

100-11-4-91.

27/28

Educational (1905) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 598

(6)

14/9

DATED 5-9-05

ORIGINAL

[Despatch Abstract.]

Hill Schools for Europeans.

Receiving letter from the Govt of India
forwarding a copy of the report of the
Committee upon the financial
condition of — in Northern India.

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.

Enclosures

Regd.

1905.

Spare copies

ORIGINAL

G.O., No. 598, 5th September 1905.

Hill Schools for Europeans.

Recording letter from the Government of India forwarding a copy of the report of the Committee upon the financial condition of — in Northern India.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter—from W. S. MARRIS, Esq., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Education).

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department.

Dated—Simla, the 14th August 1905.

No.—540.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of the report submitted by a Committee which was appointed in 1903 by the Government of India to examine the financial condition of the hill schools for

* No. 527/29, dated 14th August 1905.

Europeans in Northern India, together with a copy of a letter * which has been addressed to the Governments of Bengal, the United Provinces and the Punjab which are the only provinces directly concerned with the proposals made in the report. The Government of India think that the Governor in Council may find the report of value in dealing with the questions relating to the Code of European Schools in India which are raised in the Home Department letter No. 531 of this date. In paragraph 5 of that letter reference has been made to the remarks of the Hill Schools Committee upon the existing curriculum, and the papers now sent will assist the Government of Madras in the consideration of that question.

ENCLOSURE.

Letter—from H. A. STUART, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Education).

Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Education Department.

To—the Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces, Education Department.

Secretary to the Government of Punjab (Home), Education Department.

Dated—Simla, the 14th August 1905.

No.—527/29.

I am directed to forward for His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's information a copy of the report submitted by the Committee appointed in 1903 to examine the financial condition of the hill schools for Europeans in Northern India. The Government of India desire that the

report may be carefully considered by the Government of ^{Bengal} the United Provinces. They do not

themselves propose to pass definite orders on all the numerous questions raised, but it is desirable that they should indicate the extent to which they concur in the more important of the proposals submitted by the Committee.

Boys' Schools.

2. The Government of India accept the conclusions of the Committee, summed up in paragraph 8 of their report, that the endowments of the Church of England schools for boys have been insufficiently secured and laxly administered; that in other directions the management has been sometimes unsatisfactory; and that the schools have had to contend in some degree with adverse conditions. But they agree that the chief explanation of the financial failure of certain of these institutions is that the grant-in-aid system has not evoked private effort and has thus failed to fulfil the expectations upon which it was based. In these circumstances, the Government of India concur with the Committee in preferring the third of the alternatives set forth in

paragraph 12 of the report, where it is proposed to "discard the dependence upon voluntary subscriptions and secure, as a matter of public policy, the provision of such education as may be suitable." On this point reference may be made to paragraphs 6, 13, 14, 50 and 197 of the report. It appears to be clear that if substantial aid is not forthcoming the standard of tuition, which is already inadequate, must further decline, with consequent injury to the prospects of a deserving class and to those sections of the public service which are mainly or in part recruited from it. It is probable indeed that in default of assistance from the Government some of the existing schools will sooner or later be closed, and that it will fall to the Government to supply their place at greater expense and by less satisfactory methods than those of the present system.

3. *Scope for private effort.*—But while accepting the conclusion that the schools must be freed from debt and maintained in efficiency by increased grants-in-aid, the Government of India desire to give prominence to two important considerations to which the Committee's report calls their attention. In the first place, they are not prepared to exempt the schools from all dependence upon private effort. It was such effort, stimulated by Bishop Cotton and others, which first led to the institution of the schools and supplied them in some instances with considerable capital funds. It should not be impossible in the present day to effect similar results, though doubtless on a smaller scale, by a renewed appeal, and the local Government should call the attention of the proper authorities to the question of establishing a single fund for strengthening the position of the Church of England schools to which reference is made in paragraph 151 of the report. It would also be well to consider whether, in the case of the schools to which the Government now propose to give special assistance, the task of meeting certain specified requirements cannot still be imposed on private effort. Bishop Cotton, for example, as the Committee point out, while in favour of a fixed fee, advocated the establishment of funds from which children of poorer parents could be admitted to the benefits of his schools. Funds of this nature are already in existence, but there is undoubtedly a wide field for their extension.

4. *Necessity for stricter control.*—The second reservation which must be made in adopting the main principle laid down by the Committee is that the acceptance of so large a degree of financial responsibility on the part of the Government must involve a stricter control than has hitherto been exercised in respect both of the administration of the trusts and of all matters making for educational efficiency. The Government of India entirely agree with the Committee (paragraph 198 of the report) that the terms of the trusts should be revised, and that the property of the specially-assisted schools should be vested in a treasurer of charitable endowments. They also, as at present advised, favour the other conditions specified in that paragraph.

5. *Revision of curriculum.*—In paragraphs 51—55 the Committee have pointed out that systematic teaching in the hill schools is rendered impossible by the great variety of the examinations for the admission of Europeans to the public service. These differ widely from one another in respect of the times at which they are held and of the subjects which they include, and until they are simplified, it is not practicable to devise a suitable curriculum. The local Government will be further addressed on the subject of these examinations. Assuming, however, that they can be simplified and assimilated, the Government of India are disposed to approve the proposals made by the Committee for the revision of the curriculum in the aided hill schools, and they would ask that these recommendations may be examined, and that they may be favoured with the opinion of the local Government as to their suitability. I am to explain in this connection, with reference to the remarks in paragraph 56 of the report, that the Government do not propose that the Committee's curriculum should be extended to schools for Europeans generally. The schools which are governed by the code include a variety of different institutions teaching up to very different standards, and the inclusive code curriculum is necessarily too vaguely defined to determine the scope of the teaching to be given in each different type of school. It may be possible hereafter to remedy this defect, but for the present the terms of the existing code need not be regarded as an impediment to the adoption of a more suitable course of study in these special schools.

6. *Salaries of teachers.*—In paragraph 97 of their report the Committee, as a means of giving precision to their estimates of additional expenditure, have provisionally formulated a uniform scale of emoluments for teachers in the hill schools to which special assistance is to be given. The pay proposed is progressive and thus affords to the efficient teacher an inducement to remain in his appointment, and the suggested scale also involves a considerable enhancement of existing rates which are not sufficiently high to attract fully-qualified men. It will be for the local Government and the managing authorities to consider how far it is financially possible to give full effect to these aims. If the rates recommended by the Committee or some similar scale of pay be given to teachers in the St. Paul's school, Darjeeling, the Naini Tal Diocesan school, and the Bishop Cotton school, Simla, applications will no doubt be received for such grants as will enable salaries to be correspondingly raised in other hill schools of the same standard. The Committee's proposals, therefore, require careful consideration as being likely to involve heavier additional expenditure than at first sight appears. The Government of India also think it necessary, in dealing with the improvement of salaries, to emphasize the Committee's warning that the benefit of a higher scale of salaries must not be indiscriminately extended to men of inferior qualifications recruited on inferior prospects.

7. *Provident funds for teachers.*—As regards the proposals for Provident funds (paragraph 100 of the report) the Government of India do not anticipate that the governing bodies of the schools can be placed in the position to supplement the savings of the teachers by substantial additions from school funds. But they are strongly impressed with the necessity of adopting some system of compulsory saving as a means both of retaining teachers while still efficient and of facilitating their removal when the natural time for retirement from active work has arrived. The present opportunity, when the salaries of some at least of the existing incumbents are being raised and new teachers are being recruited on improved terms, is one which should make it easy to insist upon a system of compulsory deductions from the full salary offered, and the Government of India invite the attention of the local Government to this important suggestion.

8. *Tenure of teachers.*—The Government of India consider that the recommendation of the Committee regarding tenure of teachers (paragraph 103) should be adopted in all aided European schools, and they have included an article to this effect in the revised code.

9. *Grants-in-aid.*—As already stated the Government of India accept the principle (paragraph 118) that the grants-in-aid should be fixed in accordance with the actual needs of each school subject to the conditions regarding management and control which are specified in paragraph 198 of the report. It is not of course intended that the grant should vary from year to year and leave no incentive to economical management or to private effort. The grant might be fixed, in the first instance, for a period of five years, the managing committee being required to maintain the school in efficiency without further assistance of a special kind until the time for revision arrived. In any case, it will probably be advisable that the annual budgets of the schools should be submitted for the approval of the provincial Director of Public Instruction.

10. *Fees.*—The Government of India are disposed to agree with the Committee (paragraphs 120—129 of the report) that no uniform scale of fees should be prescribed. They also agree in the importance of preventing improper competition between different schools, and, as already suggested, they think that the reduction of fees for the poorer pupils is a suitable object for private beneficence. In any event it is essential that the school accounts should clearly show all cases of exemption from the obligation to pay the full recognized fee.

11. *Accounts and audit.*—A further communication will be addressed to you on the subject of accounts and audit (paragraphs 170 and 171). But it may be stated at once that the maintenance of an improved system of accounts and their submission to regular and independent audit are conditions of increased financial aid which should be strictly enforced.

12. *Concentration of schools.*—With reference to the concentration of schools (paragraphs 183—196) the Government of India agree in the principle that it is desirable to limit the number of schools enjoying the privilege of recognition. No new schools should be sanctioned or recognised save on the strongest and clearest grounds of necessity, and no enlargement of an existing school should be regarded as necessary so long as it contains boys in any considerable number who might suitably be provided for in other existing schools. [The attention of the Lieutenant-

Governor of the ^{United Provinces} Punjab is invited to the remarks on the subject contained in paragraphs 187—190 of the report.]

13. *Special recommendations.*—The Committee's report concludes with an enumeration of their separate recommendations for each school in respect of which special and immediate action is required. [The local Government will be separately addressed regarding such of these

proposals (paragraphs 199—215 of the report) as specially concern the ^{Bengal} Bengal schools, ^{Naini Tal school} Naini Tal school, ^{Bishop Cotton school, Simla} Bishop Cotton school, Simla.]

Girls' Schools.

14. The foregoing observations are special to the schools for boys. The Committee's report shows that the girls' schools generally are in a solvent condition, that the curricula are fairly suitable, and the salaries sufficient to attract the best material available. [Two schools, however, the Diocesan girls' school Darjeeling, and the Naini Tal Diocesan girls' school (now the All Saints' school), have called for special notice, and I am to commend the remarks in paragraph 182 of the report to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor.]

Conclusion.

15. The Government of India will solicit the sanction of the Secretary of State to the grant of a subvention from Imperial funds in aid of European and Industrial education. The amount of this subvention, if approved, the manner of its apportionment among the different provinces and the objects to which it may be applied will be matters for future determination. But it seems to the Government of India that, with the assistance which they hope to be in a position to afford, there should be no difficulty in providing from Provincial revenues for the requirements of the hill schools. The restoration of the insolvent schools to a position of stability and the introduction in some shape of the principal reforms recommended by the Committee are matters requiring early action. It will then remain for the local Government to decide to what extent and how soon it will be possible to give effect to the numerous but not unimportant subsidiary suggestions contained in this valuable report.

Order—No. 598, Educational, dated 5th September 1905.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Copy to the Director of Public Instruction (with copy of report).

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 598, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
5TH SEPTEMBER 1905.

[SUBJECT.—*Report on the Financial Condition of the Hill Schools for Europeans
in Northern India.*]

*From the Government of India, Home Department, No. 540, dated 14th
August 1905.*

Circulated for the perusal of His Excellency the Governor and the Honourable
Members.

R.N.—25-8-05.

P. T. THARYAN—25-8-05.

H. D. TAYLOR—25-8-05.

A[MPHILL]—29-8-05.

J. T[HOMSON]—31-8-05.

G. S[TOKES]—31-8-05.

The draft placed below is submitted for approval.

P. T. THARYAN—1-9-05.

A. GALLETTI—4-9-05.

H. D. TAYLOR—5-9-05.

[G.O., No. 598, Educational, dated 5th September 1905.]

C. No. 1503, From the Govt. of India, Home Deptt No 546, dated 14-8-1905.

利

1952
57915

Recorded.

May
16/15

Ms
a19

Am
7-5-07

copy to the O.P.P. with copy
of report. } Delivered 6/9/5

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
100

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITO.

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.F.—

- A = Print in full.
- B = Not to be printed.
- C = Print abstract only.
- D = Print heading only.

NUMBER OF COPIES
REQUIRED.

Order complete.
Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

Print with note

78
89/15

note 18