

Ed (191) Department.

Misc. SERIES.

G.O. No. 465

DATED 1-5-1915

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council

Recording office notes connected with the resolutions on the medical inspection of schools & pupils in them moved by the Hon'ble Mr. B. V. Narasimha Ayyar at the meeting of the — held on the 13th March 1915.

Edcn. 853
6.3.15

regarding revised financial statement
Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest.

SUBJECT.—No. XXVII

for the meeting of the Legislative

Council to be held on the

12th March 1915.

SUBMITTED that two copies of this Resolution may be forwarded to the
Encl. to Sec. Edlt + P.W. Department with reference to Nos. (1) and (4) of the
rules regulating Secretariat procedure in dealing with these Resolutions in the
Legislative Council. Orders regarding admission will be communicated in due
course.

C.S.A.
6.3.15

U.O. No. *5037* dated *6-3-15*

To

The

Educational

Department.

with 2 copies of the Resoⁿ XXVII



Ca

Vol CN. 852 A
6.3.15
regarding revised financial statement
Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest.

SUBJECT.—No. XXVIII

for the meeting of the Legislative

Council to be held on the

13th March 1915.

SUBMITTED that two copies of this Resolution may be forwarded to the
Finl, Edl, Hcu + Pw Department, with reference to Nos. ²(1) and (4) of the
rules regulating Secretariat procedure in dealing with these Resolutions in the
Legislative Council. Orders regarding admission will be communicated in due
course.

C. S. A

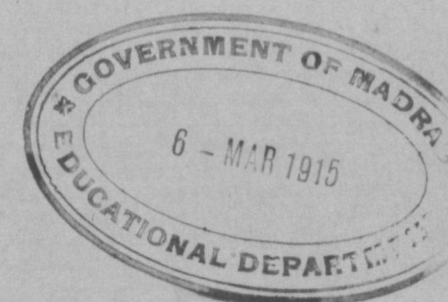
6.3.15

U.O. No. 503-1 dated 6-3-15

To

The Educational Department.

with 2 copies of the Resolⁿ. XXVIII



La

Educational Department.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. Narasimha Ayyar.

XXVII. This Council recommends to His Excellency in Council that, in order to provide for medical inspection of the pupils in public schools in some areas at least to start with, a sum of Rs. 10,000 may be added to the provision under 22, EDUCATION, a corresponding deduction being made under 45 B, CIVIL WORKS.

XXVIII. This Council recommends to His Excellency in Council that medical inspection of public schools in this Presidency should be conducted periodically and that for this purpose the allotment under 24, MEDICAL may be increased Rs. 10,000, a corresponding deduction being made under 45 B, CIVIL WORKS.

Resolutions XXVII and XXVIII are dealt with together, as they deal with two connected subjects, Viz, the medical inspection of schools and of their pupils.

The resolutions are apparently proposed with reference to paragraph 7 of the Government of India's Resolution on ~~the~~ educational policy, No. 301 C.D., dated the 21st February 1913, in which it is suggested that a small committee of ~~the~~ medical and educational

(A)
page 4 of 394 Sol
T. 5-13.

para 1111 & 1112 - page 4
of no 394201 (A)
T.S.13

Please see H.E.'s note
on page 4 & 5 of notes with
no 1104 Eol (C)
22.9.14.

(B)

no 1104 Eol (C)
22.9.14.

experts should be appointed by each Local Government for the investigation of a number of specific questions connected with school and college hygiene. The objects mentioned in the two resolutions are suggested by the Government of India as desirable objects for such investigation.

2. The Government of Madras have, after careful consideration, given up the idea of a general committee for this purpose, as it was felt that a single committee of experts could not make a satisfactory inquiry into all the subjects referred to. They have therefore preferred to deal with the various subjects separately; and the action till now taken in these respects was intimated to the Government of India recently in letter No. 124, dated the 9th February 1915.

3. On the question of the medical inspection of schools and their pupils it has been decided to try the experiments first within the limits of the Madras City. Proposals have been approved to institute a medical inspection of the seven element schools recently opened by the Corporation of Madras and of the pupils thereof, by an Assistant Surgeon

under

NOTES.

Page 5

under the general direction of an officer of the I.M.S. with some ~~person~~ ^{previous} acquaintance of such work if possible. The Surgeon-General, however, reported that the department was just at present very short-handed on account of the reversion of a number of I.M.S. Officers to military duty, and suggested that the inspection of the elementary schools might be postponed till next May or June when the Medical College would be closed for the summer vacation and an officer could be spared more easily.

His Excellency the Governor observed thereon as follows:-

"I think that this should stand over altogether until a European Officer of the I.M.S. is available to conduct what is a first experiment in this country."

Orders have issued accordingly in G.O.No.1330 Educational, dated the 26th November 1914. Proposals have also been formulated for the systematic medical inspection and supervision of European schools. For

Further steps in this direction have also been deferred till the results of the above experiments are known.

page 1 of no 1330
26.11.14

page 5 of do

para 4 of letter no 134
9.2.15

4. Information as to the action taken in these respects by the Bombay Government may perhaps be useful.. First as regard the medical inspection of schools, that Government have stated that ^{as} every inspection report ~~on~~ a Government or aided school contains a reference to the state of the buildings, which it is the regular duty of inspecting officers to notice, ~~and that the~~ the appointment of special officers for this purpose is unnecessary, and ~~they~~ they rely on the regular directing and inspecting agencies acting in free consultation with expert medical opinion. For the medical inspection of boys in certain classes of Government, Municipal, Local board and aided schools, five medical officers on Rs. 500-50-800 per mensem have been appointed.

5. It is for consideration whether these circumstances may be explained to the Additional Member with a view to his withdrawing the resolution in question.

6. It has to be decided who should be in charge of the Resolutions.

Incidentally too as indirectly bearing on the health of the scholars, & part of the same G. of S. resolution, brief allusion may be made to what has been done to provide playgrounds for schools - as a beginning. P

9.3.15

Item 7(1)-page 4 g notes
with letter 124808
9.2.15

Item 7(1)-pages 4 and

The Member
may be told
what we have
arranged for

8/31

Box No. 46
8.3.15

Admission

H.E.

8/31

9/2/15

Resolutions XIV & XV

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE
REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

[SUBJECT.—*Medical inspection of Public schools.*]

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR :—

XXVII. This Council recommends to His Excellency in Council that, in order to provide for medical inspection of the pupils in public schools in some areas at least to start with, a sum of Rs. 10,000 may be added to the provision under 22. Education, a corresponding deduction being made under 45-B. Civil Works.

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The resolutions are apparently proposed with reference to paragraph 7 of the Government of India's Resolution on educational policy, No. 301 C.D., dated the 21st February 1913, in which it is suggested that a small committee of medical and educational experts should be appointed by each Local Government for the investigation of a number of specific questions connected with school and college hygiene. The objects mentioned in the two resolutions are suggested by the Government of India as desirable objects for such investigation.

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(A) Page 4 of G.O. No. 394, Educational, dated 1st May 1913.

(A) Paragraphs 7 (i) and (iv), page 4 of G.O. No. 394, Educational, dated 1st May 1913.

(C) Please see His Excellency's note on pages 4 and 5 of notes with G.O. No. 1104, Educational, dated 22nd September 1914.

(C) G.O. No. 1104, Educational, dated 22nd September 1914.

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P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—8-3-15.

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Page 1 of G.O. No. 1330, Educational, dated
26th November 1914.

P.R.—8-3-15.

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The Member may be told what we have
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P.R.—8-3-15.

Orders solicited.

P.R.—8-3-15.

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S. ANANTANARAYANAN—8-3-15.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARI—8-3-15.

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Extract from the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Council of the Governor of
Fort St. George assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regu-
lations under the provisions of the Acts of Parliament, 24 & 25 Vict.,
C. 67 55 & 56 Vict., C. 14, and 9 Edw. 7, C. 4.

The Council assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 A.M. on
Saturday, the 13th day of March 1915.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR:—“May it please your Excellency,
resolutions Nos. XIV and XV, of which I have given notice deal with the same subject,
but one comes under the head ‘Education’ and the other under the head ‘Medical.’
As I thought that some technical difficulty might arise as to the heading under which
the expenditure on medical inspection should come, I gave notice of two different
resolutions.”

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—“The resolutions are not identical. One asks
for the medical inspection of the pupils in public schools and the other for the
medical inspection of public schools, which is quite a different matter. The Council
will not, I am sure, object to taking the whole discussion on the first of these two
resolutions.”

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR:—“Therefore I take it that the net
result is that a sum of Rs. 20,000 is proposed by these two resolutions to be devoted
for the purpose of the medical inspection of public schools and of children in public
schools in some areas at least to start with. The first resolution that I now beg to
move runs as follows:—

‘XIV. This Council recommends to His Excellency in Council that, in
order to provide for medical inspection of the pupils in public schools in some
areas at least to start with, a sum of Rs. 10,000 may be added to the
provision under 22. EDUCATION, a corresponding deduction being made
under 45-B. CIVIL WORKS.’

“I believe that the necessity for attention to the health of children in schools is
admitted on all hands. I think it is hardly necessary for me to read the statement
of Dr. Clement Duke, Consulting physician to the Rugby school, that we have to see
that the sound children do not leave the school weakened in mind, body or charac-
ter; and that the weak or delicate children do not get weaker but do get invigorated
during the period of their school-life. It is a matter on which the International
Congress that was held in the year 1907 at London under the Presidency of Lord
Crewe expressed its decidedly favourable opinion. What is more than an expression
of opinion of the Congress, we have a definite statutory recognition of the importance
of the subject in the Education Act that was passed in 1907. Section 13, clause (b),
provides as follows:—

‘The powers and duties of local educational authority—Part III of the Education Act of
1902—shall include . . . (b) the duty to provide for the medical inspection of children
immediately before, or at the time of, or as soon as possible after, their admission to a public
elementary school and on such other occasions as the Board of Education direct and the power
to make such arrangements as may be sanctioned by the Board of Education for attending to the
health and physical condition of the children educated in public elementary schools.’

“The section has a proviso which is interesting: ‘Provided that in any exercise
‘of powers under this section, the local education authority may encourage and assist
‘the establishment or continuance of voluntary agencies and associate with itself
‘representatives of voluntary associations for the purpose.’ I refer to the voluntary
agency, because in Bombay, we find that the Zoroastrian Conference resolved upon
the medical inspection of the Parsi students of Bombay and many local Parsis have
banded themselves together for carrying out this inspection; and in no other part of
this country do we find a voluntary agency working on these lines. Besides what
has been done in England, I might draw the attention of this Council to what has
been done in this country. From the report of the department of Education for 1912,

Incidentally too as indirectly
bearing on the health of the scholars and
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been done to provide for playgrounds
for schools as a beginning

* Govt. no 1448 Vol. 4780
18-12-14 15-1-15
for the city—
about 2 lakhs
for the mofussil
about a lakh

9.3.15

(Mr. Narasimha Ayyar.)

we find that the Government of Central Provinces and Berars have already resolved upon conducting the medical inspection of schools to a certain extent. In the year 1913 the Government of Bombay had before them a resolution which was moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Lallubhai Samaldas and accepted by the Government. That resolution was as follows:—

'That this Council recommends that provision be made for the medical inspection of children immediately before, or at the time of, or as soon as possible after, their admission into Government or Municipal schools, at least in places where Government medical officers are available; and subsequently on such other occasions as the Governor in Council may direct; and that arrangements be made for attending to the health and physical condition of children educated in such schools.'

"Perhaps Honourable gentlemen may think that it is a perfectly safe proposition for any Government to assent to, because there is the phrase 'as soon as possible' which is a very elastic phrase and which is sufficient to account for the total inactivity of any Government if they wish to take up that attitude. To show that the Bombay Government did not take up that attitude and to point out that the same steps that I am asking this Government to take were taken, I shall read what, on behalf of the Government, the Director of Public Instruction in Bombay, the Hon'ble Mr. Sharp, said, to show what it is that they were doing and what it is that they attempted to do. The Bombay Surgeon-General spoke very warmly about the need for medical inspection. When the cost of it was looked into, some of the Indian Medical Service officers of considerable experience had to be selected, because certain diseases should, at the commencement, be discovered and checked, and officers on Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 had to be chosen. Even such experienced men could only do the examination of 7,000 children each year. This is what the Hon'ble Mr. Sharp said on behalf of the Government:

'On that basis I calculated that a doctor could examine about 7,000 boys in the course of a year. So taking the Surgeon-General's proposals of three doctors and this calculation that about 7,000 boys could be examined by each, I framed a proposal, and submitted it to Government. It was that all the Government secondary schools, and also vernacular training colleges and the practising schools attached to them, and also these aided schools which are classed as high schools, not middle—that these various sets of schools should be medically examined. Well, Government wish to bring very much into the scheme not only the aided high schools, but the middle schools as well, so that all the Government and aided secondary schools, together with training colleges and practising schools, might be regularly inspected. In working this out as a modification of my proposal, I found that at least five doctors would be necessary for the purpose and accordingly I made therefore a proposal to entertain five doctors. One doctor was proposed, for the Bombay city, one for each of the three divisions and one for Sind. On examining the figures it was found that those for the Southern division and Sind were rather lower than the rest, and it has been proposed in these two cases to add secondary schools conducted by local boards or municipalities; the number of children is not very great in these. The result will be that for the Bombay city there will be about 9,000 boys; for the Northern division nearly 9,000; for the Central division nearly, 8,000 and the Southern division and Sind rather more than 7,000. I rather doubt if we shall be able to accomplish the inspection of all the above schools in a year's time; still that is for experience to show. At any rate, that is the proposal which is now before you, and the minimum annual recurring cost is estimated at Rs. 52,000 rising to Rs. 70,000. The scheme will, therefore, require the sanction of the Secretary of State and, therefore, there must be some delay in giving effect to it after it is finally approved by the Bombay Government. The total number of children provided for is 40,000 and I hope the Honourable Members will agree that that is sufficient to start with by way of an experiment.'

"Therefore the Government not only accepted the resolution which I read previously, but acted on it and have sent up proposals for the examination of 40,000 children and the employment of five doctors at an estimated cost of Rs. 50,000. My proposals are much more humble. Even there in the Bombay Council there was a difference of opinion because some other gentlemen thought that Indians in the Indian Medical Service, with European qualifications would be glad to take up the work on Rs. 300 per month. I have taken for the purpose of my resolution a fairly safe basis. Taking Rs. 300 as the starting pay, these five officers that they proposed in Bombay would cost Rs. 20,000, which is the subject-matter of my resolution; and we may also provide for the medical examination of 40,000 children. If we do this, I believe practical difficulties would be easily solved.

"I know that in a matter of this sort the Government's sympathies must naturally be with the people; and the chief objection that might be put forward, if objections are put forward, would be the question of cost, the question of suitable officers being

(Mr. Narasimha Ayyar; Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar.)

found available and the ignorance of parents. On the question of cost, I have read in great detail the figures given by Mr. Sharp and it is not necessary for me to do more. If Rs. 20,000 are provided, then we can really have a fairly general scheme like the one which I read out. Even if a sum of Rs. 10,000 is provided, I believe that the medical examination of children in the high schools of Madras and the other schools of the description that I read out from the Hon'ble Mr. Sharp's speech could be easily conducted. I believe also that voluntary effort like that advocated by the Zoroastrian Conference at Bombay, though not forthcoming immediately, will be forthcoming in the years to come, if the Government were to give an impetus to voluntary efforts. I do not think it necessary to go therefore into the question of cost.

"Another objection may be the absence of suitable officers. Most of the trained officers having gone to the front, there are hardly officers left to fill the position of District Medical Officers and that sub-assistant surgeons are not sufficiently good for conducting the medical examination. I wish to point out that, if the proposition could be accepted and some money kept in reserve, say a little bit of Rs. 10,000 it would not be wasted—especially as we have had an assurance from the Hon'ble Sir Harold Stuart that, if money is not spent under this head, we can transfer it to some other head of expenditure which is pressing,—and that we are not making the budget impossible by drafting large sums from one head and putting them under an impossible head. I ask only for Rs. 10,000, which I trust will be considered reasonable, instead of Rs. 20,000.

"As for the availability of suitable officers, there are, I believe officers available who will be found capable of doing the work, if they are advertised for. I am quite sure that if the initial experiment (which is all that the Government can try for the present) should succeed, they will be forthcoming in later years, and if there is no famine, such as the Brahman Honourable gentleman was predicting, there will be money on a larger scale provided. For the present I may say the objection on the score of want of funds cannot be put forward.

"Lastly, about ignorant parents being afraid and likely to be deterred from sending the students to school, it is a thing which, as I have suggested myself, can be overcome. The experiment need not be commenced in elementary schools; in fact it cannot be commenced in them, because there are so many elementary schools. I doubt if, in the future, we shall ever be lucky enough to see the day when we shall have the medical inspection of all elementary schools. But if at present the medical examination is conducted in high schools and in the schools of the higher grade as stated in the Bombay Legislative Council, I do not think that there will be difficulty or danger of parents withdrawing their children. If students have gone through the higher grades, parents are loath to take them away; and besides that, there will not be much of sentiment at that stage. There was a case in England where a parent objected to the medical inspection of his son; and the school authorities, fearing that the boy might have a contagious disease, had to put him out of the school. Such a contingency is not likely to arise in this country. I may also point out that, at the initial stage, the medical examination will be confined to boys and not extended to girls. I therefore submit to the Council that there is very little danger or harm accruing from the proposal I have put forward. I am sure that this Government are not certainly likely to lag behind the Bombay Government or the Berars' Government."

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR:—"I fear that the Honourable Member is not aware that we have resolved to proceed in the specific direction that he has been indicating to us. We recognise the evil of the present system—that there is no arrangement for a periodical inspection of boys. But a beginning is being made and it has been decided to proceed experimentally and to try the experiment within the limits of the Madras city. Proposals have been approved to institute a medical inspection of the elementary schools recently opened by the Corporation and the pupils in them by an officer of the rank of an Assistant Surgeon working under the general direction of an Indian Medical Service officer with some previous acquaintance with such work if possible. The Surgeon-General having reported that he cannot spare the services of an Indian Medical Service officer immediately, the experiment has been postponed till next May or June, when, during

(Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar ; Mr. Narasimha Ayyar ; the President.)

the recess of the Medical College, it would be practicable to spare an officer for the experiment. The Government attach great importance to the fact that what is practically the first experiment in this Presidency should be done under the control of a high officer, as our further action will depend upon the results of the experiment. If the experiment should prove successful, it will be gradually extended to other places and other institutions. If the Honourable Member wishes it, I shall furnish him with a copy of the Government Order which has been placed on the Editors' Table. It will show that we have already started taking action in the direction indicated by him.

"I might also mention another matter closely bearing upon the subject, which has been receiving the attention of the Government and in regard to which action has been taken, namely, the provision of recreation grounds, garden and gymnasium, etc., to afford students facilities for healthy life. In the current year 1914-15 a sum of three lakhs of rupees would be spent on this object. With the help of a committee specially appointed for the purpose, play-grounds and playing fields for colleges and schools in the Madras city have been selected and similar action has been taken in respect of some important educational institutions in the mufassal. Then again the improvement of physical training in the schools is also another matter which is engaging attention. A special officer for this purpose has been recruited and he is now working in the European schools. It would thus be seen that the several matters mentioned by the Honourable Member are receiving attention and I hope that under these circumstances he would consider whether he should press his resolution."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR :—"May I know where and under what head the provision is made?"

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR :—"In the budget estimate, I believe."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR :—"Where is it in the budget?"

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR :—"I am unable to answer that question off-hand, but the necessary provision has been or will be made."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR :—"May I know how much money has been provided?"

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—"That can be intimated to the Honourable gentleman."

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR :—"In sending you the Government Order, I shall intimate to you under what head the amount comes."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR :—"Also the amount? If the Government can give a definite assurance—I have a vague assurance—"

His Excellency the PRESIDENT (interrupting) :—"The Honourable gentleman may rest assured that it is a little more than a vague assurance; it is a Government Order issued and placed on the Editors' Table."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. V. NARASIMHA AYYAR (continuing) :—"I beg your Excellency's pardon for having said 'vague assurance.' What I meant was that the figure was vague. I did not know whether it was Rs. 10,000 or less. I beg to withdraw the resolution as some provision has been made, though I do not know the figure."

With the permission of His Excellency the President, the resolution was withdrawn.

W. FRANCIS,

Secretary to Government, Legislative Dept.

The following D.O. to the Hon'ble Mr. B.V. Narasimha

Ayyar is submitted for approval : -

D.O.No. 1072-182 8-25-3, 15

Dear Narasimha Ayyar,

With reference to our conversation

I send herewith a copy of G.O.No.1104 Edl., dated the 22nd September 1914. I was wrong in thinking that provision has been actually made in the Budget for 1915-16 for the purpose of the medical inspection of the elementary schools under the Corporation of Madras, and the pupils thereof. From paragraph 2 of the above order, however, you will observe that the Director has to submit a re-appropriation statement to meet the expenditure. When this is received and the actual amount needed is ascertained, the money will be provided. I hope to tell you later on of the actual amount sanctioned.

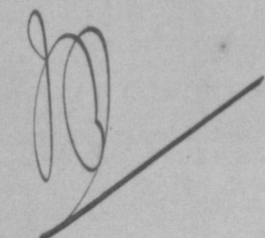
2. A copy each of the Government Orders

No.1448 Edl., dated the 18th December 1914, and

No.47 Edl., dated the 15th January 1915, regarding the provision of play grounds, are also enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Delivered
ao
20/3/15



Page 9/17/28/100

An extract from the Proceedings of the Legislative Council has been added to the file. The papers may now be viewed as no further action is now necessary. The draft order below is for approval.

28.4.15

25.4.15

20/4/15

15/11
53
READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____, dated _____ 191 .

" " " " _____, " _____ 191 .

READ ALSO:-

C. No. *853 Edl* From the _____, No. _____, dated _____ 191 .

" " _____, " " _____, " " _____ 191 .

" " _____, " " _____, " " _____ 191 .

ORDER.
Min.

No. *465 Edl*, dated *1. 5.* 191 *5.*

Recorded.

28.4.15
Ca
29.4.15

20/4/15

④

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

191 .

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____, DATED
191 .

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH BITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.