

Confidential

D. O., No. 35 (Con)

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE,
CALCUTTA.

The 7th February 1935

My dear Bottomley,

I forward herewith an application from Dr. U. N. Ghoshal for promotion to Grade 1 of the B. E. S. Only one such post has been allotted to History, which was already ear-marked for European History. My reasons for such a course were stated in my letter No. 507 (confidential) of the 24th February 1932. I am still of opinion that if there is one Grade 1 post for History, it should be reserved for European History. From the nature of things a -- really efficient teacher of European History is much rarer than one of Indian History. Nor is it quite fair to bring in the question of original work for comparison, as the latter never lacks materials, while the former lacks materials as well as opportunities.

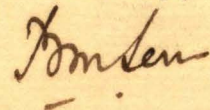
Coming to the personal claims of Dr. U. N. Ghoshal it is a fact that he enjoys wide reputation as a historian of the Hindu Political Theories, and his work in these lines has received recognition from competent authorities. But so far as teaching work is concerned, I consider that Dr. Ghoshal does not pull his weight. He gives one the impression of trying to avoid work, if possible, and what he undertakes is sometimes done quite perfunctorily. The reason why these facts are not ^{expressly} mentioned in ^{the Confidential} Annual Reports is that his colleagues in the department have been very accommodating and have often filled in the gaps left by him.

There are also one or two facts which you ought to know about him. The Syndicate passed him over for the Head Examinership for the Intermediate Examination of 1934, as he had while filling that position in 1933, substantitally enhanced the marks of his son who was a candidate. Also a few months ago, I drew your attention to two leaderettes in the Amrita Bazar Patrika regarding the appointment of Mr. Susobhan Chandra Sarkar to this post in which I was accused of nepotism, as Mr. Sarkar happens to be connected with my wife by marriage. I do not know who the

the author might be, but I suspect that Dr. Ghoshal had something to do with them. If there be any ground for these suspicions, he has been guilty of a great disservice to the College in trying to do harm to the morale of the College for his own ends. Such an action cannot be too strongly condemned as undermining the authority of the Principal in these difficult times. Incidentally, I may mention that my inclinations in the matter of the appointment were given in my D. O. letter No. 62(Con.) dated 24th February 1932 to Mr. Wolfenden.

If the Government is prepared to create a new Grade 1 post for him, I would not stand in the way. Nor would I object if he seeks a transfer elsewhere.

Yours sincerely,



J. M. Bottomley, Esq., I. E. S.
D. P. I. Bengal.