

5/11/83

Gobt. of (1883) Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

No 253 of 22 Jan 1883

Communicated to
the Supd. of the
whose attention is called
to paragraph 7 of the
orders.

Clk
22/1/83

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 13th January 1883, No. 15.

JANUARY.

B. No 253 of 22. 1. 83

School of Agriculture.

Reviewing the report of the — for the year
1881-82.

by Supd. of the

desptd 23/1/83

with order

Encl. in Receipt

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., M.A., Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 17th November 1882, No. 5987.

I have the honor to submit the report of the School of Agriculture for the year 1881-82.

Summer Session.

This Session commenced on the 1st April and ended on the 30th June with 39 students. At the opening there were but two classes—Class III with 23 students, and Class II with 7 students. Another Class I, with 9 students, was formed in the latter end of April. Nineteen students held Government Stipendiaryships, 12 were supported by Native States, &c., and 8 by their friends.

2. In Class III the marks ranged between 54 and 94 per cent., in Class II between 54 and 82, and in Class I between 65 and 74. The marks gained by the students individually in each subject were high, allowing for exceptions in a few cases. The percentage on total marks ranged between 54 and 83, which is good. In Class II the percentage ranged between 47 in one case, to 83. Here also the results must be regarded as good. In Class III the marks ranged from 54 to 83. The attendance in all the classes was good.

3. At the close of the Session, first-class certificates were awarded to 12 students and second-class certificates to 12 more. All these students had completed their three years' course.

4. So far as their training had gone, six students of Class II obtained first-class certificates and one a second-class certificate.

5. Eight of the students in Class I, for work done up to the close of the Session, obtained first-class certificates.

6. The results, as recorded above, must be regarded as very good, but the work of the school has yet to be tested by a body of independent examiners, like that in all other educational institutions. The precautions, however, taken by Mr. Robertson for securing a just report, seem considerable.

7. The Lecturers report that the conduct of the students in all the classes was good, and that their work was satisfactory except in the following particulars. The Lecturer on Chemistry says: "Class II, I regret, has not made such progress as I could reasonably have expected." Considerable difficulty was also experienced "in inducing the students (of Class III) to fill up their Farm-books regularly and systematically." Owing to the absence in England of the Veterinary Lecturer no report was received from him as to the conduct and progress of the students during the Session.

Winter Session.

8. The Session commenced on the 1st September and ended on the 31st March. The following changes in the staff took place. Veterinary Surgeon Western went on sick leave in January, and Veterinary Surgeon Gunn acted until the close of the

Session. Mr. Benson having gone on sick leave, the Practical Farm Classes were conducted by Mr. Schiffmayer from November, when he returned from sick leave. Mr. C. K. Subba Rau, a Graduate of the school, appointed a Probationary Deputy Superintendent in the Agricultural Department, taught the junior class Agriculture during a portion of the Session.

9. There were only two distinct classes; a third class formed during the previous Session, being weak in number, was amalgamated with Class II and named Section A. The remainder of the class was designated Section B. A Class I, however, was formed under the new scheme introduced under Notification, dated the 8th August 1881. This class contained twenty-six students—nine of whom were stipendiaries sent by the Collectors of Districts, five ordinary stipendiaries, one Muhammadan stipendiary, three free students, two paying students, four students from Maisur, one from Patiala, and one from Dewas. The scheme itself will be referred to lower down.

10. In Class II, Section B, the marks ranged from 55 per cent. in Chemistry to 82 per cent. in Arithmetic and Book-keeping. In Section A, Chemistry again shows 55 per cent. and Arithmetic and Book-keeping 76 per cent. In Class I, Chemistry gives 52 per cent. and Physics 74 per cent. The results must be regarded as good.

11. The marks gained by the students in Section B, Class II, in each subject range from 48 to 75 per cent. In Section A, Class II, the range is from 52 to 84 per cent. These results are good, 48, or less than one-half, being confined to one student. In Class I the range is from 19 to 82 per cent. There are, however, only four cases in which less than half marks was obtained. They give 46, 35, 39, and 19. The results may be regarded as very fair.

12. As far as their training had gone, six students in Section B, Class II, obtained first-class certificates and one a second-class certificate. In Section A, Class II, seven students obtained first-class certificates and one a second-class certificate. In Class I twenty students obtained first-class and two students second-class certificates.

13. In Section B, one prize was awarded for ploughing, two for laboratory notebooks, three for cotton-gathering, and three for reaping paddy. In Section A, three prizes were awarded for cotton-gathering, three for reaping paddy, and three for farm-books. In Class I, three prizes were awarded for cotton-gathering and three for farm-books.

14. The reports of the Lecturers and Masters are very favorable. Of Class II Mr. Schiffmayer says that it showed much zeal in regard to becoming thoroughly acquainted with practical farming. The students did manual labor, and some became quite expert in ploughing. Of Class I he says: "the students took much interest in the work performed on the farm; most of them were quite eager to become familiar with the use of the tools." Except in one case, the attendance of the students was good.

15. It is matter for regret that it was found impossible for a European officer to give a course of lectures at the Normal School. Mr. Robertson thinks the Normal students might attend at Saidápet, but I do not see my way towards carrying out such an arrangement. He thinks, however, that, if Messrs. Benson and Schiffmayer are both available during the next Winter Session, it will be possible to arrange for a course of lectures. If instruction, however, is given, it must be something more thorough than can be given by means of a few lectures in the course of a Session.

16. Physical training was satisfactorily carried out, and the results, as regards weight and measurement of students in Class III, showed much variety, but the average increase in weight of each student was 6.45 lb., in chest measurement .96 inches, in fore-arm measurement .35 inches, and in upper-arm measurement .57 inches. The increase, Mr. Robertson remarks, may partly be due to natural development, but he adds that the majority of the men were fully grown when they joined the class. The decreases shown in the table in the report are attributed to sickness. In Section B, Class II, the increases were in weight 5.21, chest 1.29, upper-arm .20, and there was a decrease of .5 in fore-arm. The weights and measurements of students of Section A, Class II,

were in weight 4.5 lb., in chest measurement .89 inches, in fore-arm .42 inches, and in upper-arm .33 inches. In Class I, recently admitted, the increase was only in weight, that being 5.1 lb. There was a decrease of 1.1 in chest measurement, .68 in fore-arm, and .68 in upper-arm. Mr. Robertson observes upon this that the measurements agree in a very remarkable way with the decrease in the measurements in the late Class I, and he infers that it would almost seem to be established that Madras students, especially Brahmans, in their first few months of physical training, diminish in body measurements, but increase in weight. He proceeds:—"The results of the training of the students in Section A, Class II, are different, but that class contained only one Madras student and but a very small proportion of Brahmans; while the junior class of this year and the late Class I, before referred to, contained nearly the same proportion of Brahmans and a considerable excess of Madras students."

17. In paragraph 9 the effect of the new scheme in filling Class I was stated. Here it is necessary to note that the scheme was approved on the 12th August last in G.O., Educational Department, No. 256, and that admissions took place on the 17th October following. In my letter to Government of the 5th August 1881, No. N. 293, to the following brief description of the scheme was given:—"Admission to the school to be open to the same classes as before, the educational qualification being practically as now, except that I would not require a first class in the Middle School Examination as now revised. The maximum age to be twenty-five, except under special orders. The students to be of three classes—Stipendiary, Free, and Paying. The stipends to begin at once, increasing year by year, the rates differing for students from certain districts, as in the case of Normal students. Two-thirds of the stipendiaries to be recommended by the Collectors of Districts, so that they may be induced to send young revenue employés to the school for a course of study; the remaining third of the stipendiaries to be selected by the Superintendent, preference being given to young men connected with agriculture or the revenue administration of the country. The full agricultural course of the school to be three years, but students to be admitted for one or for two years on conditions to be laid down hereafter. Native States, Local Fund Boards, and Landholders to be allowed to send stipendiaries. Free students to be admitted on certain conditions and with certain prospects. Paying students also to be admitted with prospect of succeeding to free scholarships and in time to stipends. This scheme has necessarily, as it was intended, in a measure connected the school with the Land administration of the Presidency, and as it progresses it may be expected to yield valuable results. The number of stipendiary students was fixed at fifteen, and ten stipends annually were to be awarded in ten districts. For 1881 the districts were Tinnevely, Tanjore, Malabar, Salem, North Arcot, Bellary, Godáviri, Madura, Trichinopoly, and Coimbatore. The whole of the districts, excepting Tanjore, sent in stipendiaries; and in regard to Tanjore, the Collector reported that no suitable person could be found. He wished that the nomination should be reserved for the current year.

College Building.

18. The ground-floor of the main building was completed and formally opened by His Excellency the Governor. The rooms have been suitably furnished and found convenient and well adapted to the requirements of the institution. Mr. Robertson is anxious to have the building completed, as when the classes are full, the present accommodation will be altogether insufficient. The matter is before Government, having been submitted in my letter of the 23rd February 1882, No. 958.

Museum.

19. The Museum has been added to; some valuable wax models for illustrating veterinary lectures received from Paris being the most notable addition. Most of the specimens have been properly labelled.

20. It is satisfactory to note that a considerable addition was made to the Library, and that a number of valuable periodicals were supplied. Four hundred and fifty-six books were taken out by the students, but the extent to which the Reference

Library was used was not recorded, as books of reference are not allowed to be removed from the library.

Veterinary Hospital.

21. Quarters were provided for the Hospital-keeper, and the Surgery was well equipped in every respect. The hospital was transferred to the charge of the Inspector of Cattle Diseases, and it is proposed to make the hospital available for the purposes of Act IV of 1879, in view to gathering patients for the practical instruction of students.

Establishment.

22. Mr. Robertson refers to the establishment being small, whilst the system of lectures is unduly expensive, and recommends that the present lecturers be brought on the permanent staff of the institution. I am quite of opinion that the present staff is inadequate, whilst the system of lectures is expensive. No change can be made in the course of studies pursued in the institution so as to make it a more useful adjunct to the revenue work of the country until it has been reconstituted, but I do not at all agree with Mr. Robertson that the difficulty can be met in the manner suggested by him. One or two European teachers of considerable scientific attainments are necessary before the school can be made thoroughly efficient. So soon as orders are passed on my letter, No. N. 464, of the 20th September 1881, printed in Board's Proceedings, No. 2848, of the 18th November 1881, I will submit proposals for the consideration of Government.

Expenditure.

23. The cost of the institution, omitting salaries of Messrs. Robertson, Benson, and Schiffmayer, is stated to have been Rs. 20,324-11-2.

ORDER—dated 13th January 1883, No. 15, Educational.

The Director of Public Instruction submits the report of the School of Agriculture for the year 1881-82.

2. There were two Sessions during the year—a "Summer" and a "Winter;" the former commenced on the 1st April and ended on the 30th June, the latter on the 1st September and ended with the 31st March.

3. The Summer Session opened with two Classes (III and II), with twenty-three students in one and seven in the other. In the latter end of April another Class (I) was formed, consisting of nine students. There were thus thirty-nine on the rolls at the end of the Session—nineteen students were Government stipendiaries, twelve were supported by Native States, &c., and eight were private students.

4. Of the students who completed their three years' course, twelve obtained first-class certificates and twelve others second-class certificates. The results in Classes I and II were also encouraging.

5. During the Winter Session there were only two separate classes, the Third Class formed during the previous Session being amalgamated with Class II, and divided into two sections. But a Class I was formed under the new scheme introduced under

* G.O., 12th August 1881, No. 256. Notification,* dated 8th August 1881, composed of twenty-six students, of whom six were ordinary stipendiaries, three free students, two paying students, six sent by Native States (Maisur four, Pattiala one, Dewas one), and nine were stipendiaries sent by the Collectors of the Districts, except Tanjore, for which nominations were reserved, viz., Tinnevely, Malabar, Salem, North Arcot, Bellary, Godavari, Madura, Trichinopoly, and Coimbatore. The object of this scheme is to connect the school with the agricultural administration of the country; it is more particularly described in paragraph 17 of the foregoing letter. The results of this new departure are gratifying.

The certificates obtained by the students of the Winter Session were as follows:—

							First-class Certificate.	Second-class Certificate.
							6	1
Class II,	{	Section B	..	..	..	..	7	1
	{	Section A	..	..	..	..	20	2
Class I								

Prizes were awarded for ploughing, laboratory note-books, cotton-gathering, reaping paddy, and for farm-books. The reports of the Lecturers and Masters on the conduct and application of the students are very favorable. Physical training received a due share of attention.

6. The Government trust that arrangements will be made in the current year for the delivery of a regular course of lectures on Agriculture at the Normal School by one of the European Professors. The Government regret that arrangements with this object, sanctioned some years ago, are still in an incomplete state.

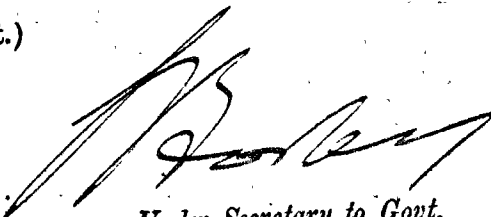
7. As regards the College buildings, it is observed that in G.O., dated 6th September last, No. 2506 W., the plan and estimate for the construction of the College at Saidápet were returned to the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, for revision, so as to provide for the completion of the entire upper-story of the building. His attention will be called to the matter.

8. The Veterinary Hospital has been transferred to the charge of the Inspector of Cattle Diseases, and it is proposed to utilize it for the purposes of Act IV of 1879 (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), in view to collecting subjects for the practical instruction of students.

9. With reference to Mr. Grigg's remarks on the reconstitution of the College staff and the emoluments of the officers therein employed, it is observed that the general question of agricultural instruction in the Presidency is being referred for the consideration of the newly-appointed Director of Agriculture, who will notice the present suggestions in his report.

10. The cost of the institution, omitting the salaries of the teaching staff, amounted to Rs. 20,325.

(True Extract.)


Under Secretary to Govt.

To the Director of Public Instruction, with enclosures.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

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