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[Despatch Abstract.]

Govt Examinations

Reviewing the report

Dr ——— for the year 1897-98

13/3/98

BACK PAPERS.

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

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Government {1898} of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

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G.O., No. 627, 3rd October 1898.

OCTOBER.

Government Examinations.

Reviewing the report on — for the year 1897-98.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., Commissioner for Government Examinations, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 9th August 1898, No. 187 I. D.

I have the honour to submit my report on the examinations under the control of the Commissioner that were held during the year 1897–98.

Mr. J. B. Bilderbeck acted for me from the 24th June to the 21st September, when I was on privilege leave.

2. Ten examinations in all were held during the year. The following statement compares the numbers examined and passed during the past two years:—

Examinations.	Number examined.		Number passed.		Remarks.
	1896–97.	1897–98.	1896–97.	1897–98.	
...mary Examination	30,980	31,567	† 13,105	† 13,817	
... Secondary Examination	9,114	9,293	† 1,779	† 2,111	
...er ...dary Examination	111	149	21	19	
...per Secon... ...tions	* 3,235	* 3,497	1,477	1,705	
...echnical Examinations	1,476	1,702	375	305	
Handwriting and Dictation Test for Undergraduates.	47	35	25	20	The number shown as having passed is the number that was required to fill the vacancies advertised in each case.
Civil Medical Pupil Grade Entrance Examination.	65	48	30	12	
Native Military Pupil Grade Entrance Examination.	..	37	..	6	
Madras-Burma Hospital Assistant Grade Entrance Examination.	68	74	8	13	
Assistant Surgeon Grade Entrance Examination.	* 71	* 64	63	58	
Sub-Assistant Inspectors' tests	* 5,076	* 4,175	1,848	1,361	
Special Test Examinations	* 767	* 750	426	550	
Special Tests for Officers of the Salt and Abkári Department.	17	..	11	..	
Salt and Abkári Department Competitive Examination.					

* Subject-candidates. † Passed the full test.

3. Outside the limits of British territory, the Primary Examination was held in Travancore and Cochin; the Technical Examinations in Travancore and Pudukkóttai; and the Special tests, including those for officers of the Salt and Abkári Department, the Lower Secondary Examination, and the Handwriting and Dictation portion of the Upper Secondary Examination in Pudukkóttai, Travancore and Cochin. Except, however, in the case of the Primary Examination, the figures relating to the examinations held in these Native States are not exhibited separately.

Primary Examination.

4. (i) As in 1896–97, this examination was conducted last year by thirty boards. The number of examination centres had to be increased in some districts, while a few centres in certain other districts were abolished, the total number of centres, however, being only 286 as against 284 in the previous year. Additional members were found necessary in fourteen districts. The largest number of members (55) was in the Tanjore district, and the smallest number (11) in the Nilgiri district. The total number of members was 637, against 586 in 1896–97. Of these 637 members, 104 were inspecting officers, 34 teachers in Government institutions and 161 other persons in the service of Government.

Particulars as to the constitution of the boards are furnished in the following statement.

Districts.	Area in square miles.	1896–97.				1897–98.			
		Number of candidates examined.	Number of boards.	Number of centres.	Number of members	Number of candidates examined.	Number of boards.	Number of centres.	Number of members.
Ganjám	8,313	1,244	2	22	31	1,171	2	21	30
Vizagapatam	18,344	1,734	1	20	27	1,712	1	21	36
Gódávari	7,097	2,652	3	18	37	2,896	3	18	43
Kistna	8,036	2,196	2	20	31	2,208	2	20	31
Kurnool	7,358	615	1	12	20	797	1	13	28
Nellore	8,462	1,187	1	12	23	1,114	1	12	28
Madras	27	1,228	1	1	15	1,346	1	1	14
Chingleput	2,753	958	1	10	20	1,056	1	10	19
Bellary	11,007	753	1	8	12	756	1	8	20
Anantapur		572	1	9	23	551	1	9	23
Cuddapah	8,367	772	1	13	19	809	1	13	20
North Arcot	7,139	1,421	1	13	22	1,335	1	13	25
South Arcot	4,873	1,463	1	13	19	1,394	1	13	20
Coimbatore	7,432	1,472	1	10	26	1,441	1	11	31
Nilgiris	749	184	1	4	10	212	1	4	11
Salem	7,483	1,439	1	9	29	1,477	1	9	32
Tanjore	3,654	2,613	2	22	52	2,791	2	21	55
Trichinopoly	3,515	1,163	1	10	25	1,226	1	8	25
Madura	9,502	1,358	2	13	31	1,498	2	13	30
Tinnevelly	5,176	1,813	2	15	40	1,911	2	15	44
Malabar	6,002	2,698	2	18	43	2,623	2	19	40
South Canara	3,902	1,445	1	12	31	1,333	1	14	32
Total ..	139,191	30,980	30	284	586	31,567	30	286	637

The total number of candidates examined advanced from 30,980 to 31,567.

† (ii) The following statement compares the numbers registered, examined and passed in the last two years:—

1896–97.

Classes of candidates.	Registered.		Examined.		Passed									
					For complete certificate.		In compulsory subjects only.		In compulsory subjects and one optional subject only.		In optional subjects only.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pupil candidates ..	27,476	2,336	25,154	2,119	10,710	1,164	1,736	75	3,475	207	1,404	70	17,325	1,516
Teacher candidates.	1,593	64	1,447	59	595	42	95	..	108	2	307	5	1,105	49
Private candidates.	2,299	59	2,145	56	559	35	154	1	174	1	730	8	1,617	45
Total ..	31,368	2,459	28,746	2,234	11,864	1,241	1,985	76	3,757	210	2,441	83	20,047	1,610

1897–98.

Classes of candidates.	Registered.		Examined.		Passed									
					For complete certificate.		In compulsory subjects only.		In compulsory subjects and one optional subject only.		In optional subjects only.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pupil candidates ..	27,794	2,455	25,375	2,270	11,153	1,279	1,898	68	3,792	223	1,469	63	18,312	1,633
Teacher candidates.	1,444	62	1,352	58	603	30	76	2	108	3	245	8	1,032	43
Private candidates.	2,619	47	2,467	45	735	17	185	3	200	5	811	8	1,931	33
Total ..	31,857	2,564	29,194	2,373	12,491	1,326	2,159	73	4,100	231	2,525	79	21,275	1,709

It will be found from the above statement that both under "registered" and "examined" there was an increase in the number of male and of female pupil candidates and also of male private candidates, while there was a decrease in the number of and of female teacher candidates and also of female private candidates, the decrease being greatest in the case of male teacher candidates.

Pupil candidates were presented by 3,944 boys' and 349 girls' schools, against 3,643 boys' and 297 girls' schools in the previous year. This increase in the number of schools sending up pupils is very satisfactory and is a proof of the spread of primary education.

(iii) In the following statement particulars are furnished as regards the numbers examined and passed—(1) for the complete test, (2) for the compulsory subjects and one optional subject only, (3) for the compulsory subjects only, and (4) for optional subjects only :—

Classes of candidates.		Complete test.		Compulsory subjects and one optional subject only.		Compulsory subjects only.		Optional subjects only.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pupil candidates ..	Examined ..	21,803	2,130	333	6	1,544	66	1,695	68
	Passed	11,153	1,279	* 3,792	* 223	† 1,898	† 68	1,469	63
Teacher candidates.	Examined ..	952	48	4	..	111	1	285	9
	Passed	603	30	* 108	* 3	† 76	† 2	245	8
Private candidates.	Examined ..	1,294	37	7	..	199	..	967	8
	Passed	735	17	* 200	* 5	† 185	† 3	811	8

* Includes also the number that came up for the full test but passed only in the compulsory subjects and in one optional subject.

† Includes also the number that came up for the full test or for the compulsory subjects and one optional subject but passed only in the compulsory subjects.

From the above statement it will be seen that, among male candidates, the percentage of those that passed the full test, calculated in reference to the number that came up for the full test, was in the case of "pupil" candidates 51, in the case of "teacher" candidates 63, and in the case of "private" candidates 57, the corresponding percentages for these classes of candidates among female candidates being 60, 63 and 46, respectively.

The results of the female candidates, both among teacher and among private candidates, show a considerable falling off.

(iv) The following table exhibits the ages of the candidates :—

Age.	Examined.		Passed for certificates.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 9 years of age	589	49	347	18
Between 9 and 10 years (inclusive)	6,008	760	3,089	433
,, 11 and 12 ,, (,,)	10,271	967	4,325	552
,, 13 and 14 ,, (,,)	6,830	395	2,582	217
,, 15 and 17 ,, (,,)	2,974	127	1,037	66
,, 18 and 20 ,, (,,)	1,216	28	524	15
,, 21 and 25 ,, (,,)	775	20	349	9
Over 25 years	531	27	238	16
Total ..	29,194	2,373	12,491	1,326

The largest number that qualified for certificates among both male and female candidates consisted, as in previous years, of those whose ages lay between eleven and twelve years. The highest percentage of success among the male candidates was achieved as in 1896–97 by those who were under nine years of age.

The total number of male and female candidates together that qualified for certificates and thus rendered themselves eligible for appointments in the inferior ranks of the public service, was 13,817. Besides this number, there were also 2,023 others who, having passed in certain of the subjects in previous years, completed the test last year.

(v) The following table shows the proportion of increase or decrease in the number examined in each district :—

Districts.	Number of examinees in 1896-97.	Number of examinees in 1897-98.	Percentage of increase or decrease.
Ganjám	1,244	1,171	— 6
Vizagapatam	1,734	1,712	— 1
Gódávari	2,652	2,896	9
Kistna	2,196	2,208	1
Kurnool	615	707	15
Nellore	1,187	1,114	— 6
Madras	1,228	1,346	10
Chingleput	958	1,056	10
Bellary	753	756	..
Anantapur	572	551	— 4
Cuddapah	772	809	5
North Arcot	1,421	1,335	— 6
South Arcot	1,463	1,394	— 5
Coimbatore	1,472	1,441	— 2
Nilgiris	184	212	15
Salem	1,439	1,477	3
Tanjore	2,613	2,791	7
Trichinopoly	1,163	1,226	5
Madura	1,358	1,498	10
Tinnevelly	1,813	1,911	5
Malabar	2,698	2,623	— 3
South Canara	1,445	1,333	— 8

Thirteen districts show an advance and the remaining districts a falling off. The largest number of candidates appeared from Gódávari—Tanjore and Malabar coming next. The smallest number of candidates was, as in previous years, from the Nilgiris, which district, however, was one of the two in which the proportion of increase in the number of candidates was the highest, Kurnool being the other district.

(vi) The following statement shows the proportion of "passed" to "examined" in each district :—

Districts.	Proportion of passed to examined.	
	1896–97.	1897–98.
Ganjám	34·9	37·5
Vizagapatam	38·0	63·9
Gódávari	38·7	45·2
Kistna	33·5	33·9
Kurnool	41·7	53·6
Nellore	51·1	55·0
Madras	40·0	43·8
Chingleput	49·3	40·4
Bellary	38·6	49·8
Anantapur	76·3	51·3
Cuddapah	39·3	41·5
North Arcot	51·7	53·1
South Arcot	64·8	82·2
Coimbatore	53·8	37·2
Nilgiris	73·5	71·1
Salem	65·6	47·5
Tanjore	60·8	68·7
Trichinopoly	51·6	57·9
Madura	49·2	57·4
Tinnevelly	80·1	80·7
Malabar	50·7	48·5
South Canara	50·2	40·5

The highest percentage of success (82·2) was achieved in South Arcot, Tinnevelly coming close u[illegible] it with a percentage of 80·7. Vizagapatam shows considerable improvement. [illegible]en districts—notably Anantapur, Salem and Coimbatore—show a falling off. T[illegible]oorest results were as last year in the Kistna district.

(vii) Particulars in regard to the classes of the community represented are shown in the margin. More than 54 per cent. of the male candidates examined were non-Brahman Caste Hindus, while the largest number of the female candidates belonged to the Native Christian community. There was a slight increase in the number of Muhammadan female candidates, but a decrease in the number of these that passed for certificates. The number of Panchama candidates that appeared and the proportion of success achieved by them show a falling off both among male and among female candidates.

Classes of the community.	Examined.		Passed for certificates.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Europeans and Eurasians	208	217	100	132
Native Christians	2,200	931	1,071	590
Muhammadans	1,977	70	770	24
Brahmans	8,398	213	4,178	126
Non-Brahman Caste Hindus	15,894	890	6,261	439
Panchamas	492	52	101	15
Parsis and others	25	..	10	..
Total ..	29,194	2,373	12,491	1,326

(viii) The distribution of candidates according to the languages brought up by them is shown in the margin, details being given separately as to the number of candidates that brought up each language as first language and also as to the number that brought up each language as second language.

As first language, Tamil was brought up by the largest number of male candidates, Telugu coming next. The number of male candidates that brought up English as a second language shows a slight decrease. As in previous years, the results were more or less good in the case of all the languages brought up.

Languages.		Examined.		Passed.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
English ..	First Language	237	280	176	223
	Second „	8,869	323	6,662	251
Tamil ..	First „	11,970	1,064	9,038	779
	Second „	354	16	128	15
Telugu ..	First „	9,662	552	6,914	425
	Second „	368	2	285	1
Malayalam ..	First „	1,947	194	1,702	159
	Second „	9	1	6	1
Canarese ..	First „	1,049	65	909	58
	Second „	5	..	5	..
Hindustani ..	First „	567	64	396	29
	Second „	38	..	30	..
Uriya ..	First „	461	3	284	1
	Second „	4	..	4	..

(ix) The following table compares the results obtained in the optional subjects (other than a second language) in the past two years :—

Optional subjects.	1896–97.						1897–98.					
	Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.		Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Elementary Science ..	133	18	57	10	43	56	123	4	64	2	52	50
Geography	18,257	1,574	13,264	1,108	73	70	18,948	1,548	13,954	1,137	74	73
History of India ..	3,095	282	1,938	203	63	72	3,424	316	2,086	175	61	55
Hygiene and Elementary Sanitary Science.	16,127	1,180	11,513	849	71	72	16,791	1,217	12,168	874	72	72
Agriculture	1,323	..	829	..	63	..	1,383	..	932	..	67	..
Drawing	1,140	106	736	86	65	81	1,634	88	1,081	67	66	76
Mensuration	98	..	52	..	53	..	92	..	50	..	54	..
Singing	..	18	..	17	..	94	4	8	3	6	75	75
Needlework	..	1,104	..	938	..	85	..	1,224	..	1,051	..	86

As in previous years, Geography was brought up by the largest number, both among male and female candidates—Hygiene and Elementary Sanitary Science coming next. The increase in the number of candidates that brought up the latter subject is particularly worthy of note. There was an advance in the number that brought up Agriculture, and the results in this subject were also better than those of 1896–97.

(x) The following statement furnishes particulars as to the numbers registered, examined and passed in the Native States of Travancore and Cochin :—

Name of State.	Registered.		Examined.		Passed									
					For complete certificate.		In compulsory subjects only.		In compulsory subjects and one optional subject only.		In optional subjects only.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Travancore ..	23	56	23	56	17	42	..	..	2	5	4	2	23	49
Cochin	279	49	273	48	161	11	2	..	58	5	4	..	225	16

In Travancore the examination was held at Kóttayam only ; in Cochin it was held at three centres, viz., Trichur, Ernakulam and Chittoor.

(xi) The fees realized from the examination, including those paid by candidates for the fifth and sixth standard examinations, amounted to Rs. 21,516, or Rs. 943 more than the fees for the previous year. This sum includes Rupees 5,419 paid as certificate fees by pupil-candidates. The charges incurred amounted, as detailed in the margin, to Rs. 30,409, as against Rs. 30,129 in 1896–97. The net cost to Government on account of the examination was Rs. 8,893, the receipts having covered nearly 71 per cent. of the charges.

Charges.	Rs.
Stipends	21,218
Office allowance	3,395
Travelling allowance	3,600
Contingencies	2,124
Refunds	72
Total ...	30,409

Lower Secondary Examination.

5 (i) Two new centres, viz., Bhadráchalam and Parur, having been added, the total number of centres at which this examination was held last year was 81, against 79 in the previous year. Eight thousand seven hundred and seventy male and 764 female candidates registered their names, of whom 8,538 and 755, respectively, underwent examination. The following statement compares the numbers registered, examined and passed during the past two years :—

Classes of candidates.	1896–97.													
	Registered.		Examined.		Passed.									
					For complete certificate.		In compulsory subjects only.		In compulsory subjects and one optional subject only.		In optional subjects only.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pupil candidates ..	6,655	626	6,565	614	1,416	174	236	13	720	73	714	28	3,086	288
Private candidates ..	2,025	72	1,865	70	184	5	55	4	82	5	480	9	801	23
Total ..	8,680	698	8,430	684	1,600	179	291	17	802	78	1,194	37	3,887	311

Classes of candidates.	1897-98.													
	Registered.		Examined.		Passed									
					For complete certificate.		In compulsory subjects only.		In compulsory subjects and one optional subject only.		In optional subjects only.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pupil candidates ..	6,850	687	6,766	680	1,633	268	356	13	945	27	489	45	3,423	353
Private candidates ..	1,920	77	1,772	75	199	11	67	..	120	5	339	31	725	47
Total ..	8,770	764	8,538	755	1,832	279	423	13	1,065	32	828	76	4,148	400

It will be found from the above statement that the increase in the total number of candidates registered, as well as that in the total number of candidates examined, was comparatively small, but this is only, perhaps, what might have been expected, if, as is probable, the limits of expansion in the case of this examination have very nearly been reached. The results show a great improvement, the number of male and of female candidates together that qualified for certificates having advanced from 1,779 to 2,111.

Of the 904 candidates shown as having passed in optional subjects only, 797 became eligible for certificates, having already passed in the compulsory subjects or in the compulsory subjects and in one optional subject. In addition to this number, ten others, of whom seven had already passed in two optional subjects and three in one optional subject, also rendered themselves eligible for certificates, the former by passing in the compulsory subjects and the latter in the compulsory subjects and in one optional subject. The total number of candidates that completed the test in this manner, viz., 807, is exclusive of the 2,111 shown in the above statement as having qualified for certificates, these latter having come up for the full test.

(ii) The following statement shows the classes of the community represented :—

Classes of the community.	Examined.		Passed for complete certificate.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Europeans and Eurasians	257	223	49	100
Native Christians	997	463	217	161
Muhammadans	295	6	45	..
Brahmans	4,394	5	1,107	2
Other Hindus	2,593	58	414	16
Parsis	2	..	..	..
Total ..	8,538	755	1,832	279

As usual, among the male candidates, the largest number both under "examined" and under "passed" belonged to the Brahman community, "Other Hindus" coming next, while among the female candidates, 61 per cent. of the number examined and 58 per cent. of the number that passed were Native Christians. The improvement in the results of the Brahman female candidates is satisfactory, but it is to be regretted that none of the six Muhammadan female candidates that appeared was successful.

(iii) Particulars in regard to the second languages brought up are furnished in the statement below :—

Second languages.	Examined.		Passed.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Latin	64	..	55	..
French	1	11	1	10
Persian	30	..	19	..
Sanskrit	1,011	2	577	2
English	34	35	21	25
Tamil	2,757	126	2,340	124
Telugu	1,682	8	1,112	6
Malayalam	925	44	684	38
Canarese	164	16	119	12
Hindustani	72	..	51	..
Uriya	11	..	7	..

As in previous years, Tamil was brought up by the largest number of candidates, Telugu coming next. There was also a satisfactory advance in the number of candidates who brought up Sanskrit. In this connection, it is worthy of note that the two female candidates who brought up Sanskrit successfully passed in it.

(iv) As first language, English was brought up by 7,729, Tamil by 190, Telugu by 115, Malayalam by 39 and Hindustani by six candidates. It will thus be found that out of the 9,293 candidates examined, only 8,079 brought up a first language, the remaining 1,214 having appeared for examination in one or more optional subjects only.

(v) The following statement shows the optional subjects brought up under article 18 of the notification by candidates who had already passed the Lower Secondary Examination. Fewer subjects were so brought up, while also the number of candidates was smaller :—

Subjects.	Examined.		Passed.	
	Males.	Females	Males.	Females.
English	..	1	..	1
Tamil	1	..	1	..
Telugu	..	3	..	..
Elementary Science	3	1	3	..
Geometry and Algebra	..	1	..	1

(vi) The following statement shows the optional subjects (other than a second language) brought up by the candidates :—

Subjects.	Pupil candidates.						Private candidates.						Total.					
	Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.		Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.		Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Elementary Science.	194	12	86	4	44	33	89	2	35	..	39	..	283	14	121	4	43	29
History of Great Britain and Ireland.	243	91	86	40	35	44	92	12	44	6	48	50	335	103	130	46	39	45
Geometry and Algebra.	6,089	148	2,849	78	47	53	1,311	13	575	7	44	54	7,400	161	3,424	85	46	53
Domestic Economy.	..	373	..	325	..	87	..	43	..	39	..	91	..	416	..	364	..	88
Needlework ..	..	571	..	550	..	96	..	39	..	37	..	95	..	610	..	587	..	96

As in previous years, the largest number among the male candidates brought up Geometry and Algebra and the largest number among the female candidates Needlework. The results of the male candidates show a falling off in all the three subjects brought up by them. The results achieved by the female candidates were not so

good as in the previous year in the History of Great Britain and Ireland, though, in Geometry and Algebra they were better. What is most noteworthy, however, is the very considerable improvement in the results in Domestic Economy, in which subject the percentage of success rose from 39 to 88.

Upper Secondary Examination (Compulsory portion).

6. (i) For the examination in the compulsory portion of the Upper Secondary Examination that was held in December last, one hundred and sixty-two candidates in all registered their names, of whom 149 appeared. Of these, however, only nineteen were successful. The following statement compares the numbers registered, examined and passed in the past two years:—

Year.	Registered.	Examined.	Passed.	Ratio of "passed" to "examined."
1896-97	123	111	21	19
1897-98	162	149	* 19	13

* One in the first class and 18 in the second.

It will be seen from the above statement that, although the number examined advanced from 111 to 149, the results were even poorer than in the previous year, the percentage of success having declined from 19 to 13.

(ii) The following statement shows the institutions from which the pupil candidates appeared:—

Institutions.	Registered.	Examined.	Passed.
Noble College, Masulipatam	1	1	..
Hindu High School, Masulipatam	1	1	..
Church Mission Society High School, Bezwada ..	2	1	..
German Mission High School, Mangalore	1	1	..
St. Aloysius' College, Mangalore	1	1	..
Native High School, Calicut	3	3	..
Hindu College, Tinnevelly	2	2	..
Caldwell High School, Tuticorin	4	4	..
St. Francis Xavier's High School, Tuticorin	1	1	..
High School, Pattamadai	2	2	..
Fort High School, Trivandram	3	3	..
Town High School, Trivandram	2	2	..
St. Francis Xavier's High School, Palamcottah ..	1	1	..
Native College, Madura	6	6	2
Setupati High School, Madura	4	4	1
American Mission High School, Madura	3	3	..
Upper Secondary School, Pasumalai	2	2	..
Municipal High School, Dindigul	1	1	1
Hindu High School, Srivilliputtúr	2	2	..
Church Mission Society High School, Srivilliputtúr ..	1	1	1
S.P.G. High School, Trichinopoly	2	2	2
St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly	1	1	..
National High School, Trichinopoly	6	6	3
Coimbatore College	4	4	..
Board High School, Udamalpet	2	2	..
Nazareth Convent Girls' School, Ootacamund	1	1	..
Kalyanasundram High School, Tanjore	2	2	..
Municipal High School, Anantapur	1	1	..
Do. do. Bellary	4	4	2
St. Joseph's College, Cuddalore	4	4	1
Free Church Mission High School, Nellore	1	1	..
Pachaiyappa's High School, Madras	4	3	1
C.S.M. College, Madras	3	2	..
Free Church Mission Institution, Madras	1	1	..
Aryan High School, Triplicane	1	1	..
European Convent Girls' School, Mylapore	3	3	1
	83	80	15
Private study	79	69	4
Total ..	162	149	19

There was a further advance in the number of schools that sent up pupils from 21 to 36, and among these 36 schools, there were two girls' schools, viz., the Nazareth Convent Girls' School, Ootacamund, and the European Convent Girls' School,

Mylapore. But, although as many as 36 institutions availed themselves of the examination, the highest number that came up from any of them was only six, while from each of fifteen of these institutions there appeared only one candidate. The National High School, Trichinopoly, which was one of the two institutions that sent up the highest number of candidates (six) passed *three*; three schools passed two each, six passed one each; no candidate passed from any of the remaining 26 schools.

As in 1896–97, the results achieved by the private candidates were much poorer than those of the pupil candidates.

(iii) The following table shows the number of candidates from each class of the community:—

Classes of the community.	Registered.	Examined.	Passed.
Europeans and Eurasians	4	4	1
Native Christians	5	5	1
Muhammadans	5	4	1
Brahmans	113	105	10
Other Hindus	35	31	6
Total ..	162	149	19

More than 70 per cent. of the candidates examined were Brahmans; 10 out of the 19 that passed were also Brahmans.

Of the 149 candidates that appeared, five were female candidates—four belonging to the class of "Europeans and Eurasians" and the fifth to the class of "Other Hindus." This latter candidate, who brought up Telugu as her first language and Tamil as her second, and, in virtue of the concession granted in article 7 of the notification, only Arithmetic under "Mathematics," did not pass. Only one of the four former candidates was successful. She came up from the European Convent Girls' School, Mylapore, and was the only candidate that passed in the first class.

The concession granted to Hindu and Muhammadan female candidates was, under G.O., No. 780, Educational, dated the 26th December 1896, extended to all native female candidates. No Native Christian female candidate, however, availed herself of this concession last year.

(iv) In the statement below are given the numbers examined and passed and the percentage of passes among those examined in each subject during the past two years:—

Subjects.	Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
Subject I First Language	111	142	41	34	37	23
Do. II Second Language	111	148	86	114	77	77
Do. III Mathematics	111	144	45	78	41	54
Do. IV History and Geography	108	142	65	66	60	46

The results in subjects I and IV show a falling off. The percentage of success achieved under "Second language" remained the same as in the previous year. The improvement in the results in Mathematics is gratifying.

(v) Of the 19 candidates stated to have passed the compulsory portion, one had already passed in two optional subjects. Four candidates who had passed the compulsory portion in a previous year passed in the optional subjects during 1897–98. These five candidates were accordingly, during the year, declared to have completely passed the Upper Secondary Examination. The total number of candidates who, up to the end of last year, qualified for superior appointments in the public service by passing the Upper Secondary Examination, was thus 27.

Technical Examinations.

7. (i) The examination in the three grades of Free-hand Outline Drawing and that in the Intermediate grade in Forestry were held in accordance with the revised syllabuses sanctioned in G.O., No. 747, Educational, dated the 1st December 1896, and

in G.O., No. 19, Educational, dated the 13th January 1897, respectively. Under G.O., No. 281, Educational, dated the 15th May 1897, the syllabus in "Dress-making," in which subject there had been an examination only according to the Intermediate grade, was replaced by a new syllabus, the designation of the subject being changed into "Needle-work and Dress-making," and provision being made for an Elementary, an Intermediate and an Advanced examination in it. A group certificate in Shorthand was instituted under G.O., No. 399, Educational, dated the 15th July 1897, candidates desirous of qualifying for it being required to pass the Intermediate examination in Shorthand and in Type-writing.

(ii) The total number of individual candidates registered rose from 2,749 to 3,041, or by 11 per cent. and the total number of subject-candidates examined from 3,235 to 3,497, or by 8 per cent. The increase in each case was thus smaller than the corresponding increase in the numbers of the previous year over those of 1895–96. There was, however, a slight improvement in the results, the percentage of passes among subject-candidates having advanced from 45·6 to 48·7. The following statement shows the number of individual candidates registered, the number of subject-candidates examined and passed and the percentage of passes among the subject-candidates during the past three years :—

Grade of examination.	Number of individual candidates registered.			Number examined (subject-candidates).			Number passed (subject-candidates).			Percentage of subject-passes.		
	1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.	1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.	1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.	1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.
Advanced	57	54	59	54	52	59	15	18	28	27·7	34·6	47·4
Intermediate	503	794	799	682	945	936	384	457	453	56·3	48·3	48·3
Elementary	1,438	1,901	2,183	1,751	2,238	2,502	982	1,002	1,224	56·0	44·7	48 9
Total ..	1,998	2,749	3,041	2,487	3,235	3,497	1,381	1,477	1,705	55·5	45·6	48·7

From the above statement it will be found that there was an increase in the number of individual candidates registered, the increase being largest in the case of the Elementary grade. The improvement in the results of the Advanced grade, in which the percentage of success rose from 34·6 to 47·4, is very satisfactory.

(iii) The following group certificates and diplomas were issued during the year :—

Group Certificate.

Mechanical Drawing	1
Surveying	4
Electrical Engineering	1
Drawing	10
Shorthand	1
Correspondence	1
Book-keeping	3

Diploma.

Agriculture	14
Drawing	1

Last year was the first year in which any group certificate was issued in Electrical Engineering and in Shorthand. It is gratifying to note that as many as fourteen candidates obtained the diploma in Agriculture.

(iv) Details will now be furnished separately for each grade of examination.

(v) *Advanced Examinations.*—There was an increase both in the number of subject-candidates examined and in the number of subject-passes, the former having risen from 52 to 59 and the latter from 18 to 28. The following statement furnishes details in regard to the numbers examined and passed in 1896–97 and 1897–98 :—

Subjects.	1896–97.		1897–98.	
	Examined.	Passed.	Examined.	Passed.
Civil Engineering.				
Surveying and Levelling	2	2	..	..
Mechanical Engineering.				
Steam and the Steam-engine	..	..	1	1
Physical Science.				
Inorganic Chemistry	1	..	..	..
Agriculture.				
Agriculture	13	6	15	13
Veterinary Science.				
Veterinary Science (Second stage)	..	..	1	1
Commerce.				
Book-keeping	2	1	15	2
Commercial Correspondence	..	..	2	2
Shorthand	6	..	7	1
Drawing, &c.				
Free-hand Outline Drawing	19	5	8	..
Design	..	..	1	1
Geometrical Drawing	6	1	1	..
Painting	1	1	..	..
Modelling	1	1	..	..
Copper-plate Engraving	..	..	2	..
Wood-work and Metal-work.				
Cabinet-making	1	1	5	5
Tailoring and Dress-making.				
Needle-work and Dress-making	..	..	1	1
Total number of subject-candidates ..	52	18	59	28

It will be found from the above statement that in four subjects in which candidates had appeared in 1896–97, there were no candidates last year, while in five subjects (excluding Needle-work and Dress-making) in which there were candidates last year, none had appeared in the previous year. The total number of subjects in which candidates presented themselves for examination last year was 12, as against 10 in the previous year, and in nine of the subjects brought up, there were successful candidates, as against eight in 1896–97. Last year was the first year in which there was an Advanced examination in the subjects of Steam and the Steam-engine, Needle-work and Dress-making, and Copper-plate Engraving ; one candidate appeared and passed in each of the first two subjects, but neither of the two that appeared in the last-mentioned subject was successful. The results in Agriculture were very good. The increase in the numbers that came up in the Commercial subjects is gratifying, though the results in Book-keeping and Shorthand were very poor. Not one of the eight candidates that appeared in Free-hand Outline Drawing passed.

Only one of the 59 subject-candidates was a female candidate ; she appeared and passed in Needle-work and Dress-making.

The total number of individual candidates registered was 59, of whom 43 were pupils who came up from nine different institutions, and the remaining 16 private candidates.

(vi) *Intermediate Examinations.*—There was a slight decrease both in the number of subject-candidates examined and in the number of subject-passes, the former having fallen from 945 to 936 and the latter from 457 to 453. The following statement furnishes particulars as to the different subjects brought up and the number of candidates examined and passed under each during the past two years :—

Subjects.	1896–97.		1897–98.	
	Examined.	Passed.	Examined.	Passed.
Civil Engineering.				
Building Materials and Construction	5	4	8	2
Building-Drawing and Estimating	29	10	21	14
Hydraulics and Irrigation Works	1	..	1	1
Earth-work and Road-making	5	5	4	1
Surveying and Levelling	70	27	78	2
Applied Mechanics	3	2	..	..
Mensuration	2	..	6	4
Practical Plane and Solid Geometry	2	1	1	..
Carpentry	6	3	7	2
Mechanical Engineering.				
Machine Construction	4	2	..	..
Machine Drawing	6	1	9	7
Steam and the Steam-engine	2	1	..	..
Fitter's work	1	1	3	2
Electrical Engineering.				
Practical Telegraphy	3	1	3	2
Physical Science.				
Electricity and Magnetism	2	1	1	1
Inorganic Chemistry	22	9	15	7
Physiography	18	13	18	8
Biology.				
Animal Physiology	2	2	3	..
Sanitary Science.				
Hygiene	114	57	108	53
General Biology (Special)	2	2	4	1
Agriculture.				
Surveying and Levelling (Special)	15	12	11	9
Agricultural Engineering	12	10	14	14
Botany (Special)	8	4	17	11
Forestry	4	3	12	8
Organic Chemistry (Special)	15	12	10	10
Veterinary Science.				
Veterinary Science (First stage)	17	16	10	8
Veterinary Science (Second stage)	12	7	18	15
Commerce.				
Book-keeping	105	66	88	71
Commercial Correspondence	71	25	63	29
Banking	11	8	33	22
Commercial Geography	1	..	8	4
Shorthand	43	12	53	12
Type-writing	3	3	6	3
Music.				
Music	9	6	8	7
Drawing, &c.				
Free-hand Outline Drawing	162	55	162	39
Design	14	7	3	2
Geometrical Drawing	57	18	58	26
Painting	15	6	7	5
Modelling	1	1	3	2
Wood-engraving	6	2	6	4
Copper-plate Engraving	4	4	..	..
Jeweller's Work.				
Silversmith's work	3	..	2	2

Subjects.	1896–97.		1897–98.	
	Examined.	Passed.	Examined.	Passed.
Printing, Book-binding and Type-founding.				
Letterpress Printing—				
Compositor's work	9	..	3	1
Proof-reader's work	6	1	1	1
Wood-work and Metal-work.				
Cabinet-making	15	15	21	21
Blacksmith's work	2	1	4	3
Textile Fabrics.				
Cotton-weaving	7	7	2	2
Carpet-weaving	2	2	1	..
Lace-making	5	4	6	6
Glass and Pottery.				
Pottery and Porcelain Manufacture	3	3	..	..
Tailoring and Dress-making.				
Tailoring	1	1	..	..
Needle-work and Dress-making	8	4	16	9
Drawing, &c.				
Total subject-candidates	945	457	936	453

The results in the subjects under Civil Engineering considered as a whole compare unfavourably with those of the previous year, being particularly bad in Surveying and Levelling, in which only two out of 78 were successful, against 27 out of 70 in 1896–97. Under Mechanical Engineering there were no candidates in Machine Construction or in Steam and the Steam-engine, but the results in Machine Drawing were very much better, seven candidates succeeding out of the nine that appeared, against one out of six in the year previous. Under Physical Science there was an improvement in the results in Inorganic Chemistry. The number of candidates examined in Hygiene declined slightly from 114 to 108, but the results were nearly as good as those of the previous year. Of the 108 candidates examined in this subject, 81 were students of the Sanitary Inspectors' class attached to the Medical College, 23 out of these 81 being sanitary inspectors sent by Local Bodies for training. Of the 53 successful candidates, as many as 43 were among those that came up from the Sanitary Inspectors' class, though out of these 43, only seven were among the sanitary inspectors above referred to. Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. King, chairman of the board of examiners in Sanitary Science, remarked in his report as follows : "In regard to the failures in the Intermediate Hygiene Examination, it is believed by the Examiners that these have resulted not from any defect in the education afforded but from the fact that candidates sent up by Local Bodies for training as Sanitary Inspectors possess a class of education that prevented their deriving full benefit from the lectures." There was an increase in the number of candidates examined in three of the subjects embraced under Agriculture, while except in Forestry, the results were better in every one of the subjects. Under Commerce there was a decline in the numbers examined in Book-keeping and Commercial Correspondence, but the results in the former subject were not only very much better than those of 1896–97, but excellent in themselves, as many as 71 passing out of 88 that appeared. It is to be regretted that the results in Shorthand and Type-writing show a falling off. Although only six candidates appeared in the latter subject, a much larger number may be expected to come up in future years, both for the Intermediate and for the Elementary grade, in view of the encouragement afforded by Government in its order, No. 566, Educational, dated the 1st July 1897, according to which "Candidates for the post of type-writing clerk are required to have passed the Elementary examination in Type-writing if the pay of the post is less than Rs. 20 *per mensem*, and the Intermediate examination if the pay is Rs. 20 or upwards." Seven of the eight candidates that appeared in Music passed in it. The results in Free-hand Outline Drawing show a falling off. There was a decline in the number of candidates that came up in Compositor's work and in Proof-reader's work. In the subjects under Wood-work and

Metal-work, not only was there an increase in the number of entrants, but the results were even better. No candidate brought up Pottery and Porcelain Manufacture.

The Intermediate examinations were held in 46 subjects last year, against 52 in the previous year; in three of these 46 subjects no candidate passed last year, while in five of the 52 subjects none had passed in the previous year.

Forty-two of the subject-candidates as against 31 in 1896–97 were female candidates, of whom 26 were successful. The subjects brought up by them and the number of them that passed in each of the subjects are noted below :—

Subject.	Examined.	Passed.
Music	7	6
Free-hand Outline Drawing	10	3
Geometrical Drawing	2	1
Modelling	1	1
Lace-making	6	6
Needle-work and Dress-making	16	9
Total	42	26

One of the six candidates that passed in Mus[illegible]el Cormac, won the "Stradiot" gold medal. She was a pupil candi[illegible]me up from the Madras School of Music.

The total number of individual candidates regis[illegible] was 799, of whom 540 were pupils who came up from 36 different institutions, the remaining 259 being private candidates.

(vii) *Elementary Examinations.*—There was an increase both in the total number of subject-candidates examined and in the number of subject-passes, the former having advanced from 2,238 to 2,502 or by 12 per cent. and the latter from 1,002 to 1,224 or by 22 per cent. The following statement furnishes details as to the numbers examined and passed in the various subjects during the past two years :—

Subjects.	1896-97. Examined.	1896-97. Passed.	1897-98. Examined.	1897-98. Passed.
Civil Engineering.				
Building Materials and Construction	53	19	63	11
Building-Drawing and Estimating	80	19	78	23
Hydraulics and Irrigation Works	33	13	23	18
Earth-work and Road-making	66	25	67	20
Bridge-work	4	2	6	3
Surveying and Levelling	20	10	39	2
Applied Mechanics	1	1	1	..
Mensuration	82	36	109	47
Practical Plane and Solid Geometry	36	11	23	6
Carpentry	16	8	21	4
Mechanical Engineering.				
Machine Construction	1	..	..	..
Machine Drawing	11	3	4	1
Steam and the Steam-engine	2	..	5	2
Fitter's work	8	5	9	8
Electrical Engineering.				
Practical Telegraphy	19	7	18	6
Physical Science.				
Electricity and Magnetism	7	5	18	9
Inorganic Chemistry	8	3	8	1
Physiography	3	1	12	7
Biology.				
Animal Physiology	2	1	6	2
Botany	..	..	6	3

Subjects.	1896-97. Examined.	1896-97. Passed.	1897-98. Examined.	1897-98. Passed.
Sanitary Science.				
Hygiene	61	18	87	42
Agriculture.				
Agriculture	3	2	7	2
Commerce.				
Book-keeping	143	65	155	78
Commercial Correspondence	148	104	171	118
Banking	29	17	51	15
Commercial Geography	3	1	10	3
Shorthand	190	68	156	63
Type-writing	31	10	47	6
Music.				
Music	44	26	43	32
Drawing, &c.				
Free-hand Outline Drawing	555	247	662	387
Design	82	47	74	21
Geometrical Drawing	223	101	254	134
Painting	92	31	76	20
Modelling	13	9	9	6
Jeweller's Work.				
Jeweller's work	6	4	7	5
Silversmith's work	9	5	6	6
Printing, Book-binding and Type-founding.				
Letterpress Printing—				
Compositor's work	24	3	15	6
Proof-reader's work	22	5	11	1
Press-work	7	3	6	..
Machine-work	1	..	2	1
Book-binding	11	5	10	5
Stereotyping	8	1	2	1
Wood-work and Metal-work.				
Cabinet-making	40	30	40	33
Blacksmith's work	16	13	19	19
Textile Fabrics.				
Cotton-weaving	9	7	14	13
Carpet-weaving	8	3	3	2
Lace-making	6	6	11	11
Glass and Pottery.				
Pottery and Porcelain Manufacture	2	2	2	2
Tailoring and Dress-making.				
Tailoring	..	..	3	2
Needle-work and Dress-making	..	..	33	17
Total number of subject-candidates	2,238	1,002	2,502	1,224

The results in the subjects under Civil Engineering taken together compare unfavourably with those of the previous year, for out of the 430 that appeared, only 134 passed, whereas in 1896–97 out of 391 that entered 144 were successful. In one individual subject, however, viz., Hydraulics and Irrigation Works, the results were very much better than in 1896–97. The results in the subjects under Mechanical Engineering show on the whole an improvement. Seventeen out of 38 passed in the subjects under Physical Science, against 9 out of 18 in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of candidates examined in Hygiene, and the results, too, in this subject were considerably better. Only two candidates passed in Agriculture, although seven came up as against three in 1896–97. The total number of candidates examined in the Commercial subjects advanced from 544 to 590, and the number of those that passed

from 265 to 283. There was a great deterioration, however, in the results in Type-writing in which only 6 passed out of 47 against 10 out of 31 in 1896–97. A greater proportion of success was achieved in Music. The results in the subjects under Drawing, &c., in which a larger number of candidates came up, show an improvement, 568 passing in a[illegible]lts out of 1,075 entrants, against 435 out of 965 in 1896–97. There was a decline in the total number of candidates that came up in the subjects under "Printing, Book-binding and Type-founding," while, as regards the results, Mr. Fisher, chairman of the board of examiners in these subjects, made the following remarks in his report: "The failure of all candidates in Press-work appears, to a large extent, to be due to men employed in other branches of Printing appearing for a subject in which they have no practical experience. In Compositor's work and Book-binding, however, the practical work was generally well done by candidates who had evidently taken little trouble to learn the theory of their work. In Proof-reader's work the large percentage of failures in both sections of the examination appears to be caused by the candidates having but a limited acquaintance with the work." As in 1896–97, two candidates appeared in Pottery and Porcelain Manufacture and passed. They were both of them from the School of Arts, Madras. Three candidates appeared in Tailoring, against none in the previous year, and two of these three were successful. For the first Elementary examination held in Needle-work and Dress-making, 33 appeared, of whom 17 passed.

The Elementary examinations were held last year in 49 subjects, in two of which none passed; in 1896–97 they were held in 47 subjects, in three of which there were no successful candidates.

Of the 2,502 subject-candidates that were examined and 1,224 that passed, 157 and 118, respectively, were female candidates. The subjects brought up by the female candidates and the number that passed in each are given below :—

Subject.	Examined.	Passed.
Shorthand	1	...
Music	39	30
Free-hand Outline Drawing	64	55
Geometrical Drawing	6	3
Painting	3	2
Lace-making	11	11
Needle-work and Dress-making	33	17
Total ...	157	118

The silver medal of the Madras Musical Association was not awarded last year, as none of the successful candidates satisfied the conditions prescribed.

The total number of individual candidates registered was 2,183, of whom 1,245 were pupils who came up from 65 different institutions, the remaining 938 being private candidates.

(viii) The subjoined statement shows the different classes of the community to which the successful candidates belonged :—

Class of community.	Number of subject-candidates that passed.					
	Advanced grade.		Intermediate grade.		Elementary grade.	
	1896–97.	1897–98.	1896–97.	1897–98.	1896–97.	1897–98.
Europeans and Eurasians	1	3	32	29	66	118
Native Christians	1	1	59	40	139	212
Muhammadans	..	1	12	17	33	52
Brahmans	9	11	164	192	351	403
Other Hindus	7	12	190	175	413	439
Total ..	18	28	457	453	1,002	1,224

As in previous years, Brahmans and Other Hindus formed the bulk of the candidates.

Handwriting and Dictation Test for Undergraduates.

8. (i) The number of candidates that appeared for this test was 1,702, consisting of 203 First Arts and 1,499 matriculated candidates; 52 of the former and 253 of the latter, or 305 on the whole, were successful. The statement below compares the numbers examined and passed in the past two years :—

Year.	Examined.			Passed.			Percentage.
	F.A's.	Matriculates.	Total.	F.A's.	Matriculates.	Total.	
1896–97 ..	176	1,300	1,476	48	327	375	25
1897–98 ..	203	1,499	1,702	52	253	305	18

(ii) It will be seen from the above statement that, while there was an advance in the number examined, there was a deterioration in the results, the percentage of "passed" to "examined" having gone down from 25 to 18. The First Arts candidates, however, did better than the Matriculates, 26 per cent. of the entrants having passed among the former, against 17 per cent. among the latter.

In addition to the 305 candidates stated to have passed, one Matriculate, who passed the compulsory portion of the Upper Secondary Examination in December, was also declared to have passed the Handwriting and Dictation test for undergraduates.

Examinations in connection with the Subordinate Medical Department.

9. (i) As in the previous year, under G.O., No. 1035, Public, dated the 30th December 1895, twenty per cent. of the vacancies for the grade of Civil Medical pupil were required to be reserved for Muhammadans who had passed at least the Lower Secondary Examination, apart from those that might be selected on the results of the general competition. Twenty vacancies were notified for this grade, and, although it was feared that a sufficient number of applicants might not come forward, 39 applications were received within the period fixed for the receipt of applications,—13 from Muhammadans who had passed the Lower Secondary Examination and 26 from persons belonging to other classes of the community, of whom 25 were Matriculates and one a First Arts candidate. For the competitive examination for the grade of Native Military pupil, however, for which twelve vacancies were notified, only five applications from qualified candidates had been received up to the latest date fixed for the submission of applications; consequently, as in previous years, the special sanction of Government had to be obtained to the admission of candidates who had passed the Middle School or the Lower Secondary Examination, this concession being extended to the grade of Burma Hospital Assistant pupil also, for which there were six vacancies.

The competitive examination for all the three grades above referred to was held on the 10th May and that for the grade of Assistant Surgeon (Madras Command) on the 10th and 11th May.

(ii) The following statement compares the number of candidates examined and the number of vacancies advertised for each of the several grades during the past two years :—

Grade.	1896–97.		1897–98.	
	Number examined.	Number of vacancies.	Number examined.	Number of vacancies.
Civil Medical pupil	47	25	35	20
Native Military pupil	65	30	48	12
Madras-Burma Hospital Assistant pupil	..	..	37	6
Assistant-Surgeon	68	8	74	13

As usual, the results were forwarded to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, except in the case of the candidates for the examination for the grade of Burma Medical pupil, the results of which were sent to the Principal of the Medical College.

Sub-Assistant Inspectors' Tests.

10. (i) The total number of individual candidates that registered their names fell from 44 to 42. Of these 42 candidates, 31 applied for the Sub-Assistants' tests proper, and the remaining 11 for examination in the Madras Educational Rules only under Branch II or in the Grant-in-Aid Code only under Branch III of Test B, or for both these portions together, in view to qualifying for clerkships on Rs. 50 and upwards in the Educational Department.

(ii) The following statement shows the number of candidates examined and passed in [illegible] and in each branch or portion of a branch under Test B during the past two years :—

Name of test.	1896-97.		1897-98.	
	Examined.	Passed.	Examined.	Passed.
Test A—				
Linguistic	7	5	5	2
Test B—				
Branch I.—The office and general duties, &c.	18	15	7	6
,, II.—The Madras Educational Rules, &c.	12	12	12	11
,, II (i) —The Madras Educational Rules only	6	5	8	8
,, III.—The Grant-in-Aid Code, &c.	11	10	12	11
,, III (i).—The Grant-in-Aid Code only	5	5	11	11
,, IV.—Topography	12	11	9	9

The results of Test A show a falling off, but those of Test B were, as in previous years, very good.

As in 1896–97 no female candidate came up for any of the tests.

Special Tests.

11. (i) Harpanahalli, Koraput and Ongole having been removed from the list of examination centres, the Special tests, including the tests prescribed for officers of the Salt and Abkári Department, were held last year at 33 centres. Under G.O., No. 660, Educational, dated the 23rd October 1896, Matriculates and First-in-Arts candidates appearing for the Special tests were not required to have previously passed the Handwriting and Dictation test for undergraduates; while under G.O., No. 584, Educational, dated the 21st September 1896, the Special Test examinations except the Revenue test, higher grade, and the Criminal Judicial test, higher and lower grades, were thrown open, until 1st January 1902, to General Test and first-class Middle School men who on the 1st January 1897 held appointments carrying a salary of Rs. 15 *per mensem* or upwards in the "superior" service of Government. As the two Government Orders above referred to were not received till after the applications had all been received for the examination of October 1896, they came into force only last year.

Special Tests (chiefly Revenue and Judicial).

(ii) For the Special tests proper 4,883 candidates registered their names, 4,175 presented themselves for examination and 1,361 passed, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 5,768, 5,076 and 1848, respectively. There was thus a decline of 885, or over 15 per cent. in the number of registered applicants; while also the proportion of "examined" to "registered" and of "passed" to "examined" fell from 88·00 and 36·40 to 85·50 and 32·59, respectively. The following statement compares the numbers registered, examined and passed during the past five years :—

Year.	Number registered.	Number examined.	Number passed.	Percentage of column 3 to column 2.	Ratio of passed to examined.
1893–94	6,124	5,108	1,565	83·40	30·63
1894–95	5,657	4,882	1,786	86·30	36·58
1895–96	5,686	4,978	1,634	87·54	32·82
1896–97	5,768	5,076	1,848	88·00	36·40
1897–98	4,883	4,175	1,361	85·50	32·59

It will be observed from the above statement that the numbers registered, examined and passed were the smallest during the quinquennium.

(iii) The statement below furnishes particulars as to the numbers registered, examined and passed under each test in 1896–97 and 1897–98 :—

Designation of tests.	1896-97.			1897-98.		
	Number registered.	Number examined.	Number passed.	Number registered.	Number examined.	Number passed.
Précis-writing Test	1,973	1,885	710	1,659	1,552	499
Translation Test, Higher grade	307	292	94	285	269	102
Do. Lower	952	882	295	819	736	289
Account Test, Higher	331	260	116	253	187	74
Do. Lower	713	607	424	493	396	195
Civil Judicial Test	90	77	* 24	85	62	† 14
Criminal Judicial Test, Higher	323	253	63	319	235	27
Do. Lower	133	98	23	151	114	13
Revenue Test, Higher	167	120	45	184	135	53
Do. Lower	684	533	30	544	422	76
Sea Customs Test	70	47	9	78	56	11
Jail Test	25	22	15	13	11	8
Total ..	5,768	5,076	1,848	4,883	4,175	1,361

* Including six candidates who appeared for and passed in the Civil Judicial test without the Civil Rules of practice.
† Including four do. do. do. do.

There was an increase both in the number registered and in the number examined in three tests—the Criminal Judicial test, lower grade, the Revenue test, higher grade, and the Sea Customs test; but in every other test there was a decrease, the decrease being largest under both "registered" and "examined" in the Précis-writing test and the Account test, lower grade.

(iv) The results in the more important tests for the past five years are compared below :—

Designation of tests.	Years.				
	1893–94.	1894–95.	1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.
Précis-writing Test	33	37	30	38	32
Civil Judicial Test	48	22	33	[illegible]	23
Criminal Judicial Test, Higher grade	22	13	27	.	11
Do. do. Lower do.	27	8	20	23	11
Revenue Test, Higher grade	12	38	57	38	39
Do. Lower do.	13	26	28	6	18

These results show a falling off in the first four tests and an improvement in the last two tests. Though the percentage of success in the Précis-writing test declined from 38 to 32, still it is worthy of note that during the past five years it has never gone below 30, fluctuating between 30 and 38. This must be attributed to the fact that since the revised notification came into operation in 1894–95, graduates have had to pass this test to render themselves eligible for appointments on Rs. 60 and upwards in the public service, and owing to a good number of the candidates being thus men of comparatively high educational attainments there has not been any very marked deterioration in the results. As regards the results in the Civil Judicial test, some explanation may, perhaps, be found in the fact that there are as many as *eight* subjects comprised in this test, in each of which, as also in all of them together, a minimum has to be gained, and that the candidates, who are mostly employés in the Judicial department of the public service, cannot command sufficient leisure for mastering all the subjects. I am, however, unable to account for the very poor results in the Criminal Judicial tests. They were very bad, indeed, in 1894–95, but showed some improvement in the two following years, and last year again they suddenly deteriorated. There is no reason to think that the examiners were unusually severe, for they were all men who had had experience as examiners in the Special tests.

The number of candidates who failed in any one subject only, having passed in the other three subjects of the test, was very small indeed, except in Medical Jurisprudence, in which 49 and 19 so failed in the higher and lower grades, respectively. Most of the candidates failed in more subjects than one. The improvement in the results of the Revenue test, lower grade, which were so disastrous in 1896-97, is very gratifying.

(v) The results of the Translation tests for the past two years are shown in the annexed statement, details being furnished for each vernacular language:—

Vernacular Language.		Number examined.		Number passed.		Percentage of passes.	
		1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
Tamil ..	Higher	142	123	33	43	23	35
	Lower	437	357	108	116	25	32
Telugu ..	Higher	101	103	40	44	40	43
	Lower	334	277	144	138	43	50
Canarese ..	Higher	5	8	3	4	60	50
	Lower	36	28	14	6	39	21
Malayalam ..	Higher	30	22	12	4	40	18
	Lower	66	65	24	26	36	40
Hindustani ..	Higher	8	7	5	3	63	43
	Lower	6	3	4	2	67	67
Uriya ..	Higher	6	6	1	4	17	67
	Lower	2	5	..	1	..	20
Tulu ..	Lower	1	1	1	..	100	..

The improvement in the results of each grade in the two principal vernacular languages is satisfactory.

(vi) Eleven candidates completed, at the examination of last year, the special tests prescribed for the office of Deputy Collector.

Special Tests for Officers of the Salt and Abkári Department.

(vii) Seven hundred and fifty candidates in all appeared for these tests, of whom 550 passed, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 767 and 426, respectively.

(viii) The following table compares the numbers examined and passed under each of the five tests during the past two years:—

Designation of tests.	Number of candidates that appeared.		Number that passed.		Percentage of passes.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
Test A—Criminal Law	77	69	19	25	25	36
,, B—Salt	251	268	193	219	77	82
,, C—Accounts	129	139	75	118	58	85
,, D—Engineering	72	70	26	50	36	71
,, F—Abkári	238	204	113	138	47	68
Total ..	767	750	426	550	56	73

There was a slight decrease in the total number examined, but there was an improvement in the results of all the tests, the improvement being most marked in the case of tests C and D.

(ix) In the statement below are given details as to the numbers examined and passed in 1896-97 and 1897-98 under each grade in test A and in each branch of tests B, C, D and F:—

Designation of tests.	1896-97. Examined. Higher.	1896-97. Examined. Lower.	1896-97. Passed. Higher.	1896-97. Passed. Lower.*	1897-98. Examined. Higher.	1897-98. Examined. Lower.	1897-98. Passed. Higher.	1897-98. Passed. Lower.*
Test A—Criminal Law	32	45	3	16	18	51	2	23
Test B—Salt.								
Branch I.—Salt Laws and Rules	50	12	30	23	56	13	33	32
,, II.—Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue ..	46	15	24	29	54	13	37	23
,, III.—Report of the Salt Commission	37	..	29	..	37	..	30	..
,, IV.—Hand-book of Common Salt	46	..	29	..	45	..	28	..
,, V.—Manufacture and Chemistry of Saltpetre	45	..	29	..	50	..	36	..
Test C—Accounts.								
Branch I.—Civil Service Regulations and Civil Account Code.	61	..	24	..	69	..	51	..
,, II.—Method of keeping accounts	57	11	11	40	62	8	34	33
Test D—Engineering.								
Branch I.—Surveying	20	1	1	..	17	1	13	3
,, II.—Levelling	11	..	4	..	16	..	7	..
,, III.—Mensuration	18	1	8	4	16	1	10	2
,, IV.—Plan Drawing and Estimating	21	..	4	5	18	1	8	7
Test F—Abkári.								
Branch I.—Abkári Law	71	48	14	40	64	39	20	51
,, II.—Standing Orders relating to Abkári and Opium ..	74	45	10	49	67	34	17	50
	589	178	220	206	589	161	326	224
Total ..	767		426		750		550	

* Some of those who came up for the Higher Grade but obtained the minimum for the Lower Grade were declared to have passed the Lower Grade.

The Salt and Abkári Department Competitive Examination.

12. This examination was not held during the year in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Revenue approved and sanctioned by Government in its Order, Mis. No. 3375, dated 5th July 1897.

Finance.

13. (i) *Fees and Other Receipts.*—The receipts of the Commission amounted to Rs. 1,14,487, exceeding the actuals of 1896-97 by Rs. 4,633 and the revised estimate by Rs. 5,487. The increase is mainly due to the fact that the fees for the Handwriting and Dictation test for undergraduates held, under G.O., No. 357, Educational, dated the 29th June 1897, in May this year having been paid before the 31st March, were credited to the accounts of last year. Particulars are furnished in the annexed statement:—

Examinations.	Actuals, 1896-97.	Budget, 1897-98.	Revised budget, 1897-98.	Actuals, 1897-98.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Primary and Fifth and Sixth Standard Examinations	21,366	20,000	22,000	22,152
Lower Secondary Examination	40,310	36,000	41,000	42,257
Upper do. do.	1,230	2,000	1,640	1,681
Handwriting and Dictation Test for Undergraduates	4,599	4,800	5,160	10,028
Technical Examinations	7,390	7,000	8,100	8,504
Medical Entrance Examinations	1,596	1,000	1,600	1,080
Sub-Assistant Inspector's Tests	377	400	400	267
Special and Salt and Abkári Test Examinations	32,626	33,500	29,000	28,518
Salt and Abkári Department Competitive Examination	360	200	..	..
Miscellaneous	..	100	100	..
Total ..	1,09,854	1,05,000	1,09,000	1,14,487

(ii) *Charges.*—The details of the charges paid during the year are shown below :—

Examinations.	Actuals for 1896–97.	Actuals for 1897–98. Stipends.	Temporary establishments and contingencies.	Travelling allowances.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Primary and Fifth and Sixth Standard Examinations.	30,688	20,559	6,910	3,500	30,969
Lower Secondary Examination	37,012	26,019	9,645	..	38,714
Upper do. do.		2,412			
Handwriting and Dictation Test for Undergraduates.		638			
Technical Examinations	15,979	11,127	2,994	..	14,121
Medical Entrance Examinations	795	583	110	..	693
Sub-Assistant Inspectors' Tests	823	821	79	..	900
Special and Salt and Abkári Tests	14,964	9,184	2,779	..	11,963
Salt and Abkári Department Competitive Examination.	677	..	..	..	..
Refunds	686	..	..	..	415
Printing charges	1,106	..	..	..	865
General—					
Secretary	4,200	..	..	..	4,200
Office Establishment, Permanent	5,059	..	..	..	5,333
Do. Temporary	500	..	..	..	500
Office contingencies	964	..	..	..	331
Office travelling allowance	..	..	..	77	77
Total ..	1,13,453	71,343	22,517	3,577	1,09,081
Budget Estimate for 1897–98	..	70,400	23,650		1,05,240
Revised do. for 1897–98	..	77,450	25,300		1,14,200

The total expenditure, inclusive of refunds and of the charges paid for certain printing work done at private presses, amounted to Rs. 1,09,081, or Rs. 4,372 less than the charges of the previous year. The original budget estimate of charges was Rs. 1,05,240; an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned in G.O., No. 238, Financial, dated the 7th March 1898. The actuals will thus be found to be Rs. 6,159 less than the total allotment of Rs. 1,15,240. As compared with the receipts realized during the year, there was a surplus of Rs. 5,406 as against a deficit of Rs. 3,599 in 1896–97, but this surplus is mostly nominal as stipends to the extent of Rs. 850 still remain unpaid, while bills for stipends aggregating Rs. 2,818 in connection with the Special Test and Technical examinations, and contingent bills for about Rs. 426 in all were not cashed till after the close of the year. If the enhanced rates of admission fees I have recommended in my letter, No. 38/1-D., dated the 9th March 1898, are sanctioned, as I trust they will be, the financial condition of the Commission, as a whole, will right itself.

14. An inventory of valuable stock was duly maintained and checked during the year.

Order—No. 627, Educational, dated 3rd October 1898.

The Government proceeds to review the report of the Commissioner for Government Examinations for the year 1897–98.

2. Particulars regarding the numbers of examinees and of passes at the tests of general education conducted by the Commissioner are given in the following statement :—

Name of examination.	Number examined. 1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.	Number of complete passes. 1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.
Primary	29,324	30,980	31,567	12,351	13,105	13,817
Lower Secondary	7,094	9,114	9,293	1,821	1,779	2,111
Upper do.	86	111	149	* 11	* 21	* 19

* Passed in the compulsory subjects.

The figures relating to each examination are dealt with in detail below.

3. *The Primary Examination.*—This examination was conducted during the year in 286 centres by thirty boards consisting of 637 members. The number of candidates was 31,567, the highest figure ever recorded. The percentage of complete passes to the total number of examinees was 43·7 against 42·3 in the previous year. The number of teacher candidates, which had decreased from 2,096 to 1,506 in 1896–97, fell to 1,410 during the year, while the percentage of complete passes among them rose from 42·3 to 44·9. As usual, children whose ages lay between eleven and twelve years obtained the largest number of passes and boys under nine the highest percentage, viz., 59. Among districts, South Arcot produced the best ults, passing 82·2 per cent. of its candidates; Tinnevelly, which headed the list year, came second with a percentage of 80·7, while Kistna secured the lowest percentage, namely, 33·9.

4. Of the male candidates for the examination, who numbered over 29,000, more than 54 per cent. were non-Brahman caste Hindus and nearly 29 per cent. Brahmans. The female candidates numbered 2,373, of whom 931 were Native Christians and 890 non-Brahman caste Hindus. The relative success of the different classes of the community and the proportion of male to female candidates were as shown below :—

—	Proportion of male to female candidates.	Percentage of success. Males.	Females.
Europeans and Eurasians	·96 to 1	48·1	60·9
Native Christians	2·4 to 1	49·1	63·4
Muhammadans	28·2 to 1	38·8	34·3
Brahmans	39·4 to 1	49·7	59·2
Non-Brahman Hindus	17·8 to 1	39·4	49·2
Panchamas	9·4 to 1	20·5	28·8

These figures show that, as in the previous year, Brahman females were remarkably few; that Brahmans and Native Christians were almost equally successful among the males; that among females Native Christians obtained the highest percentage of passes; and that females in every class but Muhammadans secured better results than males.

The favourite optional subjects were, as usual, geography and hygiene and elementary sanitary science, while English was brought up as a second language by over 9,000 candidates.

5. *The Lower Secondary Examination.*—In 1896–97 the number of candidates who appeared for this test increased by as much as 28 per cent.; but the proportion of them who obtained complete passes declined to 19·5 per cent. In the year under review, the examinees increased by 2 per cent. and the percentage of success rose from 19·5 to 22·7. Of over 8,000 male candidates more than half were Brahmans, while of the 755 females 61 per cent. were Native Christians. English was taken up as a first language by 7,729 candidates. Geometry and algebra among males and needle-work among females continued to be the most popular of the optional subjects. The number taking up elementary science showed a further decrease and the passes fell from 203 to 125.

6. *The Upper Secondary Examination.*—Of 149 candidates examined in all the compulsory subjects of this examination only 19 passed, the percentage of success being 13 against 19 in the previous year. Schools sending up pupils increased from 21 to 36 and pupil candidates from 51 to 80, while the number of passes remained at 15. As many as 26 schools failed to pass any of their pupils, but private candidates fared even worse. Five female candidates appeared and one passed; she was the only candidate who passed in the first class.

Since its institution in 1889, the examination has been held eight times, but only 27 candidates have succeeded in passing it completely.

7. *The Government Technical Examinations.*—In the Elementary examination, the number of subject candidates rose from 2,238 to 2,502, or by nearly 12 per cent. and passes by 22 per cent. Of the 1,224 successful candidates 118 were females. Examination was held in 49 subjects against 47 in the previous year. Except in surveying and levelling, carpentry, agriculture and type-writing, the results were generally fair.

In the Intermediate examination, subject candidates fell from 945 to 936 and passes from 457 to 453, while the number of subjects brought up for examination decreased from 52 to 46. Female candidates numbered 42 and 26 of them were successful, the subjects being music, drawing, modelling, lace-making, and needle-work and dress-making.

In the Advanced examination 59 candidates were examined and 28 passed. The results in agriculture were very good, 13 out of the 15 presented being successful. In cabinet-making all the five candidates passed, but none in freehand outline drawing for which there were eight candidates. One of the successful candidates was a female and she passed in needle-work and dress-making.

The figures relating to these examinations are, on the whole, very encouraging. The individual candidates appearing for them continued to increase and numbered 3,041 as against 1,998 in 1895–96 and 2,749 in 1896–97.

8. The following statement compares the Special and Departmental tests held during the year 1897–98 with those of the preceding year:—

Examination.	1896–97.			1897–98.		
	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage.	Examined.	Passed.	Percentage.
Special Tests	5,076	1,848	36	4,175	1,361	33
Salt and Abkári Tests	767	426	56	750	550	73
Sub-Assistant Inspector's Test ..	71	63	89	64	58	91

There was an increase in the number of candidates for the Criminal Judicial test, Lower Grade, the Revenue test, Higher Grade, and the Sea Customs test, and a decrease in the number appearing for every other test. The percentage of passes, except in the Revenue tests, was lower than in 1896–97, the results in the Criminal Judicial tests being very bad. The statistics of the Salt and Abkári tests seem to show that the tests were somewhat easy, or that the Examiners were contented with a low standard of knowledge.

9. The figures relating to the success of female candidates at the General Educational test examinations under the control of the Commissioner are abstracted below:—

Examination.	Examined.		Passed.		Percentage.	
	1896–97.	1897–98.	1896–97.	1897–98.	1896–97.	1897–98.
Upper Secondary	..	5	..	1	..	20
Lower do.	684	755	179	279	26·2	37
Primary	2,234	2,373	1,241	1,326	55·5	55·9

The only female candidate that passed the Upper Secondary examination was a European and she appeared from the European Convent Girls' School, Mylapore. Three of the four unsuccessful candidates were also Europeans, while the fourth belonged to the class of "other Hindus." The examination does not appear to find favour with female candidates, although it was expressly modified in G.O., No. 397, Educational, dated 4th July 1896, to suit them. The increase in numbers and in the percentage of passes at the Lower Secondary examination is satisfactory, while the continued increase in the number of candidates for the Primary examination is very encouraging.

10. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,09,081 and the receipts to Rupees 1,14,487. The year thus closed with a surplus of Rs. 5,406 (or Rs. 1,312 after deducting the charges paid after the 31st March 1898) as against a deficit of Rs. 3,599 in 1896–97, but the Government observes that this surplus is nominal and that the financial position of the Commission is not yet satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner, Government Examinations
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Accountant-General.
" Judicial Department.
" Revenue Department.
Editors' Table.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Educational (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1042

Order

From

The Hon'ble Mr. D. Duncan, B.A. B.C.S. I.C.S.,
Commissioner for Government Examinations,
Madras.

No. 187/15

Dated 9th August 1898

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SUBJECT.

Submitting annual report for the year 1897-98.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department	Date.
	259 orgl.	Edl.	19-4-98
	223 Mis.	— (also)	4-4-98
	168 —	— — —	12-3-98
	238 Mis.	— —	7-3-98
	696 Sc.	— —	6-12-97
	399 Mis.	— —	15-7-97
	366 orgl.	— —	1-7-97
	354 Sc.	— —	29-6-97
	281 Mis.	— —	15-5-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

182 Mis. Edl. 12-3-97.
84 Sc. — — 11-2-97
19 Mis. — — 13-1-97
744 — — 1-12-96
660 — — 23-10-96
645 Sc. — — 16-10-96
584 orgl. — — 21-9-96
1038 Sc. Pub. 30-12-95
843 — Edl. 24-10-95

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Educational Department.

Review of the annual report of the Commr. for Govt. Exams.

C.No.1042, dated 9th August 1898 from the Commissioner for Government Examinations.

ORDER
P.S.

No. 627 dated 3-10-98

H.24.

AA 30.9.98

The Govt. proceeds to review the report of the Commr. for Govt. Examns. for the year 1897-98.

2. Particulars regarding the numbers of examinees and of passes at the tests of general education conducted by the Commr. are given in the following statement:-

Name of Examination.	Number examined			Number of complete passes		
	1895-96	1896-97	1897-98	1895-96	1896-97	1897-98
Primary	29,324	30,980	31,567	12,351	13,105	13,817
Lower Secondary	7,094	9,114	9,293	1,821 @	1,779 @	2,111 @
Upper Do	86	111	149	11	21	19

@ Passed in the compulsory subjects.

The figures relating to each examination are dealt with in detail below.

3. The Primary Examination- This examination was conducted during the year in 286 centres by thirty boards consisting of 637 members. The number of candidates

was 31,567, the highest figure ever recorded. The percentage of complete passes to the total number of examinees was 43.7 against 42.3 in the previous year. The number of teacher candidates, which had decreased from 2,096 to 1,506 in 1896-97, fell to 1410 during the year, while the percentage of complete passes among them rose from 42.3 to 44.9. As usual, children of whose ages between eleven and twelve years of age obtained the largest number of passes and boys under nine the highest percentage, viz,- 59. Among districts, South Arcot produced the best results, passing 82.2 per cent of its candidates; Tinnevelly, which headed the list last year, came second with a percentage of 80.7, while Kistna secured the lowest percentage, namely, 33.9.

4. Of the male candidates for the examination, who numbered over 29,000, more than 54 per cent were non-Brahmans and Caste Hindus nearly 29 per cent Brahmans. The female candidates numbered 2,373, of whom 931 were Native Christians and 890 non-Brahman Caste Hindus. The relative success of the different classes of the community and the proportion of male to female candidates were as shown below:-

	Proportion of male to female candidates.	Percentage of Success	
		Males	Females
Europeans & Eurasians	.96 to 1	48.1	60.9
Native Christians	2. 4 to 1	49.1	63.4
Muhammadans	28. 2 to 1	38.8	34.3
Brdhmans	39. 4 to 1	49.7	59.2
Non-Brahman Hindus	17. 6 to 1	39.4	49.2
	9. 4 to 1		

previous year, Brahman females were remarkably few; the smallest proportion; that Brahmans and Native Christians were almost equally successful among the males; that among females Native Christians obtained the highest percentage of passes; and that females in every class secured better results than Caste Muhammadans males.

The favourite optional subjects were, as usual, Geography and Hygiene and Elementary Sanitary Science, while English was brought up as a second language by over 9,000 candidates.

5. The Lower Secondary Examination. In 1896-97 the number of candidates who appeared for this test increased by as much as 28 per-cent; but the proportion of them who obtained complete passes declined to and was only 19.5 per cent. In the year under review, the examinees increased by 2 per cent and the percentage of Success from 19.5 them who were successful rose, though still low, to 22.7. Of over 8000 male candidates more than half were Brahmans, while of the 755 females 61 per cent were Native Christians. English was taken up as a first language by 7,729 candidates. Geometry and Algebra among males and Needlework among females continued to be the most popular of the optional subjects. The number taking up Elementary Science showed a further decrease and the passes fell from 203 to 125.

6. The Upper Secondary Examination.

Of 149 candidates examined in all the compulsory subjects of this examination only 19 passed, the percentage of success being 13 against 19 in the previous year. Schools sending up pupils increased from 21 to 36 and pupil candidates from 51 to 80, while the number of passes remained ~~stationary~~ at 15. As many as 26 schools ~~did not succeed in~~ failed to pass~~ing~~ any of its pupils; but private candidates fared worse. Five female candidates appeared and one passed; she was ~~placed~~ Cleverly candidate Passed in the first class. ~~None of the male candidates succeeded in securing a first class pass.~~

Since its institution in 1889, the examination has ~~now~~ been held eight times, but only 27 candidates have ~~hitherto~~ succeeded in passing it completely.

7. The Government Technical Examinations.

In the Elementary Examination, the number of subject candidates rose from 2,238 to 2,502 or by nearly 12 per-cent and passes by 22 per cent. Of the 1224 successful candidates 118 were females. Examination was held in 49 subjects against 47 in the previous year. Except in Surveying and Levelling, Carpentry, Agriculture and Type-writing, the results were generally fair.

In the Intermediate Examination, subject candidates fell from 945 to 936 and passes from 457 to 453, while the number of subjects brought up for examination decreased from 52 to 46. Female candidates numbered 42 and 26 of them were successful the subjects

In the Advanced Examination 59 candidates were examined and 28 passed. The results in Agriculture were very good, 13 out of the 15 presented being successful. In Cabinet-making all the five candidates passed but none in Freehand Outline Drawing, for which there were 8 candidates. One of the successful candidates was a female and she passed in Needle-work and Dress-making.

The figures relating to these examinations are on the whole very encouraging. The individual candidates appearing for them continued to increase and numbered 3,041, as against 1,998 in 1895-96 and 2,749 in 1896-97.

8. The following statement compares the Special and Departmental tests held during the year 1897-98 with those of the preceding year:—

Examination	1896 - 97			1897-98		
	Examined	Passed	Per-centage	Exd.	Passed	Per-centage
Special Tests	5,076	1,848	36	4,175	1,361	33
Salt & Abkari Tests	767	426	56	750	550	73
Sub-Asstt. Inspr.'s Test	71	63	89	64	58	91

There was an increase in the number of candidates for the Criminal Judicial test, Lower grade, the Revenue test, Higher Grade, and the Sea Customs test, and a decrease in the number

for every other test. The percentage of passes, except in the Revenue tests, was lower than in 1896-97, the results in the Criminal Judicial tests being very bad. The statistics of the Salt and Abkari tests seem to show that the tests were somewhat easy or that the Examiners were contented with a low standard of knowledge.

9. The figures relating to the success of female candidates at the general educational test examinations under the control of the Commissioner are abstracted below:-

Examination	Examined		Passed		Percentage	
	1896-97	1897-98	1896-97	1897-98	1896-97	1897-9
Upper Secondary	,,	5	,,	1	,,	20
Lower Secondary	684	755	179	279	26.2	37
Primary	2,254	2,373	1,241	1,326	55.5	55.9

The only female candidate that passed the Upper Secondary Examination was a European and she appeared from the European Convent Girls' School, Mylapore. Three of the four unsuccessful candidates were also Europeans while the fourth belonged to the class of "other Hindus". The examination does not appear to find favour with female candidates although it was expressly modified in G.O. No. 397 Ed., dated 4th July 1896 to suit them whom it was expressly to suit.

centage of passes at the Lower Secondary Examination is satisfactory, while the continued increase in the number of candidates for the Primary Examination is very encouraging.

10. The total expenditure amounted to Rs.1,09,081 and the receipts to Rs.1,14,487. The year thus closed with a surplus of Rs.5,406 (or Rs.1312 after deducting the charges paid after the 31st March 1898) as against a deficit of Rs.3,599 in 1896-97, ~~The Govt. hopes that this improvement in the finances of the Examinations will be maintained.~~

But the Govt observes that this surplus is nominal & that the financial position of the Commission is still not yet satisfactory.

H.T. 29/9/98.

Asst Secy:
See para. 13. of Report. Handwriting & Dictation Test fees was paid twice within the year, which will not occur again. This would fall was abt Rs. 5000.
The same para. shows sums unpaid 850.
2818
425
4094
Total of these two, say Rs. 9000.
agt a nominal surplus of 5400.
The Govt are therefore still run at a loss of abt 3600.
I cant find Director's letter

To
The C.G.E.
,,, D.P.I.
,,, A.G.
,,, Judl. Dept.
,,, Rev. Dept.
Editors' Table.

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