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D/D/b

Educational (1905) Department.

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G.O., No. 517

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ORIGINAL

[Despatch Abstract.]

Brecks' Memorial School, Ootacamund

approving, with remarks, Mr. Bosaittwaite's propo
for the future administration of 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.

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

1905.

Enclosures

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ORIGINAL

G.O., No. 517, 28th July 1905.

Brecks' Memorial School, Ootacamund.

Approving, with remarks, Mr. Braithwaite's proposals for the future administration of the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O., No. 346, Educational, dated 22nd May 1905.

ABSTRACT.—Approving finally the scheme for the future administration of the Brecks' Memorial School, Ootacamund, and requesting the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals for the maintenance of the school on its new basis.

II

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. A. G. BOURNE, D.Sc., F.R.S., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department (through the Accountant-General, Madras).

Dated—Madras, the 29th June 1905.

No.—Ref. on Cur. No. 3603.

With reference to G.O., No. 346, Educational, dated 22nd May 1905, approving finally the scheme for the future administration of the Brecks' Memorial School, Ootacamund, and requesting me to submit proposals for the maintenance of the school on its new basis and for the transfer of the native children now in the school to some other school in Ootacamund, I have the honour to state that, in the circumstances reported by Mr. Braithwaite in paragraphs 1 to 3 of his letter No. D/432, dated 10th June 1905 (copy enclosed), it will not be possible to run the school as a European school with effect from 1st July 1905. No provision also has yet been made for the native pupils now in the school and it will take some time before this can be done. The difficulties in the way of starting a European school at once are great. The necessary pupils for the school now almost entirely wanting can only be gathered together by making it known not only in this Presidency but all over India that the institution is worked by Government and is or will be equipped with a competent staff. It is also necessary that steps should be taken immediately to secure the services of a thoroughly good headmaster. In the meantime as the school has to be taken over on the 1st July there is no alternative but to take it over as it stands with its present staff and establishment and work it on its present lines for some time longer and in accordance with this course I beg to submit the necessary proposition and reappropriation statements for sanction.

ENCLOSURES.

Copy of a letter from the Inspector of European and Training Schools, dated 10th June 1905, No. D. 432.

I have the honour to report that in connection with the reconstruction of Brecks' Memorial School, Ootacamund, there are two difficulties in the way of starting it afresh on 1st July 1905 :—

- (1) The supply of boys.
- (2) The supply of teachers.

In connection with these two points I saw Mr. Murray (in the absence of Mr. Mullaly) and found out that there are only three boys in Ootacamund of the classes for whom the school is intended, at present not attending any school. Further enquiries showed that four small boys were transferred by their parents from Brecks' to Saint Agnes Poor European boys' school on account of the low class of natives admitted into the former.

I then saw the Rev. A. W. Atkinson, Principal of the Lawrence Asylum, with a view to finding out whether many boys go to that institution as paying boarders whose parents reside in the Nilgiris. He has, however, at the present time only three such boys. I then enquired whether of the paying boarders there (who are recruited from all over the Presidency) there are any considerable number who would be likely to prefer paying greatly higher fees for the privilege of sending their boys to Brecks'. He says, however, that he knows that the great majority of them could not afford to do so.

Other boys in Ootacamund who might care to come to Brecks' school when it is properly started and in good working order are boys mostly of Roman Catholic parents who are sent to St. Joseph's Boarding Institution, Coonoor. They probably would prefer to keep them in Coonoor from religious motives. These statistics show that there would be no chance of forming a European school out of the material available on the Nilgiris.

The other alternative then is to start a boarding school: the question of the attracting of boys immediately to an institution like Brecks' (which has not had a very good reputation lately) and of the boarding them if they come is one of the difficulties in the way of starting the school on new lines at once.

2. The second point to be raised is one of teachers.

There are at present two teachers at Brecks' school neither of whom probably would find a place on the proposed staff. Another man must be appointed from elsewhere. I hear on good authority that the parents of the classes for whom the school is intended are guided very greatly by the attainments and standing of the headmaster.

Mr. Stone in his proposal suggested getting a man on Rs. 150 and said that it would be necessary to get him from Northern India. But I hear that this is not likely to attract pupils and has another great disadvantage. This drawback is a most serious one: any man who is put in on Rs. 150 and not in any graded service has no personal stake in the school. Rather than take the great trouble which will undoubtedly be necessary to build up a school of the kind contemplated he will probably let it slide, imagine too quickly that the school is not going to succeed, and try his utmost to better his prospects somewhere else. To attract, then, the class of pupils desired and to make it a success it is necessary to have a man of high attainments and it is indispensable to have a pure European (a B.A. trained in England if possible). Secondly he should be put on graded pay and his promotion and further prospects will then depend solely upon his present success. He would thereby not only have a stake in the well-being of the school but his whole future would depend upon it. Judging by the past history of the school headmasters this is an absolute *sine qua non*.

The course then which obviously suggests itself is to send for a trained B.A. from England and offer him an appointment in the Provincial Service. Such a man could probably be attracted for Rs. 200 or Rs. 250 and the prospect of Government service. The question as to whether he should be allowed a house also would arise and this would probably be found advisable. Such a house also might be used as a boarding house in the beginning stages and would thus serve a doubly useful purpose.

This finishes the point about the supply of teachers.

This is obviously an insurmountable obstacle to starting the school on new lines at once. Therefore it would be better to give up all idea for these two reasons of starting the school in July.

If the school must be started in July 1905 as a European institution it is doomed to failure.

In the event of these proposals being accepted, I would suggest that—

A. Advertisements should be immediately put into all the principal Indian papers. (An idea which has been put into my mind by Mr. Murray seems not improbable, viz., that in consequence of the recent earthquakes in North India many parents would like to find a good boarding school in the south. This, if true, would be a reason for specially advertising in North Indian papers and would provide some hope that the institution may attract boarders from all parts of India.)

B. A separate post must be created in the Provincial Service and a suitable man appointed in England.

3. In order to inspire confidence Mr. Stone thought it necessary that there should be a staff as follows :—

	A month.
	RS.
Headmaster	150
First Assistant Mistress	60
Second do.	30
Munshi	15
Gymnastic Instructor	10
Poon	8
Total	273

But it seems to me this is unnecessary and would not in the least give confidence. It is no use paying for a large establishment before there is any one to teach. I think confidence would be sufficiently inspired by the fact that the school is "backed" by Government and that they have been at pains to secure the best possible man from home.

4. The man's duty would then be to begin by himself to work up the school and establish a connection just as a man beginning a private venture has to do in England. The first term he might have less than 10 or 15 boys. This would not indicate failure in the least. It would simply be the outcome of proceeding on *natural* lines.

As for the necessity of many teachers to provide for the possibility of the boys being ready to go into different classes, I do not think that need be taken into account. It does not prove an insuperable difficulty in "young" schools in England and I do not see that any provision need necessarily be made for such a case at present. If the man could come out in October or November he would have the chance of looking about him and trying to work up a connection. The school could then be started in January if considered advisable. This would give time for the advertisements to have some effect and for various other arrangements to be made.

5. *Estimate of cost.*—The cost to Government would be rather heavy in the beginning. Suppose, a man was appointed on Rs. 200 which, I should imagine, is the lowest figure; there would also be a peon on Rs. 8; possibly arrangements might also have to be made for the services of a munshi and drawing master, but there would be no need at the beginning to have full-time men and the cost of both together would probably not exceed Rs. 15 at the outset.

I think there would be at first no need for a separate gymnastic instructor. Supposing a house were procured for the headmaster—

	RS.
Headmaster	200
House-rent	60
Munshi and drawing teacher	15
Peon	8
Total ...	283

Against this there would be a certain fee income. At first this would be small and very likely not much over Rs. 100. With the growth of the school the necessity for other teachers would arise and the fee income would also increase. Probably incidental expenses of upkeep, furniture, apparatus, library books, prizes, etc., would amount to an average of Rs. 500 per annum. If the school could be worked on these lines the cost to Government would not be great. But if the establishment is to be kept up to a certain strength all the time the cost would be greatly increased.

6. Why not get the man out and give him a chance? This appears from the accounts of Messrs. Handcock, Mr. Murray and others, to be the only possible solution of the problem. We must start with the absolute certainty that a school started with the present establishment and dependent upon Nilgiri boys is doomed to failure. The scheme outlined here is the only kind of scheme which seems at all likely to lead to success. Many details of it will need careful revision and with the growth of the school conditions would be constantly changing. In this connection it would be as well to mention here that the growth of the school would call for a boarding establishment. But for the present boarding might be provided in the headmaster's house.

7. If this scheme commends itself to the authorities I might be allowed to manage the advertisements and correspondence temporarily as there would be no one else recognised as having any official connection with Breeks' school. I may say that I should be very glad to do so and to try to work up a connection with the hope of the school being opened on new lines in January next or whatever time, not earlier than that, would seem advisable.

STATEMENT of Proposition for revision of establishment.

Order sanctioning present establishment, Government of Madras, Educational Department.		Office to which the proposition refers.	Present scale.						Proposed scale.						Nature of charge.		
Number.	Date.		Number.	Designation.	Pay.			Average cost.	Number.	Designation.	Pay.			Average cost.	Proposition.		
					Minimum.	Increment.	Maximum.				Minimum.	Increment.	Maximum.		Increase per month.	Decrease per month.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
No. 346, Educational.		Brekes' Memorial School, Ootacamund.							1	Headmaster	rs.	..	100	rs.	100	100	As the Trustees of the school have found it impossible owing to want of funds to carry it on in a satisfactory manner in accordance with the terms of the trust relating to the school, it has been decided by Government that it should be taken under departmental management with effect from 1st July 1905.
22nd May 1905.									1	First Assistant	..	..	40	..	40	40	..
									1	Second Assistant	..	..	25	..	25	25	..
									1	Third Assistant	..	..	20	..	20	20	..
									1	Gymnastic Instructor	..	..	5	..	5	5	..
									1	Peon	..	..	10	..	10	10	..
								1	Night watchman	..	..	5	..	5	5	..	
								1	Hindustani munshi	..	..	15	..	15	15	..	
								1	Writer	..	..	15	..	15	15	..	
										Total	235	..	235	235	235	..	

REAPPROPRIATION statement.

Major, minor, sub. and detailed heads of budget.	Heads of estimate proposed to be increased.				Heads of estimate proposed to be reduced.			
	Amounts as in the sanctioned estimate.	Actual expenditure up to date.	Probable expenditure during remainder of the year.	Amount of additional allotment required.	Amounts as in the sanctioned estimate.	Actual expenditure up to date.	Probable expenditure during remainder of the year.	Amount available for reappropriation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
22.-E. Education—Government Schools, General—Secondary schools for boys	29,500	31,600		* 2,100	..	..	..	..
22.-D. Education—Government Colleges, Professional—Law College, Madras—Salary of the Principal and Senior Professor.	..	..	..	..	15,000	12,900		2,100

RS.
 * Salaries of the staff and establishment for eight months from 1st July 1905 to 28th February 1906 1,880
 Contingencies, etc. 160

Total .. 2,040

In round numbers .. 2,100

Establishment charges will be incurred in the current year only for eight months as the salary for March is payable only in April of the next year.

III

Endorsement by W. DOBBIE, Esq., Accountant-General, Madras, dated 8th July 1905, No. T. 99/4095.

In forwarding the enclosed proposition statement received with letter No. 3603, dated 29th June 1905, from the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, I have the honour to state that there is no audit objection to the proposal being sanctioned by Government.

2. The proposed reappropriation requires the sanction of Government in the Financial Department.

Order—No. 517, Educational, dated 28th July 1905.

Mr. Braithwaite's proposals are generally approved and he should be requested to conduct the correspondence referred to in paragraph 7 of his letter. His scheme should be introduced by the 1st of January 1906 at latest.

2. Meanwhile the school may, if this is unavoidable, be continued on its present lines with the omission of any undesirable element amongst the native pupils and the proposition statement, submitted by the Director of Public Instruction, will be sanctioned for a period of six months with effect from the 1st of July 1905.

3. The Director should, however, at the earliest possible date within this period by which the difficulties he alludes to can be surmounted, transfer the native pupils of the school to other Ootacamund schools having made suitable provision for their education therein as required by the provisions of the scheme for the management of

the school set forth in schedule II appended to the notification issued under G.O., No. 346, Educational, dated 22nd May 1905, and order the reduction of the staff which, it is presumed, will be unnecessarily large when the majority of the pupils have been transferred elsewhere.

(True Extract.)

H. D. TAYLOR,
 Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
 Financial Department, with proposition and reappropriation statements.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 517, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 28TH JULY 1905.

[SUBJECT.—*Brecks' Memorial School, Ootacamund.*]

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 29th June 1905, No. 3603.

Papers early please.

2. The natives now attending should be carefully shroffed forthwith.

H. D. TAYLOR—10-7-05.

File submitted.

T. KANAKASUNDARAM PILLAI—12-7-05.

A. GALLETTI—13-7-05.

For orders.

2. If the Director's proposals to continue the school on its present lines and with the present staff, until proper arrangements can be made for the native boys now attending, are accepted, the Director of Public Instruction should at least see that those natives, who do not belong to the "better classes" whose inclusion was contemplated by the original Trust deed, are at once eliminated. So long as this objectionable element remains, Europeans and Eurasians are not likely to join.

3. Definite notice should be given to the other natives of the "better classes" to leave at some fixed date, say, 31st December next.

Yes.

J. T[HOMSON].

4. The proposition statement for the retention of the present staff may be sanctioned.

5. I think that the Director of Public Instruction might, as suggested, try and obtain a suitable man from England on Rs. 200. But for the present, and until it can be seen how the school progresses under its new conditions, it seems undesirable to create a special additional post in the Indian Educational Service. It is bound to be some time before the school, as a European school, can make any headway.

H. D. TAYLOR—13-7-05.

This business is quite beyond me. I cannot run a boarding school and I don't think Government has any business to usurp that line of private enterprise. We can if so minded bring out or find in the country a high class teacher, but where are the to-be-taught?

2. Shall we advertise that Government desires to provide a school for Europeans and the higher class of Eurasians on the Nilgiris and desires to know what support will be forthcoming? It is putting the cart before the horse with a vengeance to settle the schoolmaster before the scholars are apparent.

Why? In numberless cases the school accretes round the master.

G. S[TOKES].

3. To clear out the improper or undesirable element out of Brecks' school at the present time would be to shut its doors.

4. "A suitable man from England on Rs. 200" (£160 *per annum*) would not hold the torch of learning very high in this land—even at 7,000 feet above sea level—and does not seem to be what my Honourable Colleagues have in view.

5. I am sure it would be a wiser course to say that Government is prepared to subsidise any one properly qualified who is prepared to adventure on a school in Ootacamund and to put Breeks' school at his disposal.

J. T[HOMSON]—14-7-05.

I think the course suggested by the Inspector of Training and European schools in his letter is all right in principle. When Mr. Hodgson (?) was got out, something of the sort suggested was attempted but Mr. Hodgson got a better billet in Coimbatore and chucked the attempt. My Honourable Colleague's suggestion comes to the same thing almost and if feasible might be tried, but I think there can be no doubt that the headmaster is the foundation on which the whole scheme must stand. Meantime I think the present arrangement (the staff being reduced as may be necessary) must go on till further arrangements can be made, the undesirable element being cleared out. If a man is got as headmaster it is essential that he should have a motive to stay on and work the school.

G. S[TOKES]—14-7-05.

Resubmitted to His Excellency the Governor through the Honourable Member.

2. If the school is to be gathered together by holding out inducements to pupils from Northern India, provision will have to be made for boarding them. This is an undoubted difficulty. Government cannot undertake that responsibility, and it would have to be left to the headmaster to arrange for taking in boarders on his private account. He might be unwilling or unable to take in all applicants and thus the sphere of utility of the proposed school would be narrowed down considerably. Government could not assist in the matter of board and lodging otherwise than by the grant of a small capitation allowance.

3. On the other hand if the master were to take in boarders, the school would in all probability be limited, with the exception of a few day boys, to such boarders, and its public character as a Government institution would not be preserved.

H. D. TAYLOR—15-7-05.

I am as before.

J. T[HOMSON]—17-7-05.

We have notified in the most formal manner possible that the Breeks' school is to be run as a school for Europeans and Eurasians only from the 1st instant, and we must do something to give effect to that decision. But we are also precluded from continuing the present arrangements, a circumstance which seems to have been overlooked.

2. We had better discuss the case in Council to-morrow.

A[MPHILL]—20-7-05.

Council.

H. D. TAYLOR—21-7-05.

[Order in Council.]

Mr. Braithwaite's proposals are generally approved. Meanwhile the school will continue on its present lines.

H. D. TAYLOR—21-7-05.

Please draft for approval. Mr. Braithwaite may be asked to conduct the correspondence as proposed and try to find a suitable headmaster. Director of Public Instruction should arrange at an early date to provide for the necessary instruction of the native pupils in other schools at Ootacamund as provided in the scheme of settlement. Mr. Braithwaite's scheme should be introduced by January 1st at latest.

2. Will Under Secretary please draft on these lines.

H. D. TAYLOR—21-7-05.

The draft placed below is submitted for approval. If approved it may be forwarded to Financial for acceptance. That department has to sanction the reappropriation statement.

P. T. THARYAN—21-7-05.

A. GALLETTI—22-7-05.

Mr. Braithwaite proposes a headmaster on Rs. 200 with house-rent of Rs. 60 and to create for him a special post in the Provincial service. The total emoluments being in excess of Rs. 250 would apparently require India's sanction.

2. It has also to be decided whether Mr. Braithwaite should advertise for the master as well as for the pupils, and whether the master should be brought on to the cadre of the Provincial service, or be outside that service.

H. D. TAYLOR—22-7-05.

To the Financial Department.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Submitted that paragraph 2 of the draft order may be accepted in Financial.

C. M. SCHMIDT—24-7-05.

Accepted.

M. HAMMICK—25-7-05.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

If approved India will be separately addressed. Orders are solicited on paragraph 2 of the note *supra*.

H. D. TAYLOR—26-7-05.

I think the draft meets the orders of Government.

J. T[HOMSON]—27-7-05.

Issue.

2. Director of Public Instruction will no doubt raise the question referred to in paragraph 2 of my note of 22nd July 1905.

H. D. TAYLOR—27-7-05.

[G.O., No. 517, Educational, dated 28th July 1905.]

Confidential

Read again G.O. No. 346, dated 22nd May 1905.

Read also--

C.No.1264, from the D.P.I., No. 3603, dated 29-6-1905.

A.G. T-99/4095, 8-7-1905.

ORDER:-- no. 517 of 28-7-05
P.S.

Mr. Braithwaite's proposals are generally approved and he should be requested to conduct the correspondence referred to in para.7 of his letter. His scheme should be introduced by the 1st of January 1906 at latest.

2. Meanwhile the school may, if this is unavoidable, be continued on its present lines and the proposition submitted by the Director of Public Instruction will be sanctioned for a period of six months with effect from the 1st of July 1905.

3. The Director should, however, at the earliest possible date within this period by which the difficulties he alludes to can be surmounted, transfer the native pupils of the school to other Ootacamund schools as required by the provisions of the scheme for the management of the school set forth in schedule II appended to the notification issued under G.O. No.346 Edl., dated 22nd May 1905, and order the reduction of the staff which, it is presumed, will be unnecessarily large

*with the opinion of any
undeniable element amongst
the native pupils.*

*having
considered
and made suitable provision
for their education therein*

J.

2.

when the majority of the pupils have been transferred elsewhere.

P.T.T.
21-7-05.

A.G.
22-7-05.

22-7-05

To

The D.P.I.

The Financial Department,
with proposition and reappropriation
statements.

} dep
28/7/5

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ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

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