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[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Assembly Question - Presidency
College Reorganisation Committee report
Papers recorded.

Back Papers.

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SECRETARIAT OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE (ASSEMBLY SECTION)

18-2-1949.

STARRED.

M.A. SALAM BAHIB BAHADUR, M.L.A.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

* Q.NO.1683.

Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to publish the report of the Committee appointed by the Government to go into the question of making the Presidency College a High Grade Research Institute?

PSK/18-2.

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94. *18/4* *2*

Draft answer
A copy of the report is laid on the table on the House.

by 8/4

To the M.L. Sect. (5 copies with 350 copies of report.)
" Pub. (Ele.) Dept (with enclosure)
28/2.

To P.H.U.O. 15504-1/47 A
dated 14-4-49

pl. ask section for enclosure

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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENCY COLLEGE REORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

The Government of Madras, when appointing the committee for the reorganization of the Presidency College gave the terms of reference as follows:—

- In a subsequent memorandum the following item was added to the terms of reference :

2. In addition to these terms of reference, the Principal of the College has been kind enough to supply us in advance with particulars regarding the running of the College, and details regarding equipment and staff, in the various departments. He has also supplied us with the confidential Government Order of the Government of Madras sanctioning 6 posts of Chief Professors in the Madras Educational Service on a scale of pay of Rs. 300-50/2-700-75/2-1,000 for the current year. During our deliberations we visited the various departments and discussed with the heads of those departments about the possibilities of development in their respective subjects.

4. The Presidency College is over a hundred years old, and in the course of its long history has rendered great services to the cause of education in the Province of Madras. Amongst its alumni are to be found many who have gained distinction in different walks of life, and helped to sustain the reputation of the College as a centre of learning and culture. In particular, there have been not a few who have achieved high reputations in the fields of scholarship and of scientific research. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that research has not in the past played as prominent a part in the activities of the College as was desirable.

and that in recent years research has dropped out from the programme of work of several of its departments of study. This is a situation which clearly cannot be considered as satisfactory. In the context of the present time, the most useful purpose which the College could serve in the larger interests of the country is to produce in reasonable numbers highly trained men in various branches of knowledge, including the humanities, as are now needed for national development. We are, therefore, in entire sympathy with the idea expressed in our terms of reference of developing the College mainly as an institution for higher teaching and research. Madras badly needs an institution with such aims. At the same time, we feel that the century-old function of the College as an institution for general education cannot be wholly abrogated. While, therefore, we welcome the decision of the Government to abolish the teaching of Intermediate classes in the College, we are of opinion that a similar step need not be taken with respect to the B.A. and B.Sc. classes. We feel, however, that only such students as can benefit by the superior type of opportunities now contemplated should be admitted to these courses, and not in such large numbers as to form a burden to the staff engaged in higher teaching and research.

5. The success of any scheme of reorganization depends on the possibility of the College securing the services of highly competent teachers and of providing such opportunities for work as will enable them to function usefully. We have devoted much time and thought to those questions, and worked out a scheme by which we hope that the aims in view will be realized in due course of time. However, at present, there is a great demand for qualified men and in particular a serious shortage of scientific man power in the country. Hence, we do not think it at all likely that our scheme could be implemented in its entirety forthwith, even if the necessary funds be made available at once. The scheme, therefore, would have to be implemented in stages as and when teachers of the right type become available. Meanwhile, the work of the College will have to go on and it will therefore be necessary during an interim period to utilize the service of the existing staff in the best manner possible.

II. THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COLLEGE.

6. The aim which we have held in view in drafting a scheme of reorganization is that of developing the Presidency College into an institution where the quality and the standard of higher teaching are comparable with those in any institution of a similar nature in any part of the world and to encourage original research of a high order. The practical achievement of these aims involves the solution of many difficult problems, academic, administrative and financial, requiring much thought and close attention. Some of these problems have already been indicated in the foregoing paragraphs, namely, that of selecting teachers having the requisite character and ability and of fitting them

into the existing framework of the College. Numerous other problems will also arise from time to time, the nature of which will be apparent from the later parts of the present report. After careful consideration we are unanimously of opinion that in these circumstances and in order to fulfil the aims and objectives set forth above, a fundamental change is necessary in the administrative set-up of the College. In this connexion, our recommendation is that the Government should constitute a Governing Body for the College, and that this should be the first step towards the reorganization of the College.

7. In order to fulfil the aims and objectives set forth above, the Governing Body which we have proposed will administer the College on behalf of the Government, will apply for and receive grants, distribute them to the various departments, will initiate reforms and development schemes and be generally responsible for the maintenance of the College. If the College continues to be a branch of the Education department like other Government Colleges in the Province, we are of the opinion that the College will not receive that special consideration and attention which are essential if the College is to develop into an institution of the kind we have in mind. A Governing Body, composed of men of high distinction, will be able to speak on behalf of the College and command the respect of the public. They will have the interests of the institution they serve at heart and will give it continuity of development and constant vigilance. They will be in a position to initiate the expansion schemes in the different branches of study and to investigate recommendations made by the Professors and the Principal and take necessary action. Hence we consider the constitution of the Governing Body as the first step in reorganization.

8. We suggest that the Governing Body of the Presidency College be constituted on the following lines:—

(i) *The Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras.*—As the Presidency College is a constituent College of the Madras University, we are of the opinion that the Vice-Chancellor should be on the Governing Body.

(ii) *The President of the Indian Academy of Sciences.*—As the head of an organization devoted to the promotion of scientific research, the President of the Academy will be in a position to give useful advice on matters concerning scientific research.

(iii) *The President of the Presidency College Old Students' Association.*—As a distinguished citizen and old student of the College, he will have the interests of the College at heart.

(iv) *The Principal of the College.*—As the head of the College, the Principal should be a member of the Governing Body. He will be able to explain administrative matters to the Governing Body and translate their resolutions into action more effectively.

(v) *The Director of Public Instruction.*

(vi) *A representative of the Southern India Mill Owners' Association.*—In view of the close relationship between industry and research, we are of the view that a representative of organized industry in the Province should be on the Governing Body.

(vii), (viii), (ix) & (x) Four persons of outstanding position in their respective fields, one from each of the following subjects to be nominated by the Government:—

- (a) Physical Sciences.
- (b) Natural Sciences.
- (c) Linguistics.
- (d) Other Humanities (Sociological Sciences, Economics, History, etc.).

(xi) One person who has rendered eminent services to the cause of education to be nominated by the Government.

Nominated members will serve for a period of three years. The Chairman of the Governing Body would be nominated by the Government from amongst these eleven members.

We are convinced that the Governing Body, constituted as above, representing all branches of knowledge and educational administration would be able to develop the College as a first-class institution for higher teaching and research.

9. Meetings of the Governing Body—

- (1) The Governing Body will ordinarily meet once per term.
- (2) Other meetings can be called either by the Chairman or by a requisition sent to the Chairman by three or more members.
- (3) Five members shall form a quorum for its meetings.
- (4) The Secretary to the College will also act as Secretary to the Governing Body but will not be a member.

10. Powers of the Governing Body—

- (i) The Governing Body will have full powers with regard to the general administration of the College.
- (ii) It will apply for and receive grants from the Government on the block system and allot them to the various departments.
- (iii) The Governing Body will receive and administer endowments from private individuals and public bodies for the purposes of the College.
- (iv) It will have powers to advertise for the posts of Principal, Professors, Assistant Professors, etc., appoint Selection Committees to choose the most suitable candidates, and appoint them with the concurrence of the Government.
- (v) It will have powers to establish new Chairs for new branches of study, put up buildings, buy capital equipment, etc., out of the grants received from the Government.
- (vi) The Governing Body will award Research Fellowships on the recommendation of the Senatus.

(vii) The Governing Body will prepare an annual report on the activities of the College for the preceding twelve months which will be forwarded to the Government.

11. We are of the view that every effort should be made to create a tradition whereby the Governing Body will have wide powers with regard to the College and the Government would not ordinarily interfere in its work. The approval of the Government for confirming appointments, etc., should be of a formal nature.

III. THE SENATUS.

12. In order to co-ordinate the work of various departments of the College, the heads of departments should be formed into a body to be known as the Senatus with the Principal as Chairman. The Secretary to the College will act as Secretary to the Senatus but will not be a member.

13. Powers of the Senatus—

- (i) The heads of the various departments will submit their annual budget to the Senatus who will examine them and pass them on to the Governing Body with their recommendations.
- (ii) The Senatus will also examine any new proposals and forward them to the Governing Body for consideration.
- (iii) The Senatus will award research scholarships on the recommendation of the heads of departments.
- (iv) The minutes of every meeting of the Senatus will be forwarded immediately to the Governing Body and will be brought before the next meeting of the Governing Body for record, comment or action as may be needed.
- (v) On the basis of material furnished by the heads of departments and consolidated by the Principal, the Senatus will prepare and forward to the Governing Body for information at each of its ordinary meetings, a brief report on the activities of the College in the interval, including especially progress in research work and its publication.

14. We consider it essential that, in course of time, certain conventions should be developed between the Senatus and the Governing Body so that the Senatus will act in an advisory capacity on all matters concerning the College and the Governing Body will be able to act on that advice. Since the Principal will be Chairman of the Senatus and also a member of the Governing Body, he will be in a position to act as a co-ordinating link between those two bodies.

IV. THE PRINCIPAL OF THE COLLEGE.

15. The Principal would be the academic, administrative and financial head of the College.

16. The Principal should have qualifications similar to those which we have indicated as necessary for a Professor and have a

teaching experience of at least ten years. He must be a person of academic eminence and should preferably have some administrative experience.

While ordinarily the claims of the Professors should be considered for the principalship, it should also be open for the Governing Body to recruit directly from outside.

17. He should act as a unifying and co-ordinating influence on the various departments so that the College will be a properly integrated educational unit instead of just being composed of individual departments. He should be a man of high distinction in the educational sphere in some branch of study that is being taught in the College and should be given opportunities for research in that branch if he so desires. He should not, however, be the head of any department.

18. In order that the Principal may effectively carry out his duties, we are of opinion that he must be relieved of much of the routine work that is attached to the post at present. To achieve this, a Secretary to the College should be appointed. He would be in charge of such routine matters as preparing time-tables, checking accounts, etc. The Principal may also delegate other matters to the Secretary with the permission of the Governing Body in order that he might concentrate on matters of vital importance to the College.

19. We would recommend that the salary of the Principal be Rs. 1,250—50—1,500 plus an entertainment allowance of Rs. 250 per mensem. This allowance is suggested since we feel that, in order to promote a friendly atmosphere in the College and to act as an adviser, the Principal should entertain both students and staff periodically in small batches, and thus have opportunities of meeting every student and member of the staff informally.

V. THE SECRETARY TO THE COLLEGE.

20. The Secretary to the College will be selected by the Governing Body after due advertisement and consideration of the applications received. He will then be appointed with the concurrence of the Government. We would recommend that the scale of pay of the appointment be fixed at Rs. 500—25—750.

21. *Duties of the Secretary.*—(i) The Secretary of the College will be in charge of all routine matters connected with the College.

(ii) He will also perform such other duties as may be assigned to him and generally assist the Principal in the administration of the College.

(iii) He will keep records of the proceedings of the Senatus and of the Governing Body and act as Secretary to these bodies but will not be a member of either body.

(iv) It will also be his duty to assist the heads of various departments to get equipment, stores, etc., with the least possible delay and provide them with clerical assistance whenever necessary.

VI. PROFESSORS.

22. We are of the opinion that the special scale of pay announced by the Government for the Chief Professors, namely, Rs. 300—50/2—700—75/2—1,000 is not such as would suffice to attract to-day persons having the requisite qualifications. It is most essential that men who are appointed Professors under the reorganization scheme should be men of real distinction capable of a high standard of teaching and of directing research. The success of the scheme will depend ultimately on the type of men appointed as Professors, and, therefore, most careful consideration should be given to the qualifications of those who are to be chosen. We, therefore, recommend a scale of pay of Rs. 500—50—1,000, the initial salary being fixed suitably to the circumstances of the case at any stage in the scale. The minimum of the grade that we have recommended is not so high as to rule out a young man who might be considered fit for appointment as a Professor by virtue of his brilliant work and qualifications. The maximum of the grade, on the other hand, is high enough, we hope, to attract persons of experience and proved worth.

23. *Selection of Professors.*—The Governing Body will advertise the posts of Professors and after the last date for receiving applications, will constitute a selection committee for each branch of study as follows:—

(i) One member of the Governing Body to act as Chairman for all selection committees for a period of three years.

(ii) The Principal of the College.

(iii), (iv), (v) & (vi) Four experts chosen on an all-India basis, two from the same branch of study and two from the same or an allied branch of the subject.

The experts, of course, will be different for the selection of Professors for the different departments, but the Chairman and the Principal of the College will be members of all the Committees.

24. In making their recommendations, the selection committee will have before them a statement regarding the nature of the work expected of the Professors and of the qualifications regarded as desirable in the persons to be chosen for the appointment. While we recognize the advantage to be derived by a person of the requisite capacity having spent a certain period abroad in higher study and research, we would not consider this to be a *sine-qua-non* for the appointment of a Professor in the College, as this might result in the exclusion of highly qualified candidates.

The Selection Committee will meet, consider the applications, call for interviews if necessary and submit a panel of names in order of merit, of one name if there is only one suitable applicant, or no name at all if there is no suitable candidate. The selection committee will also be free to suggest names of people suitable for the post even if they have not applied. The Governing Body will then appoint the Professor with the concurrence of the Government.

25. We shall consider later the details of the organization of teaching and research in the College. It will suffice here briefly to indicate that we propose the ultimate abolition of the existing posts of additional Professors and the creation of a number of independent departments, each having a Professor at its head with Assistant Professors, research Fellows, and senior and junior research scholars to assist him and to carry on higher teaching and research in the department.

26. *Duties of the Professors.*—(i) The Professor will be the head of the department of study in his subject.

(ii) He will actively engage in research work and also take upon himself a substantial share of the regular teaching work of the department, especially that of the highest grades.

(iii) He will allot the rest of the teaching work amongst the Assistant Professors, Fellows and research scholars.

(iv) He will direct research in the department.

(v) He will have powers to place orders for stores, equipment, etc., for his department up to the limit of the sanctioned yearly budget through the Principal.

(vi) He will be responsible for the successful conduct of the department and especially for the organization of teaching and research.

(vii) He will co-operate with the heads of other departments effectively in the promotion of the above objects.

NOTE.—The duties of the Professor should be specified in his contract of appointment.

VII. ASSISTANT PROFESSORS.

27. The qualifications for Assistant Professors should, in our opinion, be of the same general nature as those to be expected of Professors, except that in the majority of cases they would be younger men. But nonetheless, as far as possible, the selection should be equally strict and made in the same formal manner, except that the Professor who is the head of that particular department should be one of the experts on the selection committee. In view of the high qualifications expected, we recommend the scale of pay of Rs. 250—25—500.

28. *Duties of Assistant Professors.*—The Assistant Professors will be expected to take part in the teaching work of the department and to engage themselves actively in research.

To ensure the smooth working of every department, all Assistant Professors should be asked to sign a contract promising loyal co-operation in carrying out the work of the department as directed by the Professor.

VIII. SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS.

29. In order to encourage research of a high order, we recommend that a sufficient number of research scholarships and fellowships be endowed so that young men of talent can avail themselves of them and stay on in the College to do research work and at the same time take some part in teaching also. We feel the institution of these scholarships and fellowships to be vitally important to an institution of the kind we envisage, because these men after gaining experience in research and teaching will go out to staff other research institutions that are being started in many parts of the country or as Professors and Assistant Professors in other Colleges.

30. We recommend the institution of the following types of award:—

(a) Junior scholarships at Rs. 100 per mensem for a maximum period of two years.

(b) Senior scholarships at Rs. 150 per mensem for a maximum period of three years.

(c) Research fellowships at Rs. 250 per mensem for a maximum period of five years.

These should be made renewable every year.

31. Ordinarily, a student who has taken an Honours or a Master's degree, will be eligible for a junior scholarship, one who has taken M. Litt., M.Sc., or Ph.D., will be eligible for a senior scholarship and one who has taken Ph.D., or D.Sc., will be eligible for a research fellowship. These scholarships are intended to enable students of talent to prosecute research work under the direction of the Professor. In this connexion, we recommend that the posts of Demonstrators and Tutors be abolished and that the work being done by them at present is distributed among the Research scholars and fellows.

32. *Award of Scholarships and Fellowships.*—The head of the department will receive applications for scholarships and fellowships and forward them to the Senatus with his remarks and recommendations.

The Senatus after consideration of the recommendations of the head of the department will in the case of the junior and senior scholarships award them and in respect of the research fellowships forward their recommendations to the Governing Body for final decision.

IX. THE ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH.

33. At present, the College is organized into a number of departments, each having usually a Professor, an Additional Professor, Assistant Professors, Tutors and Demonstrators. This organization of teaching is directed mainly towards enabling the students to pass their examinations and take their degrees. Many of the subjects dealt within these departments are of such vast proportions that it is not possible for any person, however eminent, to undertake effectively the organization of teaching or the supervision of research in the whole subject. One may mention, as an example, the case of Chemistry which to-day is divided into several branches such as Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Bio-Chemistry, and so forth. It becomes necessary in these circumstances, for the effective organization of teaching and research, to divide the subject into such distinct branches, and organize them as independent departments of study. The difficulty of the handling by one Professor of the whole subject is already recognized in the College by the appointment of the so-called Additional Professor. We feel that this arrangement is not conducive to the effective conduct of higher teaching and research. We accordingly propose that the academic structure of the College be re-organized on the basis of a number of distinct branches of study, each of which is headed by a Professor who is a specialist in it. We give below a list of the departments of study, which, we feel, should ultimately find a place in the work of the College. In drawing up this list, we have been guided principally by the consideration of the intrinsic importance of each subject.

34. It would, of course, be necessary for the head of each department to have the assistance of an adequate staff. With regard to the strength of this staff, we feel that there should be some measure of uniformity. After careful consideration, we are of the opinion, that two Assistant Professors, one Research Fellow, one senior research scholar and two junior research scholars would afford a reasonable measure of assistance to the Professor in teaching and research. As the College is to be developed into an institution for higher teaching and research, we feel that in future the number of lectures should be reduced, and that those that are delivered should be of higher standard and more vitalising. This would demand the admission of more self-reliant students who would be able to benefit by such advanced teaching, and might involve a certain limitation of the number of students, especially in the Pass Courses. It is quite possible that in certain cases, as for instance, in the teaching of English, the character and extent of the work would demand a larger staff or a re-arrangement amongst the different categories of staff. However, we feel that our proposals regarding the strength of staff as indicated above, would, in general, prove adequate.

35. We suggest that the following branches of study should find a place in higher teaching and research at the College, and

that when the reorganization is complete, each of them would form an independent department with a Professor, two Assistant Professors, one Research Fellow, one senior scholar, and two junior scholars:—

Mathematical Studies ..	{	(1) Mathematical Analysis.
		(2) Higher Geometry.
		(3) Statistics.
		(4) Theoretical Physics.
Physical Sciences ..	{	(5) General Physics.
		(6) Chemical Physics.
		(7) Organic Chemistry.
		(8) Inorganic Chemistry.
Natural Sciences ..	{	(9) High Polymer Chemistry.
		(10) Plant Morphology.
		(11) Plant Physiology.
		(12) Comparative Anatomy.
Social Studies ..	{	(13) Embryology and Genetics.
		(14) Mineralogy.
		(15) General Geology.
		(16) Psychology.
Linguistics ..	{	(17) History.
		(18) Politics.
		(19) Economic Theory.
		(20) Applied Economics.
		(21) English Language and Literature.
		(22) Sanskrit.
		(23) Tamil.
		(24) Telugu.

36. By way of explanation we may add that the subjects listed as (1) and (2) together constitute the field of pure Mathematics which is too vast to be supervised by one Professor. We have proposed a Chair in Statistics in view of its Practical importance. We may also explain that the subject of Theoretical Physics would be essentially mathematical. While it would include the topics hitherto variously designated as Applied Mathematics, Mixed Mathematics or Mathematical Physics, it would also cover other subjects of great importance such as the Theory of Electro-magnetism, the Quantum Theory, Relativity, etc. The establishment of this Chair would serve as a much-needed link in the College between Mathematics and Physics. The Chair of Chemical Physics proposed would include many topics usually listed under the title of Physical Chemistry, but it would also cover many others of growing interest. The Chair of High Polymer Chemistry relates to a new subject of great and growing importance, with many practical applications. Each of the three subjects of Botany, Geology and Zoology is represented in our list by two Chairs; these deal with widely different aspects of the respective subjects and are of equal intrinsic importance. We have allowed two Chairs to the subject of Economics, dividing it into (i) Economic Theory and (ii) Applied Economics. Each of these covers a large and

important range of studies. We have proposed a Chair of Psychology in view of the manifest importance of the subject in relation to education, labour problems and sociology in general.

X. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME.

37. It would clearly not be practicable to give immediate effect to the proposed re-organization of the College into 24 distinct departments of studies listed earlier in our report. The process would necessarily have to be spread over a period of years, and we would suggest that it should be carried out in three successive stages, respectively, at the beginning of each academic year.

38. After a preliminary survey of the problems involved in the reorganization, the Chairman of our Committee wrote to the Hon. the Minister for Education suggesting that funds be provided in the current year's budget for the creation of 8 new professorships, as also for the provision of a sum of rupees two lakhs for the cost of additional equipment. We understand that this has been done. We suggest that as soon as the Governing Body is set up, all the Chairs in the foregoing list dealing with the following subjects be advertised:—

- (a) Mathematics.
- (b) Physics.
- (c) Chemistry.
- (d) Botany.
- (e) Zoology.
- (f) Geology.
- (g) Economics.

The advertisements should specify the branches of study comprised by the Chairs, and the special qualifications expected of the candidates. It should be open for the present members of the staff of the College to apply. On receipt of the applications, the Governing Body would proceed to constitute the Selection Committees in the manner mentioned earlier. The Governing Body would decide, having regard to the qualifications of the candidates recommended by the Selection Committees, and the relative needs of the different branches of study, which of the Chairs may be filled up. They would then make the appointments with the concurrence of Government. A similar procedure would be followed well before the commencement of each succeeding academic year, the number of Chairs to be filled up each year depending on the availability of suitable candidates.

39. The appointment of Assistant Professors in each department recommended in the scheme should, in our opinion, be made only after the Professor of the department concerned has been appointed and taken charge and has had some time to take stock of the situation. These appointments would, therefore, have effect from the commencement of the College year following that

in which the Professor concerned is appointed. It would be desirable that a similar procedure is followed also in the case of Research Fellows, as the selection of these would have to be made with considerable circumspection. We see, however, no objection to the award of research scholarships as soon as the Professor appointed is in a position to make recommendations and finds himself able to undertake their supervision.

40. It is possible that during the successive stages of the reorganization, a substantial proportion of the present higher staff of the College may find themselves selected for the positions in the reorganization scheme. Those who are not thus absorbed would, we earnestly hope be found positions elsewhere by Government. We see no objection to such of the members of the staff as are disposed to co-operate with the new heads of the departments being retained as supernumeraries until they can be provided for elsewhere by the Government.

41. We foresee that as our scheme is progressively implemented, numerous problems will arise requiring careful consideration by the Governing Body. The most urgent of them would be the provision of adequate facilities for the work of the newly appointed Professors. The College has for many years devoted itself almost exclusively to routine teaching and examination. As research work develops much additional equipment will naturally become necessary. It was for this reason that the Chairman of the Committee requested the Hon. Minister to provide a sum of rupees two lakhs in the budget for 1949-1950. The distribution of this sum amongst the different departments for the purchase of research equipment would be a matter for decision by the Governing Body, and as it would depend upon the particular professorships actually filled during the first year, we do not think that any useful purpose would be served by our making detailed recommendations on the subject. It would be for the Governing Body to take the speediest possible action in the matter.

42. It is likely also that as the reorganization proceeds, the accommodation provided by the existing laboratories would be found inadequate to house the various new activities proposed. It has been brought to our notice that even at present several of the existing departments are cramped for space. When the new departments contemplated by us are brought into existence, and also as the result of the division of the major subjects of study into distinct departments, the provision of additional accommodation and even the building of new laboratories may become necessary. This again, is a matter which would require careful consideration and action by the Governing Body.

43. During our inspection of the College, it became evident to us that the facilities provided for library work leave much to be desired. There is no Science Library as such, the books and journals being spread out amongst several departmental libraries, the

arrangement of which appeared to us distinctly unsatisfactory. Many of the books on subjects relating to the humanities are also similarly scattered over a number of departmental libraries. The main arts library and reading room of the College is badly lighted. As it would be difficult to organise higher teaching and research properly under such adverse conditions, the provision of a well-arranged library with reading rooms for the staff and students should in our opinion be given a high priority.

44. Another matter of importance is the provision of residential accommodation for the research fellows and Research Scholars contemplated in our scheme. We feel it to be essential that these workers are lodged near the College, so that they could carry on their work for necessary number of hours every day. Amongst other needs of the re-organized College would be the provision of a Central Research Workshop where the needs of all the departments can be attended to. Such a workshop would also provide for the production of liquid air, the fabrication of blown glass apparatus and various other requirements of all the departments. It would also provide opportunities of learning the general techniques with which every research worker should be familiar, usefully supplementing the training in special techniques given in the individual departments. It would probably also be useful for the College to organise a Central Stores for the supply of such articles as are needed by all the Science departments.

We are submitting a separate memorandum dealing with various matters arising out of the foregoing report, but which, we felt, need not find a place in our main recommendations.

(Signed) C. V. RAMAN.

(„) A. L. MUDALIAR.

(„) B. B. DEY. *

(„) M. O. PARTHASARATHY IYENGAR.

(„) T. VIJAYARAGHAVAN.

(„) C. PITCHAMUTHU.

(„) B. NATARAJAN.

(„) K. SRINIVASAN.

(„) S. G. MANAVALA RAMANUJAM.

(„) M. ABDUL HAQ.

(Absent) A. RAMAMURTHI.

*(See separate note)

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE,
Madras, 12th February 1949.

MEMORANDA SUPPLEMENTING THE MAIN REPORT.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONTRIBUTORY PROVIDENT FUND.

The Professors and Assistant Professors recruited by the Governing Body under the scheme of re-organization proposed by us would form the regular staff of the Presidency College and would naturally therefore not be liable to transfer to positions elsewhere. For various reasons, it appears to us desirable that these appointments should be on a non-pensionable basis, but that they should have the benefit of a contributory provident fund scheme. When, however, the person chosen by the Governing Body for appointment as Professor or Assistant Professor is already in pensionable Government service—whether at the College itself or elsewhere—and desires to retain his claim to pension, the Governing Body should, we think, be permitted to make the appointment on a pensionable basis. In such a case, naturally, the person appointed would not be eligible for the benefits of the contributory provident fund schemes of the College.

Leave rules for Professors and Assistant Professors.

2. Under the existing arrangements, the Presidency College has a long academic vacation and there are also numerous holidays which cut into the available working time. We feel that the sustained effort necessary for significant achievements in research is not possible under such conditions. It would also be difficult for an institution intended for higher study and research to make any real progress if the time and energy of the staff are frequently diverted to other activities, however praiseworthy or important they might be in themselves. For these reasons, the rules regarding vacation and leave of absence for the staff require modification. We recommend that:—

(a) The College should be completely closed for the hot weather during the period from the 1st May to the 15th of June in each year.

(b) The College would also be closed on Sundays and on public holidays declared as such under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

(c) The College would be fully open on all other days, and all facilities should be available for those engaged in research or advanced studies.

(d) Professors and Assistant Professors may, in addition, be allowed one month's leave of absence on full pay during each year. This may be taken at any time subject to the exigencies of work and may be accumulated upto a maximum of eight months.

(e) Casual leave up to a maximum of ten days in a year may also be granted.

(f) Absence on work of academic importance may be treated as duty leave, but all such cases should be reported to the Governing Body for scrutiny and approval.

REGULATION OF ADMISSIONS TO THE COLLEGE.

3. It is obvious that the efforts of teachers, however capable or eminent, would not result in raising the general level of the academic life of the College unless the alumni selected for admission into it are *prima facie* capable of benefiting from the advanced type of instruction proposed to be offered to them. Further, if students who are not of the requisite calibre are admitted in large numbers to the College, the whole scheme of re-organization proposed by us would fail to achieve the aims in view. The regulation of the admission of new students to the College, both in respect of their numbers and of their quality, is therefore a matter which requires attention and should come under periodic review by the Senatus of the College. Since the responsibility for the successful organization of teaching and research lies, in the first instance, on the heads of departments concerned, it follows that they should have a voice in determining the selection of the students for all the higher courses of study at the College, namely, those for the Honours and Master's degrees, and that in respect of the selection of students for research work, the initiative should come from the Professors who would guide and supervise such work. So far as admission to the Pass course is concerned, however, practical considerations indicate that the selection should be in the hands of the Principal of the College.

A BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR THE COLLEGE.

4. As indicated in our report, we foresee that the re-organization proposed by us will necessitate an increase in the accommodation available for the activities of the College. Some of the more urgent needs in this direction have already been mentioned by us. It seems to us important that such expansion is effected on a systematic and carefully thought-out plan which takes into account both the immediate requirements and those that are likely to arise in the course of years. In this connection, we note that there is a fairly large area of land available to the west of the Natural Sciences Block of the College which has not been built upon, except for the house formerly occupied as a residence by the Principal of the College. We would recommend that a site plan for the whole of this area may be drawn up in which the location of the buildings likely to be needed are indicated, so that development may proceed in an orderly fashion. High priority should, in our opinion, be given to the construction of a properly designed library for the whole College, as this is a vital necessity for an institution devoted to higher studies and research. A suitable location for it would be in the space between the older and newer

parts of the College, but a little to the rear, so as not to interfere with the admission of light and air into the existing laboratories. There should be ample provision on the ground-floor of the building for the stacks of books and bound volumes of journals, while on the first floor, the reading rooms would be located and the current reviews and scientific journals and the latest books would be displayed to advantage. Possibly, even a second-floor might be provided which could be used as common rooms for extra curricular activities.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY AND WITH OTHER COLLEGES.

5. The Presidency College is a constituent College of the Madras University, and the level of the activities carried on by it cannot remain uninfluenced by the general level of the activities elsewhere in the Universities and the other Colleges in Madras. It follows that the Presidency College should give its heartiest co-operation and support to every movement which promises to raise the standards of academic work in the University. Amongst these, we would mention particularly, the arrangements being made to undertake systematic teaching leading up to the M.A. and M.Sc. degrees on the basis of co-operation between the staff of the University and of its constituent Colleges in the Madras area. The Presidency College should, we feel, give the warmest support to this move, since it is calculated to place University teaching on the highest level possible with the existing personnel. We would suggest also that in appropriate cases, the Governing Body of the Presidency College might find it of advantage to secure the services of teachers of other Colleges in the Madras area, on a part-time salaried basis, for participation in higher teaching and research in its own departments of study. This would naturally require the consent of the management of those Colleges, but we are confident that such consent would be forthcoming, since the results would be of benefit to all concerned.

(Signed) C. V. RAMAN.

(„) A. L. MUDALIYAR.

(„) M. O. PARTHASARATHY AYYANGAR.

(„) C. PITCHUMUTHU.

(„) T. VIJAYARAGHAVAN.

(„) K. SRINIVASAN.

(„) S. G. MANAVALA RAMANUJAM.

THE PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, MADRAS,
14th February 1949.

I am very definitely of opinion that the three branches of Chemistry should be—

Organic Chemistry.
Physical Chemistry.
Inorganic Chemistry.

High Polymer Chemistry as a very specialised branch, should not be included in an institution like the Presidency College the main object of which is the teaching of the fundamental sciences leading on to fundamental research.

For the same reasons, I would suggest that the subject of "Chemical Physics" be named "Atomic Physics".

(Signed) B. B. DEY.
12-2-1949.

The Committee have carefully considered Dr. Dey's remarks and are unable to agree with them for the following reasons:—

(i) The designation of Chemical Physics is a well-recognized one which describes correctly a very large and actively growing branch of Physical science. The Committee, therefore, are convinced that in the interest of higher teaching and research, there should be a distinct department of Chemical Physics at the College and that the work of such a department would not be correctly described by the term 'Atomic Physics' suggested by Dr. Dey.

(ii) A separate department of Physical Chemistry is, in the opinion of the Committee, unnecessary, and would also be a duplication, inasmuch as the greater part of it would fall under Chemical Physics and the rest would be covered in the activities of the three departments of Chemistry listed in the report.

(iii) High Polymer Chemistry is at the present time an extremely active and growing branch of knowledge of fundamental importance and also of great interest in view of its application in numerous industries. We feel that the institution of a department of High Polymer Chemistry is necessary for the proper development of chemical studies at the Presidency College. It would give a strong fillip to fundamental research and also prepare the alumni of the College for participation in the development of numerous industries in India, viz., textiles, rayon, rubber, glass, wood-working and plastics in general.

(Signed) C. V. RAMAN, 14-2-1949.

(") A. L. MUDALIYAR.
(") M. O. PARTHASARATHY AYYANGAR.
(") C. PITCHUMUTHU.
(") T. VIJAYARAGHAVAN.
(") K. SRINIVASAN.
(") S. G. MANAVALA RAMANUJAM.

SECRETARIAT OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE,

Fort St. George, dated the 26.2.1949.



QUESTION No. 1683 for the ^{next} meeting of the Legislative Assembly to

be held on the

194.

Two copies of this question are forwarded to the E & P. H. Department.

The question has been admitted.

26/2/49

To

The E & P. H. Department.

V.O. 1480/49 - A.M.C.

28.2.49

E.P.H. (A)

The Stated Assembly on 14.2.49 may be perused. The report of the Presidency College Reorganisation Committee has been received only recently and it has yet to be examined and decisions taken by Govt. In the meantime the remarks of the D.P.D. and the Madras Uty. have been invited.

Usually the report has not been published. But a summary of it has appeared in the press. It is also understood that copies of the report have also been given to the members of the Provincial Advisory Committee. For orders whether a copy of it may be laid on the table of the Leg. Assembly. The file may be circulated to H.M. (Edn.)

6/3/49



14/3/49
Mr. (Cm)
May be done by the
to A

G.P.A. (A)

Please see the order in circulation overleaf. The draft answer on p.c.f. is for approval.

350 Copies of the report will have to be supplied to the Leg. Assembly. These will be printed. Incidentally 50 more Copies of the report along with the memorandum etc. attached to it maybe got printed for office use for orders.

(A) 1-22

(A) 1-52

6
7.3.49

DM
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3/3/49

[Issued as G.P.A. u.o. 15504-1/49A d. 14.4.49.] p.c.f.

The An. has since lapsed, consequent on the prorogation of the Legislature. The papers may $\therefore$ be recorded.

Abstract
Leg. Assembly
Hepidwye
Reorganizing
Committee report
Papers recorded

6
19.5.49

DM
20/5/49

G.O. 1652 Edm.
20-5-49.

(13)