



GOLD COAST

## FURTHER PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE GOLD COAST

*(Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed)*

Sessional Paper No. V of 1944 outlined certain schemes for the immediate expansion of staff required to develop the educational system of the Gold Coast. In addition to a major scheme for the award of scholarships for higher education and professional training, proposals for the increase in the output of teachers were formulated. These proposals provided for the establishment of a Government Teacher-Training College at Tamale, for the duplication of classes in the Tamale Government Senior School and for assistance to certain Mission training colleges and other institutions. Expenditure amounting to £122,125 was contemplated under these proposals and a grant to meet this expenditure was made under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

2. As the title of that Sessional Paper indicated, the proposals there put forward catered only for immediate expansion of staff. Further proposals, as outlined in the ensuing paragraphs, have now been approved.

### GOVERNMENT TEACHER-TRAINING COLLEGE, TAMALE

3. The Government Teacher-Training College at Tamale was established in January, 1944 with a minimum skeleton staff and housed in temporary quarters. The improved college has made a very satisfactory beginning. But a stage has already been reached at which there is a danger of losing the value of the work already done, unless a detailed scheme for development is now adopted and steps are taken to ensure that this scheme is implemented in the course of the present financial year. The position of the college in relation to the development of education in the Northern Territories and, therefore, of development generally in the Protectorate, is one of paramount importance. The conclusion has been reached that in buildings, staff, curriculum and equipment the college should be to a very large extent similar to that described under the heading "The Training of Teachers for Infant-Junior Schools" at page 4 of the Report of the Education Committee, 1937-41, and more especially in paragraphs 38, 40, 41, 42 and 43. The type of college described by the Education Committee was intended, it is true, to meet the needs of the smaller educational organisations and the Native Administrations in the Colony and Ashanti. But the task of the college at Tamale is, in fact, very similar to that of the college proposed in the Education Committee's Report; it will have to serve a large number of Native Administrations and, therefore, to provide training for students who speak a diversity of vernaculars. This, of course, has a direct bearing on the size of the staff.

4. An estimate of the further capital expenditure required, in addition to the grant already made under the Act, for the provision of adequate permanent buildings and equipment for the college has been prepared and is as follows:—

	£
Buildings ... ..	30,000
Equipment and other minor needs ... ..	1,800
	£31,800

GOLD COAST

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING DEPARTMENT, ACCRA

1945

Price—Threepence

155297

I / LA 1611.65

## DUPLICATION OF CLASSES AT THE GOVERNMENT SENIOR PRIMARY SCHOOL, TAMALE

5. The sum of £9,820 has already been provided under the Act for the duplication of classes in the Tamale Government Senior Primary School, in order to secure a supply of recruits of adequate quality for the training college. In the light of experience gained this sum has not proved to be sufficient. When the first estimate was made, some of the original buildings at the school were expected to remain serviceable for a further few years. But they have deteriorated more rapidly than was expected and they should be replaced now. Further, it was expected that the building programme could safely be spread over a number of years and that the pupils of the school could undertake a not inconsiderable part of it in the course of their normal trade instruction. But the opening of the Government Training College has affected the situation; and it is now clear that the part of the programme allocated to the pupils of the school is more substantial than it should be in the new circumstances. It is essential that from now onward the supply of recruits to the training college should be as satisfactory as it is possible to make it. The only source of supply is the Government Senior Primary School at Tamale and, if the school is to reach the requisite efficiency as soon as is now necessary, the execution of the building programme should be accelerated. It is estimated that an additional sum of £5,750 will be required for this purpose.

## EXPANSION OF EXISTING MISSION TRAINING COLLEGES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW COLLEGES

6. Consideration has also been given to the necessity for increasing the output of teachers by the Mission training colleges. A considerable increase in the aggregate enrolment of existing colleges (which provide staff chiefly for the senior primary schools) was made at the beginning of 1944. The increase was as large as existing staff and accommodation would safely permit. In addition, a new college to provide a two-year course for teachers for infant-junior schools was established at Odumase under the management of the Scottish Mission. But, if development is to be on a reasonable scale, if it is to be effected at a reasonable speed, further very substantial provision must be made for the training of teachers. This can be effected by increasing the size of existing colleges to the maximum which is compatible with efficiency and by establishing new two-year colleges. It is estimated that the following sums will be required to meet capital expenditure in the financial year 1945-46:—

- (i) For modification and extensions to existing accommodation at the Presbyterian Training College, Akropong; Wesley College, Kumasi; St. Augustine's Roman Catholic College, Cape Coast; Our Lady of the Apostles Roman Catholic Training College for Women, Cape Coast; St. Monica's (English Church Mission) College for Women, Mampong, Ashanti; the Basel Mission Training College for Women, Agogo; and the Scottish Mission Training Centre for Women, Aburi ... .. £23,219
- (ii) For the erection over a period of three years of new training colleges by the Ewe Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church of the Gold Coast—

1945-46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£45,000
1946-47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,000
1947-48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000
										<hr/> £75,000

7. A proposal has been made for the establishment by the Roman Catholic Mission of a combined secondary school and teacher-training college for girls at Cape Coast. The Roman Catholic Mission has obtained the promise of the services of highly qualified staff from the Order of the Sisters of the Holy Child who have had much experience of teacher-training and secondary school work in England and in Nigeria. This staff has been promised on the understanding that it will be possible to begin work in January, 1946 and, if this is to be achieved, the construction of the new buildings which will be required must be completed in 1945. The estimated total expenditure is £32,700 of which £22,950 would be spent in 1945-46. This capital outlay is beyond the resources of the Roman Catholic Mission and a Government grant is necessary.

8. The importance of secondary education for girls was stressed by the Education Committee, 1937-41, which recommended in paragraph 89 of its report that more secondary schools for girls should be established. The situation regarding provision for girls' secondary education is still the same as it was when that report was written. The need for increased facilities is now more urgent than ever, and the Mission's proposal to establish a new girls' secondary school is therefore most welcome. At the same time it is necessary to provide for a regular supply of trained teachers who have received their training at the hands of women of wide experience and high academic qualifications. The combination of a training college and a secondary school has many advantages in that the trained staff available can be used to the best purpose and in the most economical manner.

## EQUIPMENT FOR THE TEACHING OF SCIENCE

9. It is considered that provision should be made for the improvement of equipment for the teaching of science in the Government-assisted secondary schools. The teaching of science is a subject which has engaged attention over a period of many years, and the importance of a scientific training in building up a staff for developmental work needs no emphasis. It has been pointed out that on the teaching of science must ultimately depend the solution of problems of health, agriculture and the like. The science equipment of the secondary schools other than Achimota is, however, so limited that there is an acute shortage of individuals who have studied science in a secondary course and who are qualified to go on to higher studies. The Education Committee, 1937-41, recommended in paragraph 145 of its report that capital grants for equipment for scientific and applied work should be made to secondary schools. It is proposed, therefore, to make a grant of £1,000 to each of the four assisted secondary schools for this purpose, to be spread over a number of years, making a total expenditure of £4,000.

## THE TEACHING OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

10. In addition it is proposed to make a small grant of £550 to Mfantsipim School for buildings and equipment to develop the teaching of arts and crafts on modern lines, as advocated by the Institute of West African Industries, Arts and Social Science.

11. The proposals described above are summarised as follows :—

(i) Development of the Government Teacher-Training College at Tamale ... ..	£31,800
(ii) Further provision for the duplication of classes in the Tamale Government Senior Primary School ... ..	5,750
(iii) Extensions to accommodation at existing training colleges ... ..	23,219
(iv) Establishment of three new two-year post-primary teacher-training colleges ...	75,000
(v) Establishment of a combined secondary school and teacher-training college for girls at Cape Coast ... ..	32,700
(vi) Improvement of equipment for the teaching of science in assisted secondary schools	1,000
(vii) Provision of buildings and equipment for the teaching of arts and crafts at Mfantsipim School ... ..	550
Total ... ..	<u>£173,019</u>

12. As in the case of the earlier scheme described in Sessional Paper No. V of 1944, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have come to the assistance of the Gold Coast Government and have approved a grant of £173,019 under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act to meet the cost of these proposals.