

Problems Of G.C.L. Government Colleges

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Sir.—This has reference to Dr. Ali Ahmed's articles published in your paper in three instalments which have really been thought-provoking. His ideas are excellent and will certainly improve the quality of education at government colleges. Still the third class Master's degree holders and some teachers are worried as Dr. Ali Ahmed asserted that government college teachers must improve qualifications in accordance with the improvement in the subjects taught.

Dr. Ahmed has attached importance to effective classroom management and experience: what he emphasised was not understood properly by those who do not like to agree with him. He said that experience would be counted only when qualifications are equal. Again, he meant by experience, not revising the same thing for years and going to classes "with the same notes" for several years and speak in the classes like a parrot and be a so-called maintainer of effective classes but to have fresh knowledge of the developments that take place in the subjects taught and to fresh subjects taught and to contribute to fresh knowledge through thinking manifested in writing and publications. We may openly request the critics to please see what they had been teaching for years together. Should they appear before a committee of experts with the notes, books and other academic materials they use as the so-called experienced teachers, there could have been real test. Then it will be seen that they, perhaps have not gone through many original text-books, not to speak of up-to-date journals containing fresh thinking and knowledge. They teach the same today as they used to do 10-15 years back. In fact, Dr. Ahmed rightly asserted that many of our teachers today are busy with many things other than teaching.

Finally it is a fact that a majority of the third class degree holders are not efficient teachers. Accidentally one or two become a good teacher in the sense that he can revise one thing for years without any innovation. Similarly, almost all first class degree holders are successful teachers; accidentally, one or two of them may not be so in managing the classes but that does not mean that they are poor in knowledge which is desired by our students. He can give the knowledge primarily through tutorial and practical classes and then gradually become more effective. But those who have no deep knowledge, as the third class degree holders do not have cannot be effective unless they do improve qualifications through further studies manifested either through higher degree like Ph.D. or publications. Yours etc. MD. KHALILUR RAHMAN, 9, Patia khan lane, Dacca.