M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 54. Press Mis.

86-87.

Dated 16-1- 1874.

619

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 86. Read the following letter from E. B. POWELL, Esq., M.A., C.S.I., Director of Public Instruction, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 18th December 1873, No. 2519:—

On receiving a copy of G. O., Financial Department, No. 1553, of the 24th October last, I called upon the Deputy Inspector of Schools for the Gooty and Pennacondah Circles to report upon the Municipal School at Adoni, and to state whether it was customary with him to visit the school when passing through the town. I now do myself the honour of submitting a copy of the Deputy Inspector's report, No. 97, of the 29th ultimo.

2. I think the facts of the case are sufficient to show that the defects of the Municipal School are due to the injudicious action taken by the Adoni Municipality, and not to any shortcomings of the Educational Department.

From H. HANUMUNTA ROW, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gooty and Pennacondah Circles, to E. B. POWELL, Esq., M.A., C.S.I., Director of Public Instruction, dated Anantapoor, 29th November 1873, No. 97.

In obedience to the instructions in the Proceedings, No. 2268, I beg to submit the following report on the Municipal School at Adony in the Gooty Circle.

2. Sometime back two or three utterly unimproved and backward Pial Schools in the place were united into a school and placed under the municipal management with the object of developing the then existing indigenous schools into an improved class of schools for imparting elementary instruction; and the Commissioners will have doubtlessly succeeded if they had adopted proper means to secure their end. Since they thought it best to engage the services of the respective Pial Schoolmasters to give education gratis, and leave the union to the sole management of these grossly ignorant men, the institution cannot but be otherwise.

3. The school was last inspected by me on the 24th August. The rolls showed 223 in number, but only 137 were actually present at the examination; about thirty or forty of these were collected after I entered the school-room at about 8½ A.M., though the school had been, or at least ought to have been, in working order from the last hour or so. A glance at the attendance register showed that several who seemed to have left the school for good were still retained on rolls, perhaps just to swell numbers in accounts. The highest class in the school is the third, corresponding to the III. Standard (exclusive of English) under the "Results system." There were twenty-two on the rolls of this class, but only thirteen actually present at the examination; and though four of those present read a quite different lesson from the others, and were quite unable to keep pace with the rest, they were still spoken of as belonging to the class. The results of examination in Arithmetic, Dictation, and bare Reading were characterized by me as good. The meaning of the passages read never seemed to have been taught to the pupils; and when the Head Master took a reading lesson in my presence, I found that the master himself was ignorant of Telugu equivalents for some of the words in the very book he professed to teach. Of course much cannot be expected from a man who was a mere Pial Schoolmaster, and who had himself an ordinary Pial-School education. The first and second classes were also examined by me on the occasion. The classification made at my last inspection was not retained, and so I had to rearrange boys before *any* examination could be conducted. Though the second and a few of the first class boys were able to read certain portions of the First Book of Lessons, yet writing from dictation never seemed to have been taught to them. Among the rest, there were boys who spent the whole of their time in the school on one of the Multiplication Tables, the nine digits, or the alphabets. Very young boys have an admission into the school, perhaps just to swell the number on rolls than with a view to the best interests of the school.

4. The school is most wretchedly managed, in fact just on the same scale as an ordinary Pial School is. The noise of the children reading in the school is loud enough to be heard at a distance from it. Masters send pupils to call others that are late in making their appearance in the school. Master's teaching is not for their class generally, but to individual boys only ; the inflicting of corporal punishment is not confined to the Head Master alone ; from morning to evening boys keep piddling about the alphabets (marked out for them on sand), or sit over a Multiplication Table, or the nine digits, without the slightest variation. At every one of my inspections these defects have been pointed out, but all to no purpose. Sir, what improvement can be made in a school which is solely managed by masters that are incapable of taking to any hints and acting on any suggestions made to them ? The cost of the establishment, &c., is 712 Rupees a-year. To lay so much money on the school as it now stands is a mere waste in my humble opinion. The Commissioners would have done much good to the Municipality if they had allotted an equal amount for "results grants," instead of thus feeding these good-for-nothing masters at the public expense.

5. With due deference to the integrity and goodwill of the late Vice-President of the Municipality, I beg to say that I do not conscientiously concur in his statement to the effect that the school has not been visited by me "as often as" I "pass through Adony."

I was at Adony on the 17th June 1872, 27th September 1872, 14th December 1872, 25th March 1873, 24th August 1873, and have the honour to say that the school has been visited by me on *all* occasions except the third, when I was engaged in examining the Result Grants School in the Municipality. The Vice-President further says that when "a number of Pial Schools are in existence, only one received results grant." To this I beg to say that of the "number" of masters, only two accepted to have their schools inspected ; and of these two one failed to mark his attendance register correctly and honestly, and up to the date of my visit only one school was examined for results grants.

No. 87. ORDER THEREON, 16th January 1874, No. 54.

The Government await the report called for from the President of the Municipality, which he is requested to submit as soon as possible.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Adoni.
" Director of Public Instruction.

Exd. J. Wright.

Office of the Director of
Public Instruction,
MADRAS, 18th December 1873

No. 2579.

From

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

On receiving a copy of Government Order, Financial Department, No. 1553 of the 25th October last, I called upon the Deputy Inspector of Schools for the Cooty and Pennaconda Circles to report upon the Municipal school at Adoni and to state whether it was customary with him to visit the school when passing through the town. I now do myself the honor of submitting a copy of the Deputy Inspector's Report, No. 97 of the 29th ultimo.

2 I think the facts of the case are sufficient to show that the defects of the Municipal school are due to the injudicious action taken by the Adoni Municipality, and not to any shortcomings of the Educational Department. — I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

V. B. Powell
Director of Public Instruction.

Govt. of [1874] Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Adoni,
&c., &c.

Dated January, 16*th*.

Recd. 8*th*.

G. O., 16*th January* 1874, *No.* 54.

JANUARY.
Nos. 86-87.

Adoni Municipality.—The report called for from the President respecting the school at Adoni awaited before taking action on the unfavourable report on it of the Deputy Inspector of Schools.

Fil 1873 Dept.

From
The Director of Public Instruction, Madras. 1873.

To
The Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

Dated 18th December 1873.
Received 20 " "

No. 2579 / 15

Enclosures.
No. 2388.

Sending with remarks copy of Report on the Municipal School at Adoni

W H B'an order

-7 N° 311-

16 Jany 74 No 54

but see my note proposing further action

J.D.S. Today

Reply. Await the report called for from the President of the Municipality. The D. is requested to submit as soon as possible.

The D.P. Instn
P. M. Comr. Adoni

I think we must wait for the decision of the President which has been called for. We might add "which he is requested to submit as soon as possible."

The "results" system is still on its trial - & I am doubtful of it. But it can be worked better in a Municipality than elsewhere - as the schools & masters are under closer supervision. J.D.S.

Agree with Mr.. As to the call for report we must await it. Surely a reminder. The first step clearly is to obtain masters (elementary training school) & we might have schools then the system of school results.

15

Note on N° 2579 (Municipal)

It seems evident from this report that the school inspection (besides being as is probable, though nothing here is stated to that effect - affected in point of attendance by the cause of the bad schools) is in a most inefficient state, & not worth the money spent upon it. The remedy seems to be to give it no assistance except upon the 'Results grants' system. All our information points to the conclusion that this system (whatever may be

this letter, it appears that the Lord Chancellor has directed that the Board shall be directed to place their report upon the 'Results' system, & ask if the have any objection -

Jan 5/74.

it [illegible] is the best for elementary education - & that is universally adopted - I do not think that all our elementary schools are aided on the Results system and (2) to establish training schools, in such number & places as may be most necessary for teachers, even if the [illegible] two measures were carried out.

I shd. reply to the Duke of Rutland Instruction - that having read the enclosure

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial

To

The Dir. of Pub. Instruction.

&c

ted Jan.y 16 }
d. Encl.

G. O. 16 Jan.y , 1874, No. 54

Nos. 86-87.

Extract
Cuddapah Munsy. The report called
for from the Presd.t respecting this
School at Adoni awaited, before taking
action on the unfavorable report
of it of the Dy Insp.r of Schools.