My dear Stapleton,

I have been considering your confidential D.O. 64 of 8th January 1930. The tone of the Modern Review appears to be very markedly anti-British. The question is whether any useful purpose will be served by proscribing it so far as Government Schools and Colleges are concerned.

The whole question of censorship is of course a very difficult one, and one on which there will always be differences of opinion, based on differences of temperament.

Broadly speaking I dislike censorship, and should like to keep it within the narrowest possible limits: But only a fanatic would deny that some censorship, at least among certain classes of the community, in necessary. For example, there was a good deal of discussion last year in England about the censorship of books on the ground of obscenity; but I suppose no one would object to the proscription of the books that were in question among children.

Government exercises a certain amount of censorship in regard to publications calculated to arouse ill-will among various sections of the community. Is anything further required, on would anything further be beneficial, in regard to Government Schools and Colleges?

I think that a distinction may fairly be drawn between Schools and Colleges. But as regards Colleges I really think special proscription is likely to more harm than good, especially where a Review of some pretensions to merit is concerned. I do not for a moment question the harm which the tone of the Review may do. But to proscribe it would instantly produce a wave of criticism and excitement, and probably cause a great many people to read it who otherwise would never look at it. And further I have a strong feeling that, when you are dealing

with College students in Calcutta, the proscription of one particular paper or magazine is a futile proceeding. A flood and of anti-British/anti-Government propaganda is poured out every day in a number of newspapers. No doubt it affects many people: others manage to keep their heads. What is the good of banning one particular review?

I should leave the matter alone.

I return the copy you sent me.

Yours sincerely,

To

H. E. Stapleton, Esq., M.A., B.Sc.(Oxon), I.E.S., M.L.C.,
Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

hy dear Stapletin, I have been considering Jun confl- d.o. 64 of 8/1. Phr tone of the herden Review appear to be my hand markedly auti-British. The Juestin is Whether any useful purpose will be kind ly proscribing it to far as test. Schools 1 Mys are concerned.

The whole prosting of clustership is of Comme a very difficult me, and one on which there will always be differences of opinion, based or differences of temperament Grand praking distile consorby, and should like to keep it within the harrows proble binits: het Whende that only a paratie would dray that some consorting, at hast among untain classes of the comhaving, is becersay in Example, there bas a ford deal of discussion last par in lugland

about the courantip of books on the promud of the sustainty of the books that were in presting Government Exercises a certain amount of courship in ugant to publications calculated t arouse ill-till among laving actions of the community. Is any thing further yours, or bould anything fulter be hasfinal, owns in usund to Got. Schuls rally,? I think in the past place that a distinction may fairly be drawn between schools or ally that as ugand allayer I wall don't thinght in special proscription is tilly I do have harm than for Especially where a Never of come prelensions & huit is conthe harm which the true of the Merica may do. But to prosente it bould instantly produce

a flort of excitation) Excitament, and probably came a feat many prople to mad I who other him book at it. had further I have a strong freding that, When In are draking with College shortedin Calcula, the proscription of one particular paper a majagine is a filite proceeding. a flood of anti-British y anti-Gormanent ho doubt it affects many proph; others hayayage t keep their head? I here papers , what is the form of lanning one particular review? I should have the healter above.