

on entering the name
 and for
 variation signed by two res-
 etable householders, who
 ned certify from their
 on knowledge as to the place
 here the Candidate was
 ore. The effect of this
 vision would be to ex-
 id the verification in fact
 all Candidates. Whether
 within or without
 Municipality, the Board
 required to produce
 to from birth registers
 do latter or declarations
 of fact that they are
 form ^{in rural tracts.} ~~in rural tracts.~~
 3899 It is however, re-
 force for consideration
 present declaration of the
 has been by the Board
 should be made use of it
 col. but if reproduced
 to the Child, how, that diffi-
 date of registration whether
 not.

The

and applicable in birth
 were born in their own villages or under
 such circumstances that their birth would
 necessarily have attracted the attention
 of neighbours and would be remembered
 by them.

Differently may also
 best course should be to
 require extracts from the
 Candidates from rural tracts
 also. The question is whether
 this might be done at
 present. This point was
 considered before and it was
 held that it would intro-
 duce a new danger of
 "fudging" and that within
 finding that direct
 should, unless imperative
 be introduced for need
 come of live notes in
 476. 21-9-96. for
 A2) The Board was
 out that falsifica-
 registers would not
 have to be ^{expected} expected
 Officers were there
 as well as ^{expected} expected
 registers, but in
 not the case. The
 Manual Regis-
 registers sh

...one and as the name is for
...one only and as the name is for

1) The chances for finding
at the taluk office are very
few, and have been mini-
mised by G.O. 3899 & 30-9-96
which requires that the en-
tries of birth should be
numbered consecutively, ^{and}

2) The alteration of a date
of birth could only be effected
by interpolating a fresh
entry in a different part of
the register, and, as the register
is, by hypothesis, 25 years
old, the chance
of getting detection would
be very small.

3) The only ^{real} objection, in
forcing the proposed note
prescribed ministerial in its
has been is that the
should be rural areas
only. G.O. 367 & 15-6-95
to the Chief for twenty years
date of registration of age
the Service

is fixed at 25 years. Also
as at present Constitution
Considers that in view
the use ^{which will be} made of such
cards by the public, there
would be no inconvenience
in extending this period of
retention of birth and death
registers to twenty-five
years; the more so if the
rule was extended to Sub-
divisions. Two years ago when
for judicial purposes, the
permanent retention of these
registers was advocated by
the High Court, the Board was
altogether opposed to it on the
ground that the effect of such
retention would be to burden
record rooms with a mass
of birth and death registers
most of which would never be
required, that much of the time
of taluk officials would be
wasted in complying with
inquiries from Courts, and
that after all the value of
the records would be lost.
After setting out in para 11
of its Props, the General Ad.
- advantages

entering the (Account)

1) The last entries would be to the effect of what little difference, as the Govt was, however, misled etc to see how the admission of these registers in the future would give rise to new entries or to falsification of entries already made. On the other hand, I was of opinion that to retain them permanently would give them an artificial value, but having regard to the inefficiency of the Agency, compelling them, fixed the period of retention at 20 years which was afterwards, at the instance of the High Court, extended to 25 years (vide G.O. 45 D. 28-1-39 & 367 D. 15-6-39). If a provision suggested in para 5 ^{infra} were added to the rule, it is submitted to extend to rural tracts also. Admittedly, registration of births and deaths even in municipalities has been defective, until recently at all events. Owing to this cause, a candidate

2. "Provided, however, that, in cases in which the appointing officer is convinced that proof of age cannot be established in the manner described above, he may accept other evidence of a satisfactory character [e.g. horoscope, a medical certificate]

But the whole proposal at once. It will be sufficient under the above proviso.

birth, or difficulty may also be experienced by him in establishing his identity with the individual described in the extract, should one be forthcoming. So such a candidate not to be admitted into service at all? No provision has been made in the proposed notification to meet cases of this kind. It provides to some such effect as the following may be added to the notification:—

6. The draft notification does not include school boys. As a reason for ^{not} including them, the Board states that as the application of the rule to them brings into operation a different set of conditions, the Director of Public Instruction and not the Board is the proper authority for working out those conditions and for framing a suitable notification. After setting out in para 11 of its Profs, the several advantages

would be that would result
from a rule requiring every
boy and girl to produce
an extract from birth
register on admission
admission to a school,
the Board has forwarded
a copy of its Proposal to the
Director of Public Instruction.
It would be well to obtain
the views of the Director before
approving of the notification
in regard to Public Servants
alone, as without applying
the rule to School boys at
the same time, the object
aimed at, viz., accuracy
in registration, cannot be
so well secured, the need
for extracts in their case
being more immediate
than in the case of others.
In the drafted
notification "documents" may
be substituted for "certi-
ficates" and would be better.

AK
26/3/97

2nd revision of the
draft notification
1/4/97

In my opinion the time has not
come for this change and the
evidence to make the change
is not sufficient to make the change
will lead to fraud & falsifying
of birth.

3/4/97

The Hon. Mr. Grose C. J. E.
H. E. the Governor.

Dr. J. L.
H. E. the Governor.

Para 2.

2. The time has not come for
this change and the
evidence to make the change
is not sufficient to make the change
will lead to fraud & falsifying
of birth.

L.C. 14/1/97

Read C.No. 1776 of 1897.

G.O.

On a careful consideration of the
difficulties brought to notice in work-
ing the proposal contained in para. 13(v)
of G.O. No. 473 dated 21st Sept. '96,
Govt. does not consider it possible to
insist, at present, upon the production
of attested extracts of birth register
from candidates for the public service
born in Municipalities. The absence of
a name in the registers in the entries
prior to 1896 will make it necessary,
even when an extract is produced, to re-
quire evidence of identity. Such evi-
dence it is easy to manufacture and
difficult to test, and as the cases ^{will} be
numerous (most being appointments
to unimportant posts at the bottom of
the service) it will only be tested per-
functorily. Moreover, nearly all the can-
didates will be able to refuse the pro-
duction of extracts, if so disposed, on
the plea that they were born in rural
tracts. The proposal will therefore be
dropped for the present. It was ordered
in G.O. No. 518M dated 22nd February '96
that, in the register of births main-
tained in Municipalities, if the child
has been named, the name should be enter-
ed in Col. 3, but if a name is given to

to the child after the original date of registry, it may be entered in the remarks Col., under the informant's signature and the registrar's initials, the entry being duly dated.)

It is not understood why the name of the child should not in every case be entered in the register of births simultaneously with the other particulars regarding birth. The reason generally given is that the naming ceremony does not take place till sometime has elapsed after the birth. This is the case in England also, but there the name of the child is decided on immediately after the birth. It is believed the same practice prevails in this country also; if so, the name should be ascertained and entered in the registry at the same time with the other ^{details} particulars connected with the birth. If the register of births maintained in rural tracts is to be of any use it is necessary that the name of the child should be inserted ~~else~~ therein also as in the case of Municipal registers. The Board is requested to report on this matter.

3. Sometime must necessarily elapse before instructions for maintaining the register of births in accordance with what has been stated above can be fully carried out. In view of this fact and of the long notice that will be necessary to give effect to the proposals referred to, the following notification

I approve of the Draft so far as this, but before issuing a notification I think we should ascertain with the D.P.O. to report with regard to the 11 of the 12th Nov (with regard to)

Financial would be the more correct
Dept.
Cw.
17.5.97
Yes
18/5/97

to the production of certificates (above 20y) and determine the date from which registration is made compulsory in rural areas.

15/5/97

I quite agree with the Hon. Mr. Spence that the notification, in so far as it concerns school boys, should not issue until we have considered the views of the D.P.O. Therefore,

I must confess I have never felt much sympathy with the proposed limit with in these tracts; and on further reflection, I see objections to it. It is liable to exclude men from the Public Service and boys from the Public Schools, if their birth and name are not registered. To deny men entry into the Public Service for their names, is to visit upon them the sin of their fathers. To deny boys entry into the Public Schools is worse, because it not only prevents them and their fathers, but we

I think he refers to both.
The A.H. (116) G.S. 12-5-97.

injure the State. I think some other expedient for improving the vital statistics, should be sought.
A.H. 20.6.97

The notification refers also to admission to Public Schools
See above

When the notification is issued I think all the services.
A.H.

will be published, by the Public Dept., in the Fort Saint George and District Gazettes:-

"Notice is hereby given that every person born on or after the 1st June 1899 within the limits of a Municipality in the Madras Presidency shall when seeking admission into the Government service or a Public school, produce an attested extract from the birth register ^{maintained by such municipality} in regard to his age."

4. The question of extending the period of retention of rural registers will be considered when the proposal regarding production of extracts of birth registers in proof of age is made applicable to candidates born in rural tracts also.

18/5/97

NOTE.

It is not clear whether His Excellency's remarks refer to the introduction of the proposal into rural tracts also, after a long notice has been given. Please see para 5 below.

2. No orders have been passed on the Board's question whether the proposed rule is to be made applicable for admission into "public service" or "Govt. service". The notification in para. 3 of the draft refers to admission to "Govt. service".

P. J. O.

3. The papers regarding the draft Bill to make registration compulsory in rural tracts are with the permanent First Assistant. As he has written to say that ^{his health is bad & that, therefore,} he is not in a position to state when he will be able to undertake and finish the work, he has been requested to return the papers to the office.

4. The form of ~~the~~ register of births in use in Municipalities (since 1896) contains cols. for the name of the child and the father's name. The form of register in use in rural tracts contains a col. for the father's name only.

5. If it be held that H.E.'s remarks refer to the introduction of the proposed rule into rural tracts also, after a long notice has been given and before registration is made compulsory in rural tracts by legislation, the modification in para 3 of the draft ^{it is thought} would have the words as follows:-

Notice is hereby given that every person born on or after the 1st June 1899 within the Madras Presidency shall, when seeking admission into the Govt service or a Public School, produce, in regard to his age, an attested extract relating to his birth from a register of births maintained ^{either} by the Municipality or the Land Revenue authorities of the village within the limits of which he was born.

W.R.
14-5-97 Case may be.

11575/97

how are we?
J.S.

The form will have been altered, if we find that the child's name can be entered at the time of registry of the birth
J.S.

L.M.
990-6-12-90

573
1-7-97

Rev: C. No: 1776

NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY.

In G.O. No 313 M, dated 22nd February 1896, issuing instructions for the maintenance of birth and death registers in Municipalities, the Government directed that in the register of births the name of the child, should, if one had already been given to it, be entered in Column 3, but that if a name is given to the child after the original date of registry it may be entered in the remarks column under the informant's signature and the Registrar's initials and that this entry should be duly dated. In para 2 of the draft Order above referred to, it is stated that it is not understood why the name of the child should not in every case be entered in the register simultaneously with the other particulars regarding birth, that the reason generally given is that the naming ceremony does not take place till some time has elapsed after the birth, that although the same is the case in England also

R.E. 14/4/97

the name of the child is then decided on immediately after the birth and that if a similar practice prevails in this Country, as it is believed to do, the name should be ascertained and entered in the register at the same time with the other details connected with the birth.

In the District Municipalities Act Amendment Act III of 1897 a new Section 248.A. has been inserted providing that "at any time within a year after the birth of a child an adult male relative of the child may require the Registrar to enter in the register of births the name of such child" The effect of the proposed order will be that instead of leaving it ^{the option of} to the parents or other relatives of the child to have its name registered in the Municipal books, a duty is imposed on the Registrars to ascertain and enter in the register the name of the child at the same time with the other details. There seems to be no objection to this proposal. It is however submitted that in this Country the name of the child is not decided upon in all cases immediately after its birth.

The Hon. Sir Henry Bliss & C. S. E.

Read G. O. No. 1776 of 1879.

G. O. No. 513 of 1st July 1897.

On a careful consideration of the difficulties brought to notice in working the proposal contained in para 13 (v) of G. O. No. 476 dated 21st September 1896, Government does not consider it possible to insist, at present, upon the production of attested extracts of birth registers from candidates for the public service born in Municipalities. The absence of a name in the registers in the entries prior to 1896 will make it necessary, even when an extract is produced, to require evidence of identity. Such evidence it is easy to manufacture and difficult to test, and as the case will be numerous (most being appointments to unimportant posts at the bottom of the service) it will only be tested perfunctorily. Moreover, nearly all the candidates will be able to refuse the production of extracts, if so disposed on the plea that they were born in rural tracts. The proposal will therefore be dropped for the present.

2. It was ordered in G. O. No. 313 H dated 23rd February 1896 that in the register of births maintained in Municipalities, if the child has been named, the name should be entered in column 3, but if no name is given to the child after the birth, the name should be entered in column 4.

If the name is not given then could give the name of the child.

P.R. 1/6/97 There is no objection to the draft in this case.

A.C. 29/4/97

it may be entered in the remarks column, under the informant's signature and the Registrar's initials, the entry being duly dated. It is not understood why the name of the child should not in every case be entered in the register of births simultaneously with the other particulars regarding birth. The reason generally given is that the naming ceremony does not take place till sometime has elapsed after the birth. This is the case in England also, but there the name of the child is decided on immediately after the birth. It is believed the same practice prevails in this country also, if so, the name should be ascertained and entered in the register at the same time with the other details connected with the birth. If the register of births maintained in rural tracts is to be of any use it is necessary that the name of the child should be entered therein also as in the case of Municipal Registers. The Board is requested to report on this matter.

3. The question of the measures to be adopted for improving the registration of vital statistics will be considered further on receipt of a reply from the Director of Public Instruction to para 11 of the Board's Proceedings regarding the expediency of school boys being required to produce attested extracts of birth registers in proof of age.

Government (1897) of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd.

Enclosures

1897.

Regd.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 513, 1st July 1897.

JULY.

Vital Statistics.

Passing orders on papers relating to the question of improving the registration of — in the Madras Presidency.

To the Board of

(M. S. R. S. A.)

22-7-97

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement Land Records and Agriculture), dated 2nd February 1897, No. 89:—

Read—G.O., No. 476, Revenue, dated 21st September 1896.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on papers relating to the question of improving the registration of vital statistics in this Presidency.

Resolution—dated 2nd February 1897, No. 89.

Communicated to all Collectors for information and guidance.

2. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Government Order the Collectors are requested to furnish the Sanitary Commissioner in their B returns such information as he may require in order to enable him to carry out the orders of Government.

3. The attention of Collectors is drawn to paragraph 9 of the Government Order and paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 30th November 1894, No. 506, and they are requested to see that the duty of registering births and deaths is transferred to the village heads wherever such a course is feasible. In the case of large villages, the work should be distributed in the manner indicated in paragraph 10 of the Government Order.

4. The Board has already in its Proceedings, dated 18th March 1895, No. 71, issued orders with a view to ensure close attention on the part of the Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors to the registration of vital statistics. The instructions contained in paragraph 12 of the Government Order read above regarding the examination of the registers of births and deaths by these officers should be carefully attended to.

5. With reference to paragraph 13 (v) of the Government Order the Board submits a draft notification regarding the proof of age to be furnished by candidates for the public service. The draft is merely provisional and may have to be modified partially or in toto in accordance with the decision of Government on the points to be presently noticed. In the first place, the Board is not aware of the exact meaning attached by Government to the expression "public service," i.e., whether it is meant to comprise all or only some of the services mentioned in the notification regarding re-vaccination published at page 1022 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 4th September 1894. It would be better to

is intended to apply. In the draft submitted by the Board, the rule is provisionally limited to candidates for Government service.

6. Secondly, neither the registers of births maintained in municipalities nor those compiled by village officers in rural areas make mention of the name of the child whose birth is registered, and probably could not be made to do so within a reasonable time after birth on account of the diversity of practice obtaining in various communities as to the time of naming a new-born child. Extraneous evidence has, therefore, to be admitted in order to establish the identity of the person producing the extract with the individual described in it; and the draft notification provides for the admission of such evidence.

7. Thirdly, as desired by Government, the notification distinguishes candidates born within municipal towns from those born in rural tracts. So long as this distinction exists, however, it is to be feared that candidates from whom certificates are required would, in many cases, be tempted to deny that they were born within a municipality, either because their real age happened to be over twenty-five, or because the production of a certificate was for some other reason inconvenient to them. As a partial check on this state of things, the notification provides that any such denial as aforesaid shall be supported by a suitable declaration signed by two respectable householders. The check, however, can be only partially effectual and is applicable only to candidates who were born in their own villages or under such circumstances that they would necessarily have attracted the attention of neighbours and would be remembered by them.

8. The defects in the proposed rules noticed in the last paragraph would disappear if the rules were made applicable to all candidates for the public service whether they were born within municipal limits or in rural areas. In this connection it would be as well perhaps to clear a misapprehension that possibly underlies the opinion expressed in paragraph 13 (v) of the Government Order, viz., that the extension of the rule to rural tracts would lead to the falsification of registers. Falsification would, no doubt, have to be expected if the village officers were the custodians as well as the compilers of the registers. But this is not the case. The instructions on this subject in the manual of village accounts require the register of births in every village to be submitted to the taluk at the end of each fasli and to be filed in the taluk.

9. Such being the case any person who desires an extract from a birth register would have to apply for it at the Taluk office and there is no reason to suppose that Taluk establishments would fail to discharge faithfully their duties in this respect; but supposing that, in the present connection, they would be exposed to special opportunities of corruption, it has still to be remembered that the alteration of a date of birth could only be effected by interpolating a fresh line in a different part of the register and, as the register would by hypothesis be from 20 to 25 years old, the chance of the interpolation escaping detection would be very small. Such a chance would be still further diminished, in regard to registers subsequent to the passing of G.O., No. 3899, dated 30th September 1896, by the present rule which requires consecutive number to be prefixed to each entry of birth.

10. The only real objection at present to the framing of a rule of universal applicability in regard to certificates of birth is the fact that, under the present orders of Government, registers of births

* G.O., No. 367, dated 15th June 1895. in rural areas are preserved only for twenty years and are afterwards destroyed. But there would be no inconvenience in extending the period of retention to twenty-five years; and the space to be provided in the Taluk records for the registers of five additional years would be justified by the use made of such records by the public, the more so if the rule was extended as proposed in paragraph 11 below to school boys. No extracts from the register of births need be required in the case of candidates for the public service who are by their own admission over twenty-five years of age and who were born in rural tracts. Such cases are exceptional and the candidates would probably be able to produce other evidence of a satisfactory character in proof of their age.

11. School boys are not referred to in the draft notification submitted by the Board. The application of the rule to them brings into operation a different set of conditions and the Board considers that the Director of Public Instruction is the proper authority for working out those conditions and for framing a suitable notification. A rule requiring the production of an extract from the register of birth in the case of every boy and girl, on his or her first admission to a recognized school, will, the Board believes, be productive of the best results for developing and improving the registration of vital statistics. In the first place, considering that the time at which such an extract would be required would ordinarily be only from seven to ten years removed from the date of the child's birth, it is evident that the extract could, in all ordinary cases, be easily procured and attested, whether the child was born in a

municipality or in a rural area. Secondly, there would be no inducement to falsify such an extract, and even if there were, the fabrication could be brought home more easily than in the case of adults. Thirdly, it would not be necessary to renew the record during the subsequent career of a child in school or college, since he could be made to carry it with him as a part of his leaving certificate to every fresh institution to which he might be transferred. Fourthly, under suitable precautions, this record could be admitted as evidence of age for Government examinations as well as those held by the University, for which no proof of age is now required, and also for entrance into the public service. *Lastly*, as regards boys *already* in school, there is no reason why they should not be required to produce extracts from their birth register, accompanied by certificates of identity, to entitle them to admission to public examinations or to Professional or Arts Colleges.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To all Collectors.

„ the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

Copy to the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

„ „ Director of Public Instruction.

ANNEXURE.

DRAFT NOTIFICATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that every person entertained on or after the 1st April 1897 in any branch of the Government service and in any appointment, whether permanent or temporary, and whether substantive or officiating, shall, at the time of such entertainment, produce in addition to the certificate of vaccination, referred to in the Notification published at page 1022 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 4th September 1894, one of the following certificates, i.e. (a) or (b) in regard to his age:—

(a) If he was born within the limits of a municipality in the Madras Presidency—

an extract relating to his birth from a register of births maintained by such municipality together with a declaration signed by two respectable house-holders and certifying from their own knowledge as to his identity with the individual described in the extract.

(b) If he was not born within the limits of a municipality situated in the Madras Presidency—

a declaration signed by two respectable house-holders and certifying from their own knowledge as to the place where he was born.

ORDER—No. 513, Revenue, dated 1st July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

On a careful consideration of the difficulties brought to notice in working the proposal contained in paragraph 13 (v) of G.O., No. 476, dated 21st September 1896, Government does not consider it possible to insist, at present, upon the production of attested extracts of birth registers from candidates for the public service born in municipalities. The absence of a name in the registers in the entries prior to 1896 will make it necessary, even when an extract is produced, to require evidence of identity. Such evidence it is easy to manufacture, and difficult to test, and as the cases will be numerous (most being appointments to unimportant posts at the bottom of the service) it will only be tested perfunctorily. Moreover, nearly all the candidates will be able to refuse the production of extracts, if so disposed, on the plea that they were born in rural tracts. The proposal will therefore be dropped for the present.

2. It was ordered in G.O., No. 313 M., dated 23rd February 1896, that in the register of births maintained in municipalities, if the child has been named, the name should be entered in column 3, but if a name is given to the child after the original

date of registration it may be entered in the remarks column, under the informant's signature and the registrar's initials, the entry being duly dated. It is not understood why the name of the child should not in every case be entered in the register of births simultaneously with the other particulars regarding birth. The reason generally given is that the naming ceremony does not take place till some time has elapsed after the birth. This is the case in England also, but there the name of the child is decided on immediately after the birth. It is believed the same practice prevails in this country also, if so, the name should be ascertained and entered in the register at the same time with the other details connected with the birth. If the register of births maintained in rural tracts is to be of any use, it is necessary that the name of the child should be entered therein also as in the case of municipal registers. The Board is requested to report on this matter.

3. The question of the measures to be adopted for improving the registration of vital statistics will be considered further on receipt of a reply from the Director of Public Instruction to paragraph 11 of the Board's Proceedings regarding the expediency of school boys being required to produce attested extracts of birth registers in proof of age.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).

„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Educational Department.

Ed. Shik Karia.