

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th May 1886, Mis. No. 3286.

Read—the following letter from H. TREMENHEERE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Salem, to the Collector of Salem, dated Dharmapuri, 11th March 1886, No. 675:—

I have the honor to suggest that Government may be moved, through the Board of Revenue, to require the same test for appointments with a pay of Rs. 15, as is required for appointments with a pay of Rs. 20.

2. Most of the clerks in the taluk offices draw the former pay; and it now happens that a man appointed, say, at 21 years of age, may continue on a pay of Rs. 15 all his official life (until 55 years of age). This is destructive of all incentive to work.

3. Of course, it is in the hands of divisional officers to appoint as taluk clerks only such men as are already qualified for higher appointments; but such action cannot be depended upon. At present, I have many clerks in this division who can never rise above Rs. 15.

Endorsement on the above.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue. I certainly support the Sub-Collector's view. It is most pernicious to the service allowing unqualified attenders, &c., into the 15-rupees grade with no prospects before them, and only an order of Government can put a stop to the present too prevalent practice.

(Signed) G. McWATTERS,
Collector.

To the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Resolution—dated 6th May 1886, Mis. No. 3286.

Submitted to Government.

2. As passed candidates are extensively available, the Board are of opinion that the time has now arrived for extending the rule prescribed in G.O., 23rd October 1866, No. 309, to appointments on salaries of Rs. 15.

3. As the middle school examination is held in December, the Board are in favor of introducing the new rule with prospective effect only from the date on which its results are published.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. F. MacCARTIE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Educational Department,
with letter, in original, to be returned.

Copy to the Collector of Salem.

From D. DUNCAN, Esq., M.A., D.Sc., Acting Commissioner for the U.C.S. Examinations, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 16th June 1886, No. 468.

In returning the correspondence noted in the margin, referred to me for remarks in No. 891-C, dated Ootacamund, 2nd June 1886, I have the honor to observe that the question of extending the operation of the educational tests for the admission of candidates to the public service was fully considered by Government in their Proceedings of the 23rd

October 1866, Educational. It was not thought advisable at the time to revert to the rules as they originally stood, which prescribed an educational test for all situations exceeding Rs. 10 per mensem, though this was strongly recommended by Mr. Carmichael, then Collector of Vizagapatam, and Mr. Powell, Director of Public Instruction. But, while sanctioning a slight advance on the arrangements as they then existed, Government clearly looked forward to the time when it would be possible to entertain in their service none but passed candidates in the very lowest appointments above the grade of peon. Twenty years have passed away since then, and, considering the progress that education has made and the number of passed men that must now be available almost everywhere in the Presidency, it seems to me that the present system has been tried sufficiently long to justify a further step being taken in the direction originally contemplated. I have no hesitation, therefore, in expressing my concurrence in the recommendation that has been made to extend the operation of the examination rules so as to include all appointments of the value of Rs. 15 and upwards.

2. Should Government approve of the suggestion, I see no objection to immediate effect being given to their orders on the subject.

ORDER—dated 28th July 1886, No. 482, Educational.

In the Proceedings read above, the Board of Revenue submit, for the favorable consideration of Government, a suggestion of the Sub-Collector of Salem, that the educational test at present required for appointments of Rs. 20 should be extended to all appointments of Rs. 15 and upwards.

2. Twenty years have passed since the last advance in this direction was made. It was ordered in G.O., 23rd October 1866, No. 309, that from the 1st July 1867, none but passed candidates should be admitted to any appointments on salaries of Rs. 20 and upwards. It is unnecessary to trace the progress which education has made in this Presidency since that date. It is sufficient to observe that, as stated by the Board of Revenue, there is now an abundant supply of passed candidates to meet all the demands of the public service. It is, therefore, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, unadvisable, on public grounds, to continue to fill appointments in the lower grades of the public service by men who, in consequence of their not having passed the required tests, are ineligible for promotion. The existence of appointments which require no test is, moreover, unfavorable to the cause of education, while the men themselves who fill these appointments are of inferior attainments and without any inducement to improve themselves. From the point of view of official requirements, therefore, as well as from that of the educationalist, it appears to the Government highly desirable that the educational test should be extended to all Government appointments. They are accordingly pleased to declare that, after the 1st July 1887, no person shall be appointed to any post carrying a salary of Rs. 15 a month or upwards unless he shall have passed the middle school examination in the first class, or the matriculation examination of the university together with the handwriting test. Unpassed officers now in the service of Government will not be affected by this order so far as their present appointments are concerned, but they will be ineligible

for promotion to posts carrying a salary qualified by the test.

per mensem until they have

3. In view of the remarks of the Education Commission (Report, paragraph 197,) on the expediency of exacting an educational test from applicants for every public appointment, the Government resolve to call on the Director of Public Instruction to consider the advisability of instituting a primary education, which should answer to the middle school examination, and be declared preliminary to any entrance into Government service. Information might be obtained on the systems in force in other Presidencies, especially Bombay, and proposals submitted to Government.

(True Exct.)

Chief Secretary.

To Departments of Secretariat. 2. 9. 2.
 „ the Board of Revenue.
 „ the High Court of Judicature at Madras.
 „ the Director of Public Instruction.
 „ the Commissioner for the U.C.S. Examinations.
 „ all other Heads of departments, including Collectors and Judges.

Exd. A. Raitt.

20. 7. 86.

