
„ Revenue department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 228, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
8TH APRIL 1904.

[SUBJECT.—Proposal to raise the maxima of certain subjects for the Agricultural diploma examination.]

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 54,
dated 17th February 1904.

Please see draft order submitted below for approval. It may be sent to the Educational department for acceptance before issue.

E. RAJAGOPALA CHARI—16-3-04.

I would submit that Mr. Benson's original proposals were sound. In effect they were that a pass in six of the subjects should be considered a necessary qualification for a competitor for the diploma, but that the examination in those six subjects should not form part of the competition for the diploma. The arguments advanced against this do not seem to touch the real question.

2. The second proposal to vest a discretionary power in the Board of Examiners is perhaps objectionable, and the Board's view may be approved.

3. There does not seem any reason to defer consideration of the question of improving the prospects of Agricultural Inspectors. The Board may be asked to consider Mr. Benson's suggestions.

F. B. EVANS—21-3-04.

I think we may accept the Board's opinion fortified as it is by the concurrence of the late and present Directors of Public Instruction and apparently by that of Mr. Mollison. It seems to me the sounder view.

2. As to the prospects of subordinates in the Agricultural department, I understand that the Director is about to address Government on the whole subject—a very large one. We may wait.

J. N. ATKINSON—22-3-04.

I agree.

G. S[TOKES]—23-3-04.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The following are the marks now assigned to each subject:—

Agriculture—Advanced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Agricultural Chemistry—Advanced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
General Chemistry—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Veterinary Science and Hygiene—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Anatomy and Physiology—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Meteorology and Geology—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Botany—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Agricultural Engineering—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Surveying and Levelling—Intermediate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100

5/8

A. G. CARDEW—29-3-04.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

F. B. EVANS—31-3-04.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

[G.O., No. 228, Educational, dated 8th April 1904.]

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READ ALSO:—

C. No. _____, From the Board of Revs. (Settlement) No. 54, dated 17-2- 1904

ORDER

No. 228, dated 8.4. 1904

The proposal of the Board of Revenue in para: 4 of its Proceedings read above is sanctioned. The Director of Public Instruction will make the necessary alterations in the syllabi in the subjects of Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry for the Diploma in Agriculture.

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To the ~~SP~~ 5
 - Comm. for Govt Examinations 4
 - Revenue reports. 7 } Desd 25/5

