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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	818	(w)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	23-3		187J

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 567. Endorsement of the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated 23rd February 1875.—

From E. B. POWELL, Esq., Director of Public Instruction to the Honorable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 20th February 1875, No. 375.

THE Principal of the Civil Engineering College informs me "that the number of European soldiers who now compete for scholarships in the 2nd Department is exceedingly small, and that there is great difficulty in procuring a number of competitors equal to the number of scholarships." This is ascribed to the raising of the standard of the scholarship examination, which formerly comprised only English and Arithmetic, but now includes in addition Algebra up to Simple Equations, and the first four Books of Euclid. The additional subjects were sanctioned in G. O., Public Works Department, No. 1,746, of the 23rd July 1872. Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers remarks that "as the standard of qualification for Overseers has not been raised, but on the contrary somewhat lowered, since that of the entrance examination has been raised, there can be no doubt that, if the same class of men as formerly came forward can still be induced to enter the College, such men will generally pass the Overseers' test, and the Department of Public Works will not be deprived of the services of European Overseers who are much required, but of whom the number under the present system is constantly diminishing."

2. As a remedy for the evil, the Principal proposes that the extra subjects, Algebra and Euclid, be thrown out from the entrance examination; and, as it would not do to lower the test for soldier students alone, he suggests that the change be sanctioned for Civil students and Madras Sappers as well as for Military pupils.

3. On my questioning the advisability of lowering the entrance standard, since the Military students seem even now to find it difficult to pass the final examination, though they have the advantage of starting with a knowledge of the subjects proposed to be thrown out, the Principal stated that he did not apprehend the return to the old standard would increase the number of failures among the Military students.

4. There is certainly an awkwardness in lowering the standard of admission at the College, when the tendency all round is to raise the standards of education; moreover, the step is called for, not on account of the general body of students, but on account of Soldier pupils alone. It appears to me that the decision in the matter should be made to depend upon the view taken by the Head of the Public Works Department as to the importance of having European soldiers in the position of Overseers.

REFERRED to the Public Works Department for consideration and disposal.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 567-A. CHIEF ENGINEER'S MEMORANDUM.

1 ATTACH the greatest importance to keeping up the supply of European Military Overseers to the Public Works Department, and if the raising of the standard of entrance examination has had the effect of discouraging candidates from the ranks of the army, I would decidedly lower it.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
23rd March 1875.

2. I understand that the standard was raised with reference to Lord Napier's recommendation that no European should be entertained in the rank of Overseer, because the pay was insufficient for their support, and a solitary life unsuitable for them. But now that there are two higher grades of Overseer, the pay of the highest of which is as much as the European soldier can draw as Supervisor, 2nd class, the objection on the former score is obviated. The second objection may also be obviated by arrangement between the Principal of the Civil Engineering College and the District Engineers whom he supplies with Overseers. But it is one which may apply quite as much to the appointment of Supervisor as to that of Overseer.

3. The examination in English and Arithmetic should be thorough as far as it goes, and excellence of character should be insisted on.

25th February 1875. (Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.
Chief Engineer, D.P.W.

I consider it very necessary that all Upper Subordinates should be tested in a taluq charge or cantonment, for a sufficient time, before they are entrusted with charge of a sub division or range, to which alone Supervisors are posted.

(Initialed) G. W. W.

No. 563.

ORDER NUMBER, 23rd March 1875, No. 818.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 41.

On the recommendation of the Principal of the Civil Engineering College, supported by the Chief Engineer of the Public Works Department, and with a view to maintain a proper proportion of the European Military element in the Upper Subordinate ranks of that Department, His Excellency the Governor in Council commands the reduction of the standard of entrance examination proposed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.
Secretary to Government.

To the Educational Department.
" Military do.
" District Engineers.

For S. T. Austin.
State Copies.

No 515

From

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras.

To

THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

The Principal of the Civil Engineering College informs me "that the number of European Soldiers who now compete for scholarships in the 2nd Department is exceedingly small and that there is great difficulty in procuring a number of competitors equal to the number of scholarships." This is ascribed to the raising of the standard of the scholarship examination, which formerly comprised only English and Arithmetic, but now includes in addition Algebra up to Simple Equations and the first four Books of Euclid. The additional subjects were sanctioned in Government Order, Public Works Department, No. 1746 of the 23rd July 1872. Lieutenant Colonel Rogers remarks that "as the standard of qualification for Overseers has not been raised, but on the contrary somewhat lowered, since that of the entrance examination has been raised, there can be no doubt that, if the same class of men as formerly came forward can still be induced to enter the College, such men will generally pass the Overseers' test and the Department of Public Works will not be deprived of the services of European Overseers who are much required but of whom the number under the present system is constantly diminishing."

2. As a remedy for the evil, the Principal proposes that the extra subjects, Algebra and Euclid, be thrown out from the entrance examination; and, as it would not do to lower the test for Soldier students alone, he suggests that the change be sanctioned for Civil students and Madras Sappers as well as for Military pupils.

3. On my questioning the advisability of lowering the entrance standard, since the Military students seem even now to find it difficult to pass the final examination, though they have the advantage of starting with a knowledge of the subjects proposed to be thrown out, the Principal stated that he did not apprehend the return to the old standard would increase the number of failures among the Military students.

4. There is certainly an awkwardness in lowering the standard of admission at the College, when the tendency all round is to raise the standard of education; moreover the step is called for, not on account of the general body of students, but on account of Soldier pupils alone. It appears to me that the decision in the matter should be made to depend upon the view taken by the Head of the Public Works Department as to the importance of having European Soldiers in the position of Overseers.

Office of the Director of
Public Instruction,
MADRAS, 20th February 1875.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

[Signature]
Director of Public Instruction.

35

23 Feb 1945

23 Feb. 1875
The Public Works Department.
4/2/75.

Feb. 27 1894

Robert C. Johnson

9

His Director of Police is

The Acting Chief Secretary to

For Sale

1979

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According with remarks and suggestions made by the Board of Education, the proposed plan of Colonel Rogers is to lower the standard of the College, to entrance examinations in certain subjects.

14

was insufficient for their support, and a solitary life insupportable for them. But now that there are 2 higher grades of Overseers, the pay of the highest of which is as much as the European Soldier can draw as Supervisor 2^d Class, the objection as the former done is obviated. The 2^d objection may also be obviated by arrangements between the Principal of the C. S. College and the Dist. Surg. whom he supplies with Overseers. But it is one which may apply quite as much to the Assistant

of Supervisors as to that of Overseers.

The examination in English and Arithmetic should be thorough as far as it goes; and excellence of character should be insisted on.

C. M. Walker (C. S. C.)
Chief Surg. D. T. W.

25.2.75.

I consider it very necessary that all Upper Subordinates should be tested in a Sub-charge or Commitment, for a sufficient time, before they are entrusted with charge of a Sub-Division.

or Range, for which
alone Supervisors are
posted -

Green

12/15

No. 567A

S.C. No. 818. 27-2-75.

Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

Read the following -

from

The Director of Public Works

thru the Educational Dept.

Chief Engineer Memo -

(H.S. No. 119204 Feb 7 1875)

(N. 8252)

On the recommendation

15/3

ation of the Principal of

Don't consider that the the Civil Engineering College
Advantage of the Public Service has
Soldiers of the law / the old standard supported by the Chief
was that a set of a village school
Educational acquirement - a small set
A command to learn their profession
a by the best at all - the number of the
of commands shows that men now the
Standard of character and discipline
- find men on an entire scale
an advantage

A repeated standard
- had a by respect of words of all
as respect to class the whole
an elevating ingredient - the
Service - I am pleased that an
of the views of administration - ordinary ranks of that
the diff. arises from the fact - Department
previous view - to maintain a
so unfairly - the Governor in Council
Seems to me the same
this from the County - state to the reduction of

the Standard of Education

Examination proposed. born - Prof. E. H. & others
Exm & proposed differential treatment

I do not understand from these papers that there is to be any differential treatment favoring European soldiers at the expense of our Indian soldiers. The entrance examination will be the same for all. Civil students, Indian students & military students.

I think Colonel Weather has successfully met the objection which has been raised to the employment of European soldiers in the grade of officers. I accept his statement that it is of the greatest importance to keep up the supply of European military officers in the Indian army. I have therefore advised that this order be issued.

RHS

I don't like the test at top with & willing to reconsider it - but not to favor a class of people we are as well without. I more encourage our own & natives the supply of good men with better.

There is to be no differentiated treatment; and I think a good case is made out for the proposed reduction of the entrance standard. I have therefore signed the Draft.

To the Education of the Indian
 Military Department
 National Government
 Sept 21 - 1907

11-1-1907

12/5 ✓

Dept. of U.S. Affairs

PUBLIC WORKS

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U. S. 33 May 1904 8/8

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Standard of reference

Examination to the C. C.

College - Examination to the

Examination to the C. C.

Examination to the C. C.

Examination to the C. C.

Examination to the C. C.

Examination to the C. C.

Examination to the C. C.