

# बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार



सत्यमेव जयते

संचिका संख्या 152/1914  
अभिलेखागार संख्या

१६/४

बिहार सरकार

Political

Special

विभाग

शाखा

कार्यवाही

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पृष्ठ

विषय:—Delivery at Schools and Colleges  
of correspondence addressed to  
Scholars and Students.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

File No. 152

1914.

GOVERNMENT OF BEHAR AND ORISSA.

publ DEPARTMENT.

S.S. BRANCH.

B PROGS. FOR \_\_\_\_\_ 191 4

Nos. \_\_\_\_\_

PAGES.

SUBJECT.

*Delivery at school & college of correspondence  
addresses to students*

*बिहार सरकार*

*मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग  
(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)*

*Kept*

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

[File No. 152.]

Delivery at Schools and Colleges of correspondence addressed to  
Scholars and Students.

EXTRACT FROM THE "ARYAN" FOR JULY 1912.

*The unrest in India.*

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Bihari Lal of Lucknow, India, in an interview to the "Victoria Daily Times" recently, said :—

"The real cause of unrest in India is the heavy taxation by the Government and the improper and unjust treatment of the people in India and outside. To describe these two items in full would make a volume, but to cut them short I would explain them in brief as follows :

"*Taxation.*—The rate of Government revenue in India at present is 60 per cent. out of a farmer's produce ; that is, out of every dollar's worth of produce on a farm, sixty cents goes to the Government in the name of revenue and forty cents is left to the farmer to meet his expenses at the farm house and outside. If even half of this rate were levied on the people of this country, I dare say the country would be depopulated at once. In India the people have patiently endured the troubles since the British rule commenced in India, and have only been watching for better times. No doubt India has extensively improved under British rule in both production and cultivation, but it is all carried forward under very strict rules, rules ambiguous and complicated and arranged so that Great Britain may have the gross advantage of the improvement. Some people in their argument will say that India now produces nearly double the quantity that she did before British rule. That is true. But what good does it do to the country? Before the British came the taxation was never so heavy ; whatever the people produced was put into circulation locally—not as it is now when more than half goes to the Crown for taxations and the balance is spent in foreign luxuries.

"Local industries are all killed and suppressed, and India is a free foreign market—a fact which has caused the destruction of an old civilized country which at one time supplied the luxuries of the whole world with articles of art and industry, so much so that no country up to this time could, in quality, compete with Indian silk, embroideries, etc. Besides this, when the people after long patience find the British obstinate in their oppressions and selfish in their attitude generally, and try to awaken their country to adopt means that would provide them with a better living, the Government calls the leaders anarchists and deports them.

"*Treatment.*—I need not say much of the ill-treatment of the Hindus in foreign lands, as the public has often heard how we are treated in South Africa, and the help that is given us by the present Government in return for the services the Hindus have given in establishing the British rule there. The Hindus are not allowed in Australia or any country where the British flag flies. Canada has made immigration laws for the Hindus which no nations, unless they kill all conscience and sense of humanity, would make. Almost all other countries—even those having no respect for the British flag—are given preference to Hindus."

PATNA ;

The 16th November 1912.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am sending herewith a paper called "The Aryan" and respectfully draw your kind attention to the article on "Indian unrest." Issues of this paper are sent indiscriminately—one issue was sent to Professor Jadu Nath Sarkar, another to Professor Jogendra Nath Samaddar and another copy was found on the students' Common Room of the Patna College. I saw some time ago another issue which contained sentiments like the one marked in this. I am afraid that such magazines should not be permitted to reach the students, though I am sure it is not subscribed for by the college. So far as I know, indiscriminately copies are sent.

There is another thing to which I would like to draw your attention. Perhaps you are aware of the fact that Professor Kamakhya Nath Mitra of the B. N. College delivered a lecture at the Bihar Institute on Swami Vivekananda. There were police officers taking shorthand notes of the speech, though I am afraid they could not do it properly. Professor

Kamakhya Nath is reputed to have extremist feelings and in the speech he said that the British Government is only a machinery and we should permit it to move on, so long as it has steam. Then it will stop. These and such sentiments should not be allowed to be preached before students.

Yours obediently.

I do not sign my name, as I hope my handwriting is familiar to you.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

I think I do know the writing. The letter is interesting and may be sent on to Deputy Inspector-General of Crime for inspection. We have heard before of seditious propaganda in the Bihar National College.

H. LEMESURIER—18-11-1912.

E. A. GAIT—18-11-1912.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

Enquiries are being made; result will be reported.

E. C. RYLAND—12-12-1912.

This may be shown unofficially to Commissioner and then to Director of Public Instruction.

H. LEMESURIER—14-12-1912.

Seen; thanks. I have also let the District Magistrate see.

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM—15-12-1912.

The enclosed reports give a note on the paper "Aryan," and also refer to matters generally regarding the B. N. College. S. B. letter 1104 of 17th December 1912 to the Chief Secretary may be referred to in the latter connection.

W. SEALY—12-2-1913.

CAMP OFFICE—

Please put up a connected file with correspondence regarding the B. N. College.

Meanwhile we must mention this in the monthly.

H. LEMESURIER—16-2-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY UNOFFICIALLY—

I think that this "Aryan" should be excluded from all our colleges and schools by confidential circular and copies impounded where they are found. Professor Jadu Nath Sarkar's denial that he had received a copy is bad, if the fact of his having received it is already proved. K. N. Mitter should be removed.

N. L. HALLWARD—4-3-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

Perusal. The paper "Aryan" is clearly unsuited for schools and colleges. I would rather deal with the matter of this and other objectionable papers by limiting the papers to be taken in by the Common Rooms of Government and aided colleges and schools to a list of the more respectable English and Indian newspapers and magazines, having special regard to their interest for general readers. In this way ephemeral and pernicious papers like the one under consideration can be excluded automatically without being formally banned. Director of Public Instruction can easily arrange lists of approved periodicals in connection with Government grants to Common Rooms.

As regards K. K. Mitra, I believe he has already been removed. The Commissioner

We should make sure of this—E. A. G.

who is President of the College Council has seen these papers.

H. LEMESURIER—7-3-1913.

I agree.

E. A. GAIT—8-3-1913.

COMMISSIONER UNOFFICIALLY—

Can you kindly answer Hon'ble Member's query about K. K. Mitra?

H. LEMESURIER—14-3-1913.

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE—

Please note as to this. I am not aware that K. K. Mitra has been removed, but I have no direct connection with this college.

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM—14-3-1913.

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COMMISSIONER—

K. N. (not K. K.) Mitter is still a Professor at the B. N. College.

I explained to you I was made President of the Committee when I was here before without my consent. I do not wish to have anything to do with the place.

D. WESTON—15-3-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

I shall speak about this college.

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM—15-3-1913.

COMMISSIONER (PATNA) UNOFFICIALLY—

I think you will be interested in reading this Special Branch report. As I wrote to you not long ago, the present is an exceptionally good opportunity for a thorough reform of the College Council. I am personally disposed to think that the apprehensions in the report are exaggerated. As you are aware, the habit of forming cliques is engrained in Bengalis serving away from their homes and in the second place it must be remembered that qualified Biharis and Oriyas are very difficult indeed to get. The University requires that Professors of 1st-grade colleges should be M. As. and it objects very strongly (save in exceptional cases such as the Principal's own) to the appointment of 3rd-class M. As. There is, I believe, hardly a Bihari or Oriya who got the M. A. in a higher class than the 2nd or 3rd : certainly there are none to be obtained on the terms which the college has been offering. In the circumstances it was inevitable that the staff should consist either of Bengalis or Mahrattas or other classes who have come under similar political suspicion. This was markedly the case with Professor Mansukhani who is, I am told, at present holding an appointment in the Tirhut College. I am writing to Mr. Fischer about this—H. LEM.—1-4-1913. The new scale of pay should make it possible to select Professors from a wider field, but as I have already indicated in a note to the Director of Public Instruction, of which I sent you a copy, the first thing to do is to reorganise the Governing Body and to get rid from the staff of all suspicious characters.

H. LEMESURIER—1-4-1913.

Thanks. I agree with you that there is a tendency to exaggerate the gravity of the situation in the report put up.

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM—2-4-1913.

D.-O. No. 902T.

BIHAR AND ORISSA GOVERNMENT CAMP;

The 3rd April 1913.

MY DEAR FISCHER,

I understand that a certain Professor Mansukhani has recently joined the staff of the Tirhut College. I would suggest your referring to the Criminal Investigation Department and to the Police Abstracts of the past year regarding this person. Whilst employed as a Professor in the Bihar National College here we had reason to believe that he was engaged in a systematic seditious propaganda among the students and there is little doubt that he is a thoroughly disloyal person. I would suggest for your consideration that, as the college is an aided one and all appointments to the staff require the sanction of the Director of Public Instruction, it would be advisable to bring these facts to the Director of Public Instruction's notice. I am also given to understand that Professor Mansukhani was concerned in suspicious proceedings while employed in a college at Karachi, but of this I have not seen particulars.

Yours sincerely,

H. LEMESURIER,

To

The Hon'ble Mr. F. N. FISCHER, I.C.S.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

Perusal.

H. LEMESURIER—3-4-1913.

E. A. GAIT—5-4-1913.

D.-O. No. 397C.

BANKIPORE;  
The 7th April 1913.

MY DEAR LEMESURIER—

Please see paragraph 3 of your confidential letter No. 720T., dated the 17th March, copy of which has been received to-day with your office memorandum No. 730-759T., dated the 20th March/6th April.

At present the Collector, and not the Commissioner, is the President of the College Council.

Yours sincerely,  
C. E. A. W. OLDHAM.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. H. LEMESURIER, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.

*Extract from the Monthly Report for February 1913 (letter No. 720T., dated the 17th March 1913.)*

3. The City Magistrate of Patna reports that the tone of some of the staff of the Bihar National College at Bankipore continues to be unsatisfactory. This refers not to the Bihari members of the staff but to the Bengalis and other foreigners. The attention of the Commissioner, who is President of the College Council, is being given to the matter and the fact that Government is increasing the monthly grant-in-aid to Rs. 1,000 will make it possible to scrutinise much more closely the antecedents and qualifications of candidates for future vacancies as well as to dispense with the services of unsatisfactory Professors

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

Will you kindly let me know whether you have taken up the question of the reconstitution of the Council of the Bihar National College at Bankipore? The Principal came to see me this morning and told me that by the rules prescribed in the Memorandum of Association the biennial reconstitution of the Council is now due. The maximum of the College Committee is 21, but I understand it is not necessary to appoint the full number. If so, it would presumably be advisable to reduce them to the standard figure of 10 which the University and the Department as well have approved. The Principal also said that he was very anxious to have a suitable President. It has hitherto been the custom to elect the District Magistrate, but Mr. Weston had demurred to this, partly in the absence of a recognized official status for the President and partly from want of leisure in his own case. I am disposed to think and would ask you to consider whether on the analogy of the Tirhut Board of Trustees and the Bhagalpur College Council, the Commissioner should not be asked to be President of the College Council and whether this should not be stipulated for as a condition of the grant-in-aid. The Principal told me that Professor Kamakhya Nath Mitter, regarding whom we have heard so much, is the head of a faction opposed to himself and carried his hostility so far as to move at a recent meeting held to consider raising the salaries of the establishment that "as the Principal was only a third class M.A." his present salary was more than sufficient for him. He succeeded in defeating Mr. Justice Hasan Imam's proposal that the Principal's salary should be raised to Rs. 500 or even the alternative that it should be the maximum fixed by Government of Rs. 400 rising to Rs. 700. I took the opportunity of pointing out to the Principal the folly of these large Committees which involve great difficulty in collecting a quorum and the certainty that while the work is done by a few men, intriguers and those who have private ends to serve may at any moment bring down a body of those who usually have nothing to say to the work for the purpose of carrying or defeating resolutions to suit their own ends.

2. It seems to me we have a good opportunity now that the new grant is about to be made of insisting upon reason by the College Committee. Of the old members the Hon'ble Mr. Ali Imam and Mr. Justice Hasan Imam are no longer residents and available. The Principal says that the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Krishna Sahay and the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Saiyid Fakhr-ud-din alone are regular attendants and hardworking members. The conduct of Professor Mitter seems to me to fill up the measure of his iniquities and no doubt you will agree that as a first step to giving the increased grant we should insist upon his being sent about his business. We should also of course stipulate for the introduction of the sanctioned Government scale of salaries for the Principal and Professors and also on such a constitution of the Council as will protect the college against intrigues and indiscipline. Will you kindly consult the Commissioner also?

H. LEMESURIER—16-3-1913.

D.-O. No. 926T.

MY DEAR OLDHAM,

The 9th April 1913.

I enclose a copy of my note to Mr. Hallward regarding the Bihar National College to which an allusion was made in the notes on the file regarding the conduct of certain Professors in the college. Nathan has been placed in possession of all the papers and will probably consult you about the subject later on.

Yours sincerely,  
H. LEMESURIER.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. C. E. A. W. OLDHAM, I.C.S.

D.-O. No. 226-C.

RANCHI;

The 9th May 1913.

MY DEAR LEMESURIER,

In reply to your confidential demi-official of 6th April 1913 containing Babu demi-official suggestion to you, dated the 19th of March 1913, on the subject of communications addressed to students in general or to students of a particular class, I have to say that we do not appear to have had any reports so far of any objectionable matter being sent to schools or colleges in this province.

2. But, in order to guard against attempts to disseminate seditious or obscene matter, I think it would be well to issue confidential instructions similar to those contained in the two Eastern Bengal and Assam circulars of which copies are enclosed.

3. You do not comment in your letter on the peculiar procedure adopted by the writer in ignoring the Principal of the College and the Director of Public Instruction and addressing his letter direct to the Chief Secretary. I think that such attempts to curry favour with the Government should be severely discouraged.

Yours sincerely,  
N. L. HALLWARD.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. H. LEMESURIER, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

D.-O. No. 847E.

RANCHI;

The 10th May 1913.

MY DEAR MILNE,

Will you please refer to a Circular No. 842-C., dated the 4th June 1910, which was issued by the Director of Public Instruction in Eastern Bengal and Assam, on the subject of the dissemination of inflammatory writings and obscene or objectionable works to pupils in schools and colleges. It is understood that this circular was based on the orders received from the Government of India. I am to request that this Government may be supplied with a copy of those orders and also with any subsequent orders on the subject which may have been issued by the Government or the Director in Bengal.

Yours sincerely,  
M. G. HALLETT.

To

W. S. MILNE, Esq., I.C.S.,  
Bengal Secretariat.

D.-O. No. 80T.G.

DARJEELING;

The 10th June 1913.

MY DEAR HALLETT,

With reference to your demi-official letter No. 847E., dated the 10th May 1913, I am

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|---|--|
| 1. Letter No. 9993-98, dated the 30th October 1908. | desired to forward herewith the marginally-noted |
| 2. " No. 405, dated the 15th March 1909.            | letters from the Government of India, on the     |
| 3. " No. 780, dated the 28th May 1909.              | subject of the dissemination of inflammatory     |
|   | writings and obscene or objectionable works      |
|   | among pupils in schools and colleges, and to     |

state that no written orders were issued by this Government on the subject.

Yours sincerely,  
W. S. MILNE.

To

M. G. HALLETT, Esq., I.C.S.,  
Under-Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

No. 9993-9998, dated Simla, the 30th October 1908.

From—B. ROBERTSON, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

It has been brought to the notice of the Government of India that seditious leaflets are sometimes circulated among the students of schools and colleges in India. It is not in all cases possible to prevent such publications coming into the hands of students, for the post office cannot ordinarily interfere with articles addressed to an individual by name. In many cases, however, leaflets have been addressed not to any particular person, but to the monitors or pupils of a particular school. In such cases it is practicable to intercept the objectionable packets, and the Government of India consider it desirable that this should be done.

2. The Government of India have accordingly decided that all letters and packets addressed generally and not by name to the students of any school or college, shall be delivered to the Principal or Headmaster, so that, if the letter or packet contains anything of an objectionable nature, it will come into the hands of a person who will be in a position to detain it on his own responsibility. This practice is already in force in the Punjab and the Presidency of Bombay, and will now be extended to the remaining provinces. The Director General of the Post Office of India has been instructed to communicate to you a copy of the orders which he may issue to the heads of postal circles on the subject, so that the Local Government may be in a position to furnish the Postmaster General with any supplementary instructions which may be considered necessary.

No. 405, dated Calcutta, the 15th March 1909.

From—Sir HAROLD STUART, K.C.V.O., C.S.I., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

The attention of the Government of India has for some time been directed to the question of checking the circulation of seditious pamphlets, newspapers, leaflets and the like among students and schoolboys through the post. Instances have not infrequently occurred in which the most objectionable and inflammatory matter has reached members of schools and colleges, being addressed to the students of the institutions collectively or to the members of a particular class, or again to individuals by name with the addition of the school address.

In the course of their examination of the subject, the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the terms of section 3(c) of the Post Office Act, 1898,\* and of clause 18 of the rules published in the Indian Postal Guide based upon that section, and they are advised that, in order to comply with these provisions, it is only necessary for the Postal authorities to deliver postal articles, whether addressed generally or by name to students of schools and colleges, to the Headmaster himself or to such person as he may depute to receive them. Such an arrangement would go far to prevent the dissemination of seditious literature among students through the post, as seditious pamphlets, etc., could be withheld by the Headmaster, and I am directed to request that, with the permission of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, instructions may be issued to the heads of all Government institutions, requesting them to make arrangements for the delivery to some responsible person of all letters, etc., addressed to the students at the institutions. Similar arrangements should be recommended to the heads of those aided institutions who are likely to accept them. It is, however, desirable to avoid making any move which will attract attention, and I am to suggest that no general order should be formally promulgated, but that steps should be taken by the officers of the Educational Department to broach the matter orally to the heads of the various institutions.

\* Reproduced below.

*Extract from Act No. VI of 1898 (an Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Post Office in India)*

(3) For the purposes of this Act—

(c) The delivery of a postal article at the house or office of the addressee or to the addressee or his servant or agent or other person considered to be authorised to receive the article according to the usual manner of delivering postal articles to the addressee shall be deemed to be delivery to the addressee.

*Extract from the Indian Postal Guide.*

#### DELIVERY.

The delivery of a postal article at the house or office of the addressee, or to the addressee or his servant or agent or other person considered to be authorised to receive the article according to the usual manner of delivering postal articles to the addressee is deemed to be delivery to the addressee under the Post Office Act. } 18 "Delivery" defined.

No. 780, dated Simla, the 26th May 1909.

From—H. G. STOKES, Esq., Additional Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Political),

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General (Education) Department.

In continuation of the circular letter from the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 399-407 Political, dated the 15th March 1909, regarding the question of checking the circulation of seditious pamphlets, etc., among students and schoolboys through the post, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a copy of a circular issued by the Director General of the Post Office in India regarding the same subject. It will be seen that in cases where the willingness of the heads of aided institutions to make the arrangements referred to in the circular letter quoted above is doubtful, it may perhaps be advisable to refrain from broaching the subject, as the circular issued by the Director General of the Post Office in India will attain the same object.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

I have obtained from Bengal copies of the letters of the Government of India which led to the issue of the Director of Public Instruction's Circular No. 812C., dated the 4th June 1910. It will be seen that the Government of India were not in favour of the issue of any formal orders to aided colleges.

M. G. HALLETT—29-6-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

A Professor in the Patna College whom I knew when in Eastern Bengal (where in a private capacity he did good service) wrote to me mentioning the dissemination of seditious matter to students by post (see also his letter, page 1 of these notes).

It is of course quite wrong (in ordinary circumstances) for a Professor to address Chief Secretary. This, however, is by no means an ordinary question; and the Professor's action can be accounted for in several ways. He may have wished to keep his name out of the matter and to inform some one who he thought would do so. It is obvious in such cases that a man's desire to remain anonymous should be respected. The fact of an informer is always a thankless one, and it is a pity Director of Public Instruction has lifted the veil. [I have cut out the name from his demi-official.] Another reason we may account for his addressing Chief Secretary is that, knowing him personally, he may have thought his report would receive more consideration. There may also of course be a desire also "to carry favour," but when there are so few to tell us of what is going on behind the scenes, we cannot afford to simp those who do so, even if we suspect them of improper motives. Information of this kind must be accepted fully without any attempt to control the manner in which it is communicated.

E. A. GAIT.

I did not acknowledge the letter but sent it on to the Director of Public Instruction. With all deference to the Hon'ble Mr. Hallward, I do not agree that I was bound to comment on the matter or to reprove the Professor. That is for his departmental superior. I was concerned with the information he gave and, as Director of Public Instruction recommends action, he presumably agrees that it is important.

With the Eastern Bengal and Assam circulars quoted by Director of Public Instruction may be read the Government of India's orders at pages 6-7 of the notes.

His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to enquire particularly from me whether attempts to tamper with students and schoolboys still continued in this province and to press that strong measures should be taken to suppress such attempts. The recent discoveries of seditious matter in transit through the post emphasize the necessity.

Before issuing orders similar to those in force in Eastern Bengal and Assam—except perhaps in Government schools—it would be well for Director of Public Instruction to ascertain unobtrusively what is already done in the matter in aided and unaided private institutions. St. Columba's College probably see to these matters already: in any Director of Public Instruction can address the Principal at once. The Commissioner is President of the College Councils of the Bhar National, Tej Narayan and Tirhut Colleges. In all districts the Inspectors of Schools working with the District Officers could easily ascertain whether the Post Office authorities carry out the rules as to the delivery of "generally-addressed" articles and whether the Headmasters have appointed responsible people to receive such articles if they do not do this themselves. In the light of the reports Director of Public Instruction will know whether further orders are required and can report to Government if the Post Office are disregarding the orders.

H. LEMESURIER—30-6-1913.

The papers received from Bengal do not appear to be complete, as the circular from the Director General of Post Offices (No. 5, dated the 6th May 1909) is not among them. We may assume, however, it is sufficiently described in Mr. Sharp's Circular No. 812C., dated the 4th June 1910, and action may be taken as suggested above.

E. A. GAIT—1-7-1913.

D.-O. No. 1370E.

*The 3rd July 1913.*

MY DEAR HALLWARD,

I am desired to reply to your demi-official letter on the subject of the dissemination of seditious or obscene matter among the students of schools and colleges in which you suggest that confidential instructions should be issued similar to those contained in the Eastern Bengal Circular enclosed with your letter.

Before issuing similar instructions Government would like you to ascertain unobtrusively whether attempts are being made to disseminate such matter in aided and unaided private institutions, and what action is being taken by the authorities to prevent it. The authorities of St. Columba's College probably already pay attention to the matter and information could be obtained from the Principal, while information could also be obtained from the Commissioners of the Patna, Tirhut and Bhagalpur Divisions as Presidents of the Bihar National, Tirhut and Tej Narayan Colleges and from other official Presidents.

In the case of other schools the Inspectors with the assistance of the District Magistrates would be able to ascertain whether the Post Offices are obeying the orders contained in the Circular No. 5 of the 6th May 1909 and are delivering articles addressed generally or by name, to students at a school or college or to the Headmaster or Principal or some other person specified by him, and whether the Headmasters who do not take delivery of the articles themselves have deputed responsible persons to receive them.

After obtaining this information you will be in a position to know whether further orders are required and can report to Government if the Post Offices are disobeying the orders.

Yours sincerely,  
H. LEMESURIER.

D.-O. No. 1—C.

RANCHI;  
*The 2nd January 1914.*

MY DEAR NATHAN,

Mr. LeMesurier's confidential D.-O. No. 1370 E., dated the 3rd of July 1913. As far as I can ascertain no attempts have recently been made to disseminate seditious or obscene matter among students. The only exception noticed relates to some medical advertisements sent to the High Schools at Giridih and Purulia.

2. The Inspectors of the Chota Nagpur, Tirhut, and Bhagalpur Divisions report that the Post Office do not always follow the instructions contained in Circular No. 5, dated the 6th of May 1909. At the Bhumihaar Brahman College the letters were delivered to the clerk, but the District Magistrate has now arranged for them to be handed over to the Principal direct. At the Bihar National College the librarian is supposed to receive the letters, but the Superintendent of Police reports that this is a mere pretence and that the letters are in fact handed over directly to the addressees. At the Patna Law College the circular had never been heard of—it was issued before the college was opened—and the letters have been delivered direct to the students in all cases. The Principal has now been instructed to conform to the orders in the circular.

3. I must add that I scarcely think it advisable to issue in this province a circular of the nature of Mr. Hallward's confidential Circular No. 19C., dated Dacca, the 20th July 1911. It seems to me inadvisable to call in police intervention in schools and colleges, when matters can be settled internally. Doubtful documents should be sent, not to the Police but to the Inspector of Schools, or in the case of colleges, to the Director of Public Instruction for disposal.

4. As regards the possible issue of a confidential circular on the lines of Mr. Sharp's Circular No. 842C., dated Shillong, the 4th June 1910, I have to say that my experience as Principal of a College goes to show that this is a very ticklish matter. I had four years' experience of the working of the Postmaster General's Circular No. 5, dated the 6th of May 1909, and must say that, though I obtained numerous seditious documents in that time, they were practically none of them obtained through this particular method of delivery, but were given up to me voluntarily or were sent to me direct by the Postmaster (in the case of letters, etc., addressed generally or by title and not to any individual by name). The fact is that the only effective way of stopping the delivery of seditious matter is to direct the Postmasters to send to the head of the institution all letters, etc., addressed generally or by title (*e.g.*, cricket captain) not by name. Sedition-mongers in America, Geneva, Berlin, London, and elsewhere send their inflammatory matter either to Professors, whose names can be had in a Directory, or to student-officers by title, since they know no names and every college and school has captains of various games. A considerable number of the worst type of such pamphlets reached me in this manner, and were passed on by me

to the Director of Public Instruction ; others were handed over to me by the staff who had been victimised through the Directories. This method was adopted by me before the issue of the Postmaster General's Circular No. 5, and I had better results before than after the 6th of May 1909, probably because the crisis was passed by then. I advocate a return to it, and think that the Postal Department might be asked to instruct Postmasters in this way, *i.e.*, to send all letters addressed generally to classes in schools and colleges, or to college officers, other than the staff, by title and not by name, to the Headmaster or Principal direct.

5. If, however, it is desired to retain and enforce the present method, which the second paragraph above shows to have fallen partly into desuetude, I would suggest a change of procedure. The locked postal box in colleges and hostels is obviously ineffective. Postal peons can plainly be persuaded to deliver letters, often patently innocent, to the addressees direct, and this will probably always be so, instead of placing them in the postal box. The method adopted in Allahabad was at least effective, though unpopular. Each college, and I believe each school, was required to be equipped with a locked postal bag (costing Rs. 3 or Rs. 4), of which one key was with the Postmaster and the other with the Principal or Headmaster. A college or school peon was sent daily to the post office to take delivery. Much discontent arose both among the peons who had to undertake the extra duty, and among the students, whose letters were delayed ; and among the Professors, during whose lectures the letters had to be delivered to individual students. During holidays the delay was sometimes a hardship. I must frankly say that the friction was great, and the result small or nil.

6. The Postmaster makes an annual charge of about Rs. 12 for a window delivery ticket, though in the circumstances this scarcely seems justified. Should this more stringent and expensive method not be approved, and, as I have said, it is unpopular and inconvenient to many, though or rather because effective, then the present arrangement may continue under the Postmaster General's Circular No. 5, so long as the above-mentioned arrangement with the Postmaster is made, whereby letters generally addressed or addressed to college officers by title, not by name, are sent direct to the Principal or Headmaster.

7. I believe that whilst in Allahabad I received all the seditious pamphlets sent to members of the college there and I received them practically all through the means advocated by me above. Some measures at any rate are necessary, and a policy of *laissez-faire* would be a remission of duty on the part of the Department. It is better to be effective and unpopular than to be ineffectual ; but personally I think that complete effectiveness can be secured without friction.

Yours sincerely,

J. G. JENNINGS.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. R. NATHAN, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

Circular No. 19C., dated Dacca, the 20th July 1911.

From—The Hon'ble Mr. N. L. HALLWARD, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam,

To—The Principals of Government Colleges, Principals of aided Colleges (through the Presidents), Superintendents of Dacca and Chittagong Madrassas, Inspectors of Schools, and Secretaries of aided Schools (through the Inspectors), Eastern Bengal and Assam.

In supersession of previous instructions with regard to the disposal of "any postal matter or manuscript production of a particularly interesting or objectionable nature," I have the honour to say that any such document (together with the cover, if received by post) should be at once made over to the nearest police officer, with a statement of the circumstances under which it was found, and that a report, with a copy of the document, should at the same time be sent to the Director or to the Inspector of Schools, as the case may be. Should the document be lengthy, *e.g.*, a whole book, a description of its name and general contents should be sent along with the report.

Circular No. 842C., dated Shillong, the 4th June 1910.

From—The Hon'ble Mr. H. SHARP, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam,

To—The..... (through the Inspector of Schools).

I have the honour to address you on the subject of the delivery of letters in educational institutions and in hostels. Under Circular No. 5 of the 6th of May 1909, of the Director General of the Post Office, unregistered postal articles addressed generally or by name to schools or students at a school or a college are delivered to the Headmaster or the Principal or to some other person specified by him ; and such delivery is a sufficient compliance with the provisions of clause 18 of the Indian Postal Guide. With a view to prevent the dissemination among pupils through the post of inflammatory writing, or of obscene or objectionable works or advertisements, the head of each institution is advised not merely to open generally addressed letters, but also to scrutinise the covers of unregistered articles addressed by name.

2. In order to ensure the carrying out of this circular of the Director General of the Post Office, it is suggested that a locked box with a slit of suitable dimensions in the lid and so constructed that no letter can be extracted therefrom should be hung in the office of the institution. The postal peons may be instructed to deliver no letters by hand in the school, but to drop all unregistered postal matter into the locked box. This box will then be brought to the Principal, Headmaster, or other master deputed for this purpose, generally by the clerk. The Headmaster or the Principal will open the box, examine the letters, and deliver those addressed by name, if there is nothing suspicious about them, to the clerk for distribution.

3. In the case of a hostel attached to, and under the same management with, a school or a college, the postal peons will naturally bring the letters, etc., to the school or college and deposit them in the locked box in the way above described. But where the hostel is under separate management, the postal peons may conveniently deliver letters, etc., in a similar box placed in the hostel, which will be opened by the Superintendent of the hostel, any generally addressed letters or suspicious letters addressed by name being handed over by him to the President of the Hostel Committee.

4. When institutions are closed for holiday or vacation, the same arrangements may continue, though the head of the institution may depute some other teacher for the purpose of taking delivery.

5. In all cases the key of the box may conveniently remain in the possession of the person responsible for opening the box and in the possession of none other.

6. In all cases, it is highly desirable that heads of institutions should give written instructions to the Post Office as to when and in what way postal articles addressed to students should be delivered; and the time may be so arranged that responsible masters or others may be in the vicinity of the letter box and thus obviate the possibility of students persuading the postal peons to make over postal matter into their hands. Any cases in which the postal peons neglect these orders should be at once reported to the postal authorities.

7. The head of the institution or the President of the aided hostel is the proper person to open and peruse generally-addressed postal matter. If the contents prove to be of an objectionable nature (*e.g.*, if they consist of periodicals or other documents, whether in manuscript or in print, containing incitements to murder, violence, or disaffection, or seditious teaching, or advertisements of cures for shameful diseases and any other kind of obscenity), he ought to place them under lock and key. If the contents are unobjectionable, the matter would be given out to the students. Heads of institutions are likewise requested to send to the Divisional Inspector a list to be made at the close of each month, noting against each whether it has been given out or locked up. In the case of colleges this report may be made direct to me. Should any printed matter or manuscript production of a particularly interesting or objectionable nature be received, it is requested that it be at once sent to the Inspector or to myself, together with the cover in which it was received. The lists of documents forwarded should be sent in a registered cover.

8. Apart from the case of generally-addressed letters, the procedure prescribed above will enable the head of an institution to exercise a proper control over the correspondence of the students entrusted to his charge.

#### UNDER-SECRETARY—

Please see Director of Public Instruction's demi-official letter above. Before considering the suggestion made by the Director of Public Instruction for the delivery by the Post Office of all letters, etc., to the heads of institutions, office ventures to bring to notice that any action on the part of the Post Office or the head of an institution to detain or to deliver correspondence in the manner suggested to persons other than the addressees would be illegal. Clause 19 of the Indian Postal Guide on which reliance is placed by the Director General of Post Offices would seem to apply only in cases where the Post Office has failed to trace the addressees after having taken reasonable steps to do so or where the Post Office has every reason to believe that its action in delivering a letter to a third person will not be objected to by the addressee. If any objection is taken by an addressee to his letters being delivered to any person other than whom he authorises the Post Office to deliver his correspondence to, the Post Office would be violating the law.

On a reference to section 15 of Act I of 1910 it will be seen that the Post Office cannot detain a letter or a parcel in the course of transmission though it may be suspected to contain seditious matter.

It would seem necessary therefore in order not to violate the law to obtain the consent of the pupils of a school or college before adopting any such method of delivery as is contemplated by the correspondence in the file, and this may be secured by making it a condition on the admission of a pupil to a school or college either with him direct if he is not a minor, or with his parents or guardians if he is a minor, that all letters and parcels addressed to him through the Post Office must first be received by the head of the institution at whose discretion it will be left either to deliver or to detain such articles. If this were done,

not only could the Post Office relieve itself under sections 3 (c) and 69 of the Act (VI of 1898) of its responsibilities but we could attain our object in preventing undesirable correspondence falling into the hands of pupils.

W. I. SHEPHERD—4-1-1914.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

Please see the Registrar's note, putting forward a legal difficulty to the delivery of letters to a Headmaster. The difficulty has not, as far as I know, arisen in practice in any province nor has the right of a Headmaster been challenged. Till any case actually arises, I would prefer to let sleeping dogs lie and not bring the question forward by making it a condition of entrance to the school that the boy or his guardian should agree to the delivery of his letters through the Headmaster. I should further be inclined to hold that a boy by entering a school tacitly agrees to any rules which may be imposed including any which may regulate the delivery of letters and that, as far as the Post Office is concerned, their duty is completed if they deliver the letters to the Headmaster; clause 19 of the Guide defines "delivery"—and shows that it is not essential to deliver to the addressee personally but includes "other person considered to be authorised to receive it"; in this case the Headmaster.

I do not think that there is anything in it. The Government of India must certainly have taken legal advice before the issue of their letters of the 30th October 1908 and the 15th March 1909.

R. NATHAN.

condition of entrance to the school that the

Certainly not.—R. N.

As regards Mr. Jennings's present letter, we may agree that letters addressed generally or by title should be sent to the Headmaster. To this there can be no legal objection, and need not insist on all letters passing through his hands.

M. G. HALLETT—4-1-1914.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

The course you suggest at A on page 9 would not be a compliance with the orders of the Government of India of the 15th March 1909 (page 7 of notes). The letter box system worked, I believe, well in Eastern Bengal and Assam. Also, if the peon is not to be trusted to deliver all letters to the Principal or Headmaster, does not the same difficulty arise in the lesser case of delivering letters not addressed by name. I should like, please to discuss this case further if you will kindly keep it until we next meet.

R. NATHAN—9-1-1914.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

I have discussed this case with Director of Public Instruction. He is inclined to think that, having regard to the orders of the Government of India, the best solution would be to maintain the delivery boxes at present and also to prescribe, in accordance with the Government of India orders of the 30th October 1908, that all letters and packets addressed generally, not by name, should be delivered to the Principal or Headmaster in a separate closed cover. This would probably be a satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

P. 6 of the notes.

Mr. Hallward's letter of the 9th May 1913 appears to be based on the assumption that no orders are already in force in this province. This cannot be the case\*. The Bengal Government must have issued orders on the instruction of the Government of India,† and probably the orders enforced in this province are similar to those which were issued in Eastern Bengal and Assam, though they do not appear to have been carefully carried out. Before we contemplate the issue of fresh orders we should know exactly what are those in force. If they are available, please put them up. If not, please ask the Bengal Government for them.

Page 5 of notes.

\* It is, though, see below.—H. LEM.

† No. They did not see Messrs Milne's and Cassells' demi-officials (pages 6 and 13)—H. LEM.—30-5-1914.

R. NATHAN—14-1-1914.

D.-O. No. 136E.

The 17th January 1914.

MY DEAR CASSELLS—

I am desired to refer to the circular letter No. 5 of the 6th May 1909 issued by the Director General of the Post Office in India regarding the delivery to the Headmasters of schools of correspondence addressed to the scholars and students, and to inquire whether the Government of Bengal issued any orders as to the means to be adopted for the delivery of such correspondence e.g., by locked bags or boxes of which one key would be with the Post Office and the duplicate with the Principal or Headmaster.

2. If any such orders were issued and are now in force, I am to request that a copy of them may, with the permission of His Excellency in Council, be furnished to this Government.

Yours sincerely,

M. G. HALLETT.

To

A. CASSELLS, Esq., I.C.S.,

*Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.*

D.-O. No. 1721P.

CALCUTTA;

*The 16th February 1914.*

MY DEAR HALLETT,

In reply to your demi-official letter No. 136E., dated the 17th January 1914, I am desired to say that the old Government of Bengal did not issue any orders as to the means to be adopted for the delivery of intercepted correspondence addressed to students and schoolboys. The late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, however, issued certain instructions on the subject, and I am to enclose, for the information of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, a copy each of the circulars noted in the margin. The question of extending these orders, which at present are in force only in East Bengal, to the whole of the Presidency, is under consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A. CASSELLS.

To

M. G. HALLETT, Esq., I.C.S.,

*Under-Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.*

HON'BLE MEMBER—

You have seen this case, which relates to the delivery of seditious matter by post to students of schools and colleges, as far as page 8 of the notes.

The notes from bottom of page 8 may now be read.

The question is what action, if any, should be taken to prevent the delivery of seditious matter through a judicious working of the Director General of Post Offices' Circular No. 5 of 6th May 1909.

\* Pages 8 of the notes.

In reply to Mr. LeMesurier's questions of 3rd July 1913,\* the Director of Public Instruction reports on 2nd January 1914, that there have been no recent attempts to distribute seditious or obscene matter. It appears, however, that very little has been done in Bengal (old) to ensure that effect shall be given to the Postal circular of 1909. No orders have ever issued in Bengal similar to those contained in Eastern Bengal and Assam circular of 4th June 1910,† and the Bengal Government are now contemplating the issue of orders. The Director of Public Instruction, rightly I think, deprecates the issue of such a circular as was issued by Mr. Hallward in Eastern Bengal and Assam (19C., dated th 20th July 1911)‡ and is not confident that a circular like that of 4th June 1910 § will do much good in practice. He subsequently agreed, however, with Mr. Nathan that steps should be taken on the Eastern Bengal and Assam lines.

† Pages 10 and 11 of the notes.

‡ Page 10.

§ Page 10.

I am afraid I have not yet learnt enough about the seditionist movement in this province to be able to advise whether it is sounder to take no action at all and to await further developments, or whether it is desirable to call the attention of the heads of colleges and schools to the subject and ask them to take action on the lines followed in Eastern Bengal and Assam.

I should be inclined on my present knowledge to let the matter rest till we get information from the Director of Public Instruction that attempts are being made to distribute noxious literature. In a province like Bihar and Orissa where the general tone is loyal, we are bound to get information if anything on a big scale is being done in this direction.

H. McPHERSON—21-2-1914.

In the absence of any evidence of the distribution of seditious matter there is no immediate hurry—we may wait and see what Bengal do, as the problem with them is

more pressing (Director of Public Instruction has special experience of this matter and it would be unwise to urge him to take action of which he disapproves unless real necessity exists).

E. A. GAIT—21-2-1914.

Seen. I am willing to leave the matter for the present, but I am not convinced that no action will have to be taken before long.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

For perusal.

C. S. B[AYLEY]—23-2-1914.

H. McPHERSON—25-2-1914.

E. A. GAIT—26-2-1914.

# HEADS OF LAHORE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN CONFERENCE.

Lahore, May 4.

An informal conference of the Principals of the Lahore Colleges and other educational institutions met last week and discussed the ways and means to check the dissemination of seditious literature among students.

THE BIHAR STANDARD, 11th May 1914.

## CHIEF SECRETARY UNOFFICIALLY—

Mr. Nathan and I discussed this matter some time ago, and I understood him to agree with me that (1) the present system should be followed, *i.e.*, locked *post boxes* should be maintained in schools and colleges and all letters, papers, etc., for students should be placed therein and not be delivered direct; but (2) that system should be supplemented by directions from

Mr. Nathan was wrongly informed on this point. Please see my note below.

J. G. J.—26-5-1914.

Government to Postmasters to send confidentially to the heads of institutions all letters, papers, etc., addressed not by name but by office to pupil officers, *e.g.*, Cricket Captains, Secretaries of Debating Societies. As regards this latter point, I understood that the Government

Mr. Nathan thought so, but on scrutinising Government of India's orders, I think India need hardly be addressed.—J. G. J.—26-5-1914.

\*Viz., No. (1) above.

of India would need to be addressed, as they have issued instructions regarding the system to be followed,\* and this would imply a supplementing of their instructions. I do not know what has been done in this matter, but I venture to think that the present system is not sufficient, whereas it would be effective if supplemented as proposed. There is a file on the subject with a long discussion.

J. G. JENNINGS—19-5-1914.

## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

The notes on the file will show how the previous discussion ended. Perhaps you will frame a draft circular on the subject (or a letter to the Postmaster General, which will be circulated to Headmasters, etc., for information) and ask for Government approval.

H. McPHERSON—21-5-1914.

## CHIEF SECRETARY—

The proposal on which Mr. Nathan and I were agreed (page 13 above) has apparently been overlooked. That proposal consisted of two points—(i) to allow the present system to stand; and (ii) to supplement the same. Mr. Nathan, however, was under a misapprehension in thinking that the locked delivery box system had been adopted in this province, as in Eastern Bengal and Assam, and (in a stricter form, *viz.*, the locked letter bag system, which dispensed with the postal peon altogether) } A. in the United Provinces. The old province of Bengal did not adopt the above system, and I find that nothing has been done here since the separation of Bihar and Orissa from Bengal. The present state of affairs, however, is not altogether without guidance and control. The Director General of Post Offices' Circular No. 5, dated the 6th May 1909, is mandatory. All "unregistered postal articles addressed generally or by name to scholars or students at a school or college are delivered to the Headmaster or other person specified by him. This method of delivery.....is now prescribed for general use in all circles in the case of all such articles." In my opinion, however, there is and always will remain room for great laxity in the carrying out of this system, whether the letters are delivered to the Headmaster with or without the agency of a locked box. In some cases it will be well and discreetly carried out, no doubt, and I would certainly maintain whilst supplementing the system. It seems to me that at times nothing but the utmost vigilance, such as it is impractical to expect, would prevent students from obtaining delivery of letters on special occasions from the peon direct, whether the locked box is adopted or not. At such times, *e.g.*, of illness in the

family or of private affairs of urgency, an altogether rigid application of the above procedure, with all its incidental and sometimes avoidable delays, would lead to great inconvenience and possibly hardship and loss to individuals, and to correspondingly grave discontent. I have worked the system in its most rigid form, and have had difficulty at times to prevent serious trouble. Nevertheless I agree with Mr. Nathan that the scheme should be maintained as the general basis of our policy, though I do not advocate it with strictest United Province's form. Its maintenance seems to me useful because the fact that all letters addressed to schoolboys or students pass as a rule through the hands of the Headmaster or Principal or some other educational authority is likely in itself to prevent mischievous persons to a certain extent from pestering individual scholars with the worst sort of stuff. The scheme, moreover, has the approval of the Government of India\* in their

\* I should say was prescribed by the Government of India.—H. LEM.—27-5-1914.

No. 405, dated the 15th March 1909 (page 7). We should not, however, in my opinion rely upon it alone.

The second part of the proposal on which Mr. Nathan and I were agreed, is supplementary, but to my mind secures all that is vitally necessary. It corresponds with the Government of India's earlier No. 9993-9998, dated the 30th October 1908 (p. 6), which was apparently superseded\* by their No. 405 mentioned

\* Not superseded—supplemented.—H. LEM.—29-5-1914.

above. Its effect is to secure that all letters, newspapers, etc., addressed generally and not by name to classes in schools and colleges, or to boarding houses or hostels attached thereto, or to school or college officers (other than the staff) by title and not by name, may be sent by Postmasters to the Headmaster or Principal or Superintendent in the case of hostels, direct in a separate packet. In the years 1906-07, during the early days of student unrest, I adopted this plan with success. It was subsequently merged in the wider scheme set forth in Government of India's No. 405 above. The wider scheme met, in my case, with less success, perhaps because the unrest was passing.

For these reasons I propose, conditionally on Government's approval, to address the Postmaster General, Bihar and Orissa, as follows :—

CONFIDENTIAL—

(1) With reference to the Director General of Post Offices' No. 5, dated the 6th May 1909, I have the honour to request that Postmasters in the province of Bihar and Orissa may be further instructed to forward separately in a closed cover to the Headmaster, or Principal, or Superintendent in the case of boarding houses or hostels, personally. All letters, newspapers, packets, etc., addressed generally and not by name to classes in schools and colleges, or to boarding houses or hostels attached thereto, or to school or college officers (other than the staff) by title and not by name.

(2) The reason for this request is that letters of this nature frequently require more careful scrutiny than do those which are addressed by name, and whereas, for the convenience of the addressees and to prevent undue delay of letters of importance, it may be necessary for the Headmaster, Principal or Superintendent to delegate to others the receipt and delivery of letters addressed to students by name, he should on no account delegate his powers in the case of generally-addressed letters and packets.

(3) I have been informed of cases in which the Director General of Post Offices' Circular No. 5 was not being enforced. I should be glad if the circular were enforced strictly, and I imagine that this would be as convenient to your Department as to mine. It is undesirable, however, that my Department should appear in the matter.

I have, etc.

Other draft substituted for this.

J. G. J.—26-5-1914.

If the Postmaster General of Bihar and Orissa agrees to the above, I may issue copies of paragraph 1 alone, to Headmasters, Principals, and Superintendents.

Finally, and as a subsidiary matter, I may point out that, as regards the issue of undesirable newspapers and magazines through the post to schoolboys and students, control can be established without difficulty, if the Headmaster, Principal, or Superintendent will keep a Conduct Register such as was recommended by the Moral and Religious Education Committee, and will let the students know that he will enter in it the fact that they receive such papers. I have tried this plan with marked effect.

J. G. JENNINGS—26-5-1914.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

The action now proposed by the Director of Public Instruction may be approved by Government.

H. McPHERSON—26-5-1914.

I agree.

His Honour should see. I regret the delay as, if I had seen the case again, I could have given reasons for my belief (which is probably now more general) that mischief is going on in the way of tampering with students and schoolboys.

I cannot help feeling Bengal assumed a very grave responsibility in deciding to take no action on India's orders of 1909 and I am very doubtful whether in fact delivery is made to boxes at colleges and schools at all. The order to do so was an Eastern Bengal and Assam one and was never issued in the old Bengal, of which this province formed a part. Will  
A { Chief Secretary please definitely ascertain from Director of Public Instruction the orders under which the procedure was prescribed in this province?

As regards letters addressed to the "monitors," "pup'ls' games" or "class Captains," "Teachers," "Professors" or other generic denominations, the orders of the Government of India are still in force and Director of Public Instruction's proposed letter to Postmaster General merely calls attention to them. The subsequent order to deliver all letters to the Headmasters did not, I think, supersede those for the separate delivery of this particular class of communications. In Eastern Bengal and Assam both obligations were enforced and I agree with Director of Public Instruction this double system reduced greatly the drawbacks of the letter box by itself.

H. LEMESURIER—27-5-1914.

Seen. Please put up after the Hon'ble Member's order at A. has been carried out and the answer received. The case should go to Hon'ble Member again before it comes to me.

C. S. B[AYLEY]—23-5-1914.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

I have shown this to Director of Public Instruction. He has drawn my attention to the passage marked A on page 14 of his note. He understood from Mr. Nathan (*vide* page 13) that the delivery box system was in force in this province, but has subsequently ascertained from enquiry made that it is not in force. The Director General of Post Offices' circular is in force but is interpreted somewhat loosely. The object of Director of Public Instruction's proposed circular is to draw attention to the Director General of Post Offices' circular to have it supplemented in respect of covers that are not addressed by name. Director of Public Instruction does not advise the introduction of the delivery box system, which would be unnecessary if the proposed circular be given effect to.

H. McPHERSON—29-5-1914.

It comes to the same thing if orders are given to Educational authorities to insist that letters and papers are delivered to them. It will be seen that the "Government of India have asked that instructions may be issued to the heads of all Government institutions requesting them to make arrangements for the delivery to some responsible person of all letters, etc., addressed to the students of the institution." In the case of aided institutions similar arrangements should be recommended unless the willingness of their heads to do so is doubtful, in which case it may perhaps be advisable to refrain from broaching the subject.

Letter No. 405, Home Department, dated the 15th March 1909 to Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Home Department (Political) No. 780, dated the 26th May 1909, to Bengal (Education).

Nothing has been done, but the orders are mandatory in the case of Government institutions and must be carried out. In view of Director of Public Instruction's recommendations we need not press for the letter box and discretion may be left to the Principals, as to Director of Public Instruction, regarding the matter of his letter. He may very suitably recapitulate the substance of his demi-official No. 1C. of 2nd January (pages 9 and 10) to Mr. Nathan, and his note on pages 14-15. I agree documents intercepted should go to the District Magistrate or the Inspector of Schools who should inform the District Magistrate at once. Principals of Government colleges should at once inform the District Magistrate.

Provided we insist, as I agree we should, on the literal and exact fulfilment of the orders in Commerce and Industry Department No. 9993-9998, dated the 30th August 1908, to Local Governments, regarding postal matter "generally addressed" and presumably suspicious, it is sufficient if Principals and Headmasters of Government and aided institutions are reminded that it is their duty to exercise scrutiny over the ordinary correspondence of their pupils and, as far as possible, to ensure that it is delivered to themselves or responsible officers.

With this provision I agree to Director of Public Instruction's proposals.

His Honour should see.

H. LEMESURIER—30-5-1914.

I agree, but I rather think that it would be well to secure the co-operation of the Postmaster General by telling him unofficially and confidentially what is being done and why.

C. S. B[AYLEY]—30-5-1914.

Director of Public Instruction saw me about this case. I have arranged that he will send me copies of—

- (1) his letter to Postmaster General, with regard to which I will write demi-officially to Mr. Tulloch, and
- (2) his circular to heads of institutions of which copies will be sent to Commissioners with necessary instruction for the guidance of District Officers.

H. McPHERSON—2-6-1914.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

The three drafts are below ; they will be issued on return of the file if you will be so good as to send it back.

G. E. FAWCUS—4-6-1914.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

I have shown the drafts to Hon'ble Member who approves. I am writing demi-officially to the Postmaster General as in the draft below. Will you please let me have a copy of your letter to him to keep with the office copy of my demi-official? The circulars to Headmasters, etc., should go out *in print* and we may be sent 50 copies, on receipt of which they will be sent to Commissioners with a short demi-official for distribution to District Officers.

Office—

The fair copy can issue today and the office copy be kept with this file.

H. McPHERSON—6-6-1914.

Demi-official to Mr. Tulloch issued.

H. McPHERSON—6-6-1914.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

For compliance with instructions in the note above, and return to Chief Secretary—  
confidential.

J. G. JENNINGS—6-6-1914.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

A copy of the letter to the Postmaster General is placed in the file. The circulars will be sent when printed. I take it they should not be confidential.

G. E. FAWCUS—10-6-1914.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

Hon'ble Member's orders may be taken as to whether the two circulars in the linked file should be "confidential." I see no reason for it.

M. G. HALLETT—10-6-1914.

D.-O. No. 1659P.

The 6th June 1914.

MY DEAR TULLOCH,

It is believed that in this province as in others a considerable amount of highly seditious and obscene literature is circulated to the pupils of schools and colleges in covers addressed generally (*e.g.*, the Monitor, the Prefect, the Captain of the Cricket Club) and not by individual name. At the instance of Government the Director of Public Instruction is asking you if you will kindly arrange, under the terms of Director General of Post Offices' Circular No. 5 of the 6th of May 1909, to have such articles sent to the heads of educational institutions separately in sealed covers, so that they may be carefully scrutinised before delivery.

I am desired to express the hope that you will find it possible to co-operate to this extent with the Director of Public Instruction in our efforts to combat the activities of sedition-mongers and purveyors of filth.

Yours sincerely,  
H. McPHERSON.

To

H. F. P. TULLOCH, Esq.,

*Postmaster General, Bihar and Orissa.*

HON'BLE MEMBER—

*Vide* query at p. 17. There is no necessity, I think, to make the circulars to heads of Government and aided institutions confidential.

H. McPHERSON—10-6-1914.

I think not, but His Honour's orders should be taken.

H. LEMESURIER—11-6-1914.

I agree.

C. S. B[AYLEY]—11-6-1914.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—

Your question above. Orders are above, and should now be carried out. I take it that our letter of June 9th (No. 198C), to Postmaster General has issued. If not, it should do so now. There is no need to wait for this purpose till the circular is printed. Chief Secretary desires to know that the letter has been sent.

J. G. JENNINGS—12-6-1914.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

I return your file. The letter to the Postmaster General has already been despatched.

G. E. FAWCUS—13-6-1914.

—————  
D.-O. No. M.B.-4Con.

GULZARBAGH;

The 11th June 1914.

MY DEAR MCPHERSON,

Your demi-official No. 1659P. of the 6th instant. This subject has been receiving the attention of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs and of heads of Post Office circles for a long time past, and I feel pretty sure that there are already orders extant to deliver all correspondence addressed generally to the pupils of a school or college to the heads of such institutions and not to any of the scholars. I will look into the matter at once and will, if necessary, issue further instructions on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

H. F. P. TULLOCH.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. H. MCPHERSON, I.C.S.,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

With file. I have shown to Director of Public Instruction.

H. MCPHERSON—13-6-1914.

The file should be recorded.

M. G. HALLETT—13-6-1914.

—————  
No. 198C., dated Ranchi, the 9th June 1914.

From—The Hon'ble Mr. J. G. JENNINGS, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Postmaster General, Bihar and Orissa.

With reference to Circular No. 5, dated the 6th of May 1903, from the Director General of the Post Office in India, I have the honour to state that I have been informed that the orders of this circular are not being in all cases strictly carried out in this province. I should be glad if the circular were enforced strictly, and I imagine that this would be as convenient to your Department as to mine. It is undesirable, however, that my Department should appear in this matter.

2. I have further to request that Postmasters in the province of Bihar and Orissa may be instructed to forward *separately, in a closed cover*, to the Headmaster, or Principal, or Superintendent in the case of boarding houses or hostels, personally all letters, newspapers, packets, etc., addressed *generally* and not by name to classes in schools and colleges, or in boarding houses or hostels attached thereto, or to school or college officers (other than the staff) *by office* and not by name.

3. The reason for this latter request is that letters of this nature frequently require more careful scrutiny than those which are addressed by name, and whereas, for the convenience of the addressees and to prevent undue delay of letters of importance, it may be necessary for the Headmaster, Principal or Superintendent to delegate to others the receipt and delivery of letters addressed to students by name, he should on no account delegate his powers in the case of generally-addressed letters and packets, or of those addressed by office, *e.g.*, the Monitor, Prefect, or Secretary of the Debating Society.

Stopping of objectionable matters from getting into hostels and Boarding Houses through the post.

Extract from Director of Public Instruction's file No. 25C. of 1914.

\* \* \* \* \*

CHIEF SECRETARY (UN-OFFICIALLY)—

\* \* \* \* \*

Please read the Postmaster General's No. MB4, of 30th July 1914 (paper under consideration) and enclosed draft. The latter means to meet the case, and corresponds closely with my draft circulars Nos. 18 and 19 (1914), which have received Government approval. There was a long discussion leading up to my draft circulars. As it is not here I presume that it is in your file.

It would appear that we should accept the Postmaster General's draft, and also issue my two circulars (Nos. 18 and 19) at the earliest possible date.

J. G. JENNINGS—14-8-1914.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

The discussion referred to in Director of Public Instruction's note above is contained in the printed file. As proposed by Director of Public Instruction (I have not with me a copy of the Post Office Guide but do not delay the file in this account).

UNDER-SECRETARY—  
Please see our printed file.

W. I. S.—18-8-1914.

H. McPHERSON—18-5-1914.

His Honour should see.

H. LEMESURIER—18-8-1914.

HIS HONOUR—

H. McPHERSON—18-8-1914.

C. S. BAYLEY—18-8-1914.

The additional correspondence with the draft approved for issue should be printed up as supplementary to the printed file.

H. McPHERSON—18-8-1914.

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## APPENDICES TO FILE No. 152.

*Director General of Post Offices' Circular No. 5; dated the 6th May 1909.*

As considerable difficulty is frequently found in effecting delivery at schools and colleges of correspondence addressed to the scholars or students, attention is drawn to the fact that it is a sufficient compliance with the provisions of clause 18 of the Indian Postal Guide if unregistered postal articles addressed generally or by name to scholars or students at a school or college are delivered to the Headmaster or other person specified by him.

This method of delivery is already in force in some circles. It is now prescribed for general use in all circles in the case of all such articles.

19.  
"Delivery" defined.

The delivery of a postal article at the house or office of the addressee, or to the addressee or his servant or agent or other person considered to be authorised to receive the article according to the usual manner of delivering postal articles to the addressee is deemed to be delivery to the addressee under the Post Office Act.

Circular No. 784C., dated Shillong, the 18th May 1910.

From--The Hon'ble Mr. H. SHARP, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam,

To--Principals of Government Colleges, Superintendents of Dacca and Chittagong Madrassas, and Inspectors of Schools, Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Recent experience has shown that the orders contained in my Circular No. 48C. of the 15th February 1909 have not, in all cases, received full attention. Pamphlets of a seditious nature have undoubtedly eluded the vigilance of heads of institutions, and have in some cases fallen into the hands of pupils. For this reason, and because since the writing of that circular more comprehensive orders have issued from the Post Office, I deem it necessary to address you again in supersession of the circular above named.

2. I have now the honour to inform you that, under Circular No. 5 of the 6th May 1909, of the Director General of the Post Office, unregistered postal articles addressed generally or by name to schools or students at a school or a college are delivered to the Headmaster or to some other person specified by him; and such delivery is a sufficient compliance with the provisions of clause 18 of the Indian Postal Guide. It is now the duty of heads of institutions not merely to open generally-addressed letters, but also to scrutinise the covers of unregistered articles addressed by name and, should their suspicions be aroused, to open them and deal with them in the manner prescribed below.

3. In order to ensure the carrying out of this circular of the Director General of the Post Office it is now ordered that a locked box, with a slit of suitable dimensions in the lid and so constructed that no letter can be extracted therefrom, should be hung in the office of the institution. The postal peons will be directed to deliver no letters by hand in the school, but to drop all unregistered postal matter into the locked box. This box will then be brought to the Principal, Headmaster, or other master deputed for this purpose, generally by the clerk. The Headmaster will open the box, examine the letters, and deliver those addressed by name, if there is nothing suspicious about them, to the clerk for distribution.

4. In the case of Government hostels, the postal peons will bring the letters, etc., to the school and deposit them in the locked box in the way above described.

5. When institutions are closed for holiday or vacation, the same arrangements should continue, though the head of the institution may depute some other teacher for the purpose of taking delivery.

6. In all cases, the key of the box should remain in the possession of the person responsible for opening the box and in the possession of none other.

7. In all cases, heads of institutions should give written instructions to the Post Office as to when and in what way postal articles addressed to students should be delivered; and the time should be so arranged that responsible masters or others may be in the vicinity of the letter box, and thus obviate the possibility of students persuading postal peons to make over postal matter into their hands. Any case in which the postal peons neglect these orders should be at once reported to the postal authorities.

8. The head of the institution will open and peruse generally-addressed postal matter and letters addressed by name, which appear suspicious. (In considering whether a letter is suspicious or not, the personality of the addressee would be a largely determining factor.) If the contents prove to be of an objectionable nature, e.g., if they consist of periodicals or other documents, whether in manuscript or print, containing incitements to murder, violence or disaffection, or seditious teaching or advertisements of cures for shameful diseases and

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any other kind of obscenity), he will place them under lock and key. If the contents are unobjectionable, the matter should, if generally addressed, be given out to the students; but, if it is addressed by name, it should be personally handed over to the addressee in question. Heads of institutions should likewise send to the divisional Inspectors a list to be made at the close of each month noting against each whether it has been given out or locked up. In the case of colleges, the report will be made direct to me. Should any printed matter or manuscript production of a particularly interesting or objectionable nature be received, it should at once be sent to the Inspector or to myself, together with the cover in which it was received. The lists of documents forwarded should be sent in a registered cover. Inspectors will forward them to me on receipt.

9. I request that these orders may be kept strictly confidential.

Circular No. 842C., dated Shillong, the 4th June 1910.

From—The Hon'ble Mr. H. SHARP, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam,

To—The Headmasters of Government High Schools (through the Inspector of Schools), the Principals (through Presidents of governing Bodies), Jagannath College, Victoria (Comilla) and Mymensingh Colleges, the Principal (through Secretary, Hon'ble Rai D. C. Deb, Bahadur), Murarichand College.

I have the honour to address you on the subject of the delivery of letters in educational institutions and in hostels. Under Circular No. 5 of the 6th of May 1909 of the Director General of the Post Office, unregistered postal articles addressed generally or by name to schools or students at a school or college are delivered to the Headmaster or the Principal or to some other person specified by him; and such delivery is a sufficient compliance with the provisions of clause 18 of the Indian Postal Guide. With a view to prevent the dissemination among pupils through the post of inflammatory writing or of obscene or objectionable works or advertisements, the head of each institution is advised not merely to open generally-addressed letters, but also to scrutinise the covers of unregistered articles addressed by name.

2 In order to ensure the carrying out of this circular of the Director General of the Post Office, it is suggested that a locked box with a slit of suitable dimensions in the lid and so constructed that no letter can be extracted therefrom should be hung in the office of the institution. The postal peons may be instructed to deliver no letters by hand in the school, but to drop all unregistered postal matter into the locked box. This box will then be brought to the Principal, Headmaster, or other master deputed for this purpose, generally by the clerk. The Headmaster or the Principal will open the box, examine the letters, and deliver those addressed by name if there is nothing suspicious about them, to the clerk for distribution.

3. In the case of a hostel attached to, and under the same management with a school or a college, the postal peons will naturally bring the letters, etc., to the school or college and deposit them in the locked box in the way above described. But where the hostel is under separate management, the postal peons may conveniently deliver letters, etc., in a similar box placed in the hostel, which will be opened by the Superintendent of the Hostel, any generally-addressed letters or suspicious letters addressed by name being handed over by him to the President of the Hostel Committee.

4. When institutions are closed for holiday or vacation, the same arrangements may continue, though the head of the institution may depute some other teacher for the purpose of taking delivery.

5. In all cases the key of the box may conveniently remain in the possession of the person responsible for opening the box and in the possession of none other.

6. In all cases, it is highly desirable that heads of institutions should give written instructions to the Post Office as to when and in what way postal articles addressed to students should be delivered; and the time may be so arranged that responsible masters or others may be in the vicinity of the letter box and thus obviate the possibility of students persuading the postal peons to make over postal matter into their hands. Any cases in which the postal peons neglect these orders should be at once reported to the postal authorities.

7. The head of the institution or the President of the aided hostel is the proper person to open and peruse generally-addressed postal matter. If the contents prove to be of an objectionable nature (e.g., if they consist of periodicals or other documents, whether in manuscript or in print, containing incitements to murder, violence, or disaffection, or seditious teaching, or advertisements of cures for shameful diseases and any other kind of obscenity), he ought to place them under lock and key. If the contents are unobjectionable, the matter would be given out to the students. Heads of institutions are likewise requested to send to the Divisional Inspector a list to be made at the close of each month, noting against each whether it has been given out or locked up. In the case of colleges this report may be made direct to me. Should any printed matter or manuscript production of a particularly interesting or objectionable nature be received, it is requested that it be at once sent to the Inspector or to myself, together with the cover in which it was received. The lists of documents forwarded should be sent in a registered cover.

8. Apart from the case of generally-addressed letters, the procedure prescribed above will enable the head of an institution to exercise a proper control over the correspondence of the students entrusted to his charge.

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No. M.B.4, dated Camp Cuttack, 30th May 1914.

From—Mr. H. P. TULLOCH, Postmaster-General, Bihar and Orissa Circle,  
To—The Director of Public Instruction, Bihar and Orissa.

In reply to your letter No. 198C., dated the 9th June 1914, I have the honour to enclose the draft of instructions on the matter referred to which I propose to issue to Post Office officials in Bihar and Orissa and to inquire whether you have any alterations or additions to suggest.

General letter No.

From—The Postmaster-General, Bihar and Orissa Circle,  
To—The Superintendents of Post Offices, Head Postmasters and Sub-postmasters, Bihar and Orissa Circle.

There is occasion to draw attention to the instructions issued by the Director-General in his circular No. 5, dated the 6th May 1909, regarding the delivery of correspondence addressed in a general way, and not by name, to scholars or students at schools or colleges.

2. In future postmasters should forward in a closed cover to the Headmasters or the Principals of schools or colleges, or to the Superintendent in the case of boarding houses or hostels connected with schools and colleges, all unregistered postal articles addressed in a general way, and not by name, to "The Scholars", "The Students", "The Monitor", "The Prefect", "The Captain of the.....Club", "The Secretary of the Debating Society", etc., etc. of such institutions.

3. It should be noted, however, that this offer is not intended to supersede or modify in any way the prohibition contained in clause 26 of the Post Office Guide (July 1914).

बिहार सरकार

No. 307C., dated Ranchi, the 31st August 1914.

From—J. G. JENNINGS, Esq., Director of Public Instruction, Bihar and Orissa,  
To—The Postmaster-General, Bihar and Orissa Circle.

I have the honour to thank you for your confidential letter No. M.B.4 of Camp Cuttack the 30th July 1914, with which you enclosed the draft of instructions which you propose to issue to Post office officials in Bihar and Orissa. Your draft meets the case and I have no alterations or additions to suggest.

References to former cases.

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बिहार सरकार

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग

References to later cases.

(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)

File 330 of 1914. (D.P. 16 Circular  
regarding the arrangements to  
be made for delivery of letters  
etc in Govt and aided  
schools & colleges).

D.P. 16 Confidential file No 5 C of 1914.

sect " No 140 of 1914

" " No 363 of 1914.

Edn A propo for Oct 1913 No 43-49 (1E-120 of 1913)

sect Confidential file No 148 of 1914.