

November 28th, 1931

NOTES ON THE JUNIOR MATRICULATION EXAMINATION

1. I believe the Junior Matriculation Examination might be strengthened, and the conduct of the examination simplified if the Matriculation Board adopted the following suggestions designed

- (a) to secure a more thorough criticism and revision of the papers before they are printed.
- (b) to make definite the regulations governing the re-reading of papers.
- (c) to make definite arrangements for the revision of examiners' marks where this appears to be justified.
- (d) to make the pass-mark in individual papers 50%.

2. Criticism and Revision of Papers.

The Departments concerned should act as preliminary revising committees, so that a paper set by any examiner would be criticized and approved by all the members of his department before being sent to me.

The department would be expected to satisfy itself

- (a) that the paper was within the syllabus
- (b) that the paper covered the ground fairly and was well-balanced.
- (c) that the standard was a proper one.
- (d) that no question was ambiguous.
- (e) that the paper gave bright pupils an opportunity of showing their brightness.

In the case of Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry, the examiner should be asked for solutions of any problems, and these solutions should be verified by the other members of his department.

3. A Revising Board should be appointed. As members I suggest one member from each of the following departments, Classics, French, History or English, Physics or Chemistry. This Board which would meet in February would give the papers a final revision, compare them with previous years' papers, and finally sanction them.

The original examiner should be informed and consulted if the Board decided to make any material alteration in a paper.

No examiner would sit on this Board and the members should be paid (perhaps \$10 each) for their work. The Registrar (unpaid) should act as convener and be a member of the Board.