

Ed (1915) Department.

Ind. SERIES.

G.O. No. 466

DATED 1-5-1915

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council

Recording office note connected with the ~~gas~~ resolution on the establishment of an additional Civil Engineering School moved by the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Mr. Ramachandrasa Rao at the meeting of the — held on the 13th March 1915.

6.3.15

Regarding Revised Financial Statement.
Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest.

SUBJECT.—No. XIX

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 & P.W 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
5-3-15

Leg. U.O. No. 494-1 dated 5-3-15

To

The

Educational

Department.

with 2 Copies of the Resolⁿ XIX



RESOLUTION REGARDING THE REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao.---

XIX. This Council recommends to His Excellency, the Governor in Council that a sum of Rs.15,000 be provided under 22, EDUCATION for establishing an additional Civil Engineering School at some convenient centre to meet the growing demands for engineering subordinates by local boards and municipalities as well as from the Departments of Government and that a corresponding reduction be made under 45, CIVIL WORKS, Civil Buildings.

The question of establishing an additional Engineering School had been under consideration on previous occasions also. It seems necessary now briefly to refer to the correspondence.

This idea was first mooted by Mr. Chatterton. In his note on technical education, presented to the Educational Conference held at Allahabad in 1911, he suggested that the Engineering College at Madras, when removed from its present site, might be converted into a high class technological institute, that the

subordinates

page 58 of the Proceedings
of the Conference.

subordinate~~ly~~ classes might be removed from it and
that for the training of subordinates, two engineering
schools, one in the north and the other in the south
of the Presidency might be ^{established} ~~abolished~~. With reference
to a copy of Mr. Chatterton's note submitted by him to
the Government for information, the Hon'ble Mr. (now
Sir Murray) Hammick noted as below:--

"I have long held that we should make the new
"Engineering College a college for high technical
"education and open two schools for engineering of
"the lower grade, one at Madura and one at Bezwada.
"I agree very much with what Mr. Chatterton says on
"this point."

But no action was taken on this.

Later on the Hon'ble Mr. Seshagiri Ayyar asked
at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on
the 14th February 1912 whether the Government had
considered the proposal of Mr. Chatterton to bifurcate
the Engineering College. The Government replied that
the proposals for having subordinate schools elsewhere
were then only in the air and that nothing had been
formally decided. The same gentleman referred to
this question in the debate on the resolution moved
by him at the Council meeting of the 3rd April 1912

recommending

(E)
page 10 of DO. no 282-1 Sol
3.4.11

(F)
pages of fo no 213 Sol
5.3.12

please see para 11. page 9
of notes with fo no 121 Sol
27.1.14

phase see page 5 of notes
with G.O. no. 121 Col. 2
27.1.14

page 129 notes ibid

page 96/2 of G.O. no. 547 Col. 1
10.6.13

page 139 do

recommending the appointment of a committee to enquire and report on the reorganization of the College. The Government then undertook to examine and consider the points raised at the debate. While these were under consideration, the Hon'ble Sir Harold Stuart noted on 7th March 1913 that he would like to see an Engineering School established at Dowlaishwaram or some where in the Telugu country.

About the same time, the Hon'ble Mr. B. Narasimheswara Sarma moved a resolution (at the meeting of the 14th March 1913) to the effect that a sum of Rs. 15,000 might be provided in the budget estimate for 1913-14 for the establishment of an engineering school at Dowlaishwaram or another convenient centre in the Circars. As the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Sir Harold Stuart was then engaging the attention of the Government, the Hon'ble Mr. L. Davidson replied on their behalf that they had then under their consideration a similar suggestion, with the result that the resolution was withdrawn.

2. Meanwhile the Government of India referred to this Government for opinion the proposals contained

para. 5. page 34 of
notes with f.o. no 798 Vol
26.8.13

para. 22. page 6 of the report

(A)

para. 5 page 39
notes with f.o. no 798 Vol
26.8.13

para. 39 letter no 799 Vol
26.8.13

Ep. no 121 Edl
27.1.14

in the report of Lieutenant Colonel E.H.de V. Atkinson
and Mr. T.S. Dawson on technical institutions. The first
recommendation in this report was that the existing system
of training for the Civil Engineering profession in central
colleges was the most suitable one for the requirements of
India. It was their opinion that "engineering education
"of every grade should be concentrated when possible in
"large ~~colleges~~ ^{colleges} where the lower classes can obtain the
"advantage of the traditions, ideals, moral training and
"above all the supervision of a high grade competent
"staff which can only be met with in large institutions
"in India." Mr. James, the Principal ~~of~~ of the Madras
College, who was consulted in this matter, fully
concurred in the above view; and this Government expressed
their acceptance of this opinion in their reply to India.

Accordingly the proposal to establish an engineering
school at Dowlaishwaram was agreeably to the above view,
dropped and a separate proposal was taken up for the
establishment of a school at Cocanada in connection with
the local fund workshop, similar to the Madura Technical
Institute, for imparting instruction in mechanical
engineering of an elementary grade for the benefit of
intelligent artizans. The establishment of this school

Go. no 1858dl
17.2.15
(in the Press)

page 1 of 1 of no 1387dl
7.12.14

page 3 of do

8/31

has been since approved.

3. During His Excellency's recent tour in the a deputation of the Godavari District Association was on him and one of the subjects discussed was the establishment of an engineering school at Dowlaishware. His Excellency replied that the Madras Engineering College was as nearly as possible central for the whole Presidency and that it was not possible to provide two such institutions any more than it would be possible to afford a second university. He at the same time referred to the Cocanada school and added that it had also been decided to develop the mechanical engineering classes of the St. Aloysius' School at Vizagapatam.

4. From the above it would seem that the proposal made by the Additional Member to open a new Engineering School has been definitely abandoned by the Government already as being opposed to the policy referred to at (A) on page 2 supra.

5. It may perhaps be urged by the Additional Member that the Engineering College in its present condition is not able to meet the existing demand for trained men. This is ~~now~~ no doubt the case. In view of the paucity

see para 2 page 2 of note
with fo 467 Sol
25.4.14

October 1913 the attention of the Principal of the College of Engineering to the necessity for increasing the number of students admitted to the college, providing some extra accommodation if possible. In compliance with this request, the Principal has been admitting of late as many students as he could possibly find accommodation for. The number of admissions to the probationary subordinate class in 1913-14 and 1914-15 was 111 and 125, while the number ordinarily admissible under the rules is only 90. In February 1914, the Public Works Department noted that there were then 40 vacancies of overseers to be filled up and for that purpose the practical course of the upper subordinates then undergoing practical training was cut short and they were allowed to accept employments at once.

6. It may also be noted that the new College buildings at Guindy have been designed so as to train 500 students altogether against the present ordinary limit about 380. Though the margin allowed may not appear adequate enough to admit of a very large addition to the subordinate classes, the new buildings admit of

x para 4 page 4 of fo no 841 Sol
18.7.14
as obtained from the Principal
of the College

Rule 29. p. 7 of fo 194 Sol
1.3.13

para 2 page 1 of note
with fo no 467 Sol
25.4.14

fo no 467 Sol
25.4.14

para 2 page 6 of fo no 1379 Sol
16.7.14

8/31

8/31
Hardly I think
be opposed
8/31

considerable expansion and when the need is proved, doubtless arrangements will be made for training additional men.

7. It is therefore for consideration whether the resolution may be opposed.

8. The mover of the Resolution has also asked for the information regarding the numbers of applicants for admission and of those actually admitted to the upper and lower subordinate classes in 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15 and the accommodation provided at present. He is being informed in reply that there are no admissions to the upper and lower subordinate classes as such, that students are first admitted into what is called the probationary subordinate class extending over a period of two years and forming a common preliminary to the upper and lower subordinate ~~classes~~ courses, and that they are thereafter promoted to the two classes. The following figures are also being furnished to him:--

Year.	No. of applicants.	No. of admissions.
1911-12	262	77
1912-13	401	102
1913-14	385	111
1914-15	454	125

(In 1911-12 when the probationary class was first

introduced

introduced there was also direct recruitment for the upper subordinate class, 35 out of 81 applicants having been selected). It is also proposed to inform the Additional Member that owing to the greater demand for qualified persons in recent years larger numbers of students are being admitted to the utmost possible extent to which room could be found for them.

9. It has to be settled as to who should be in charge of the Resolution.

*Advers
Subsists*

1/2

8-3-15 *CA* *8/3/15*

8/3/1

Yes.

*And as to q. about Secy. and
D.P.I. with power to prepare
to speak if required.*

P.
f. 3. 15

*Settle that I should ^{have charge} ~~of~~
for the Resolution*

9/3/1

NOTES CONNECTED WITH A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE
REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

[SUBJECT.—*Establishment of an additional Civil Engineering school.*]

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—

XIX. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a sum of Rs. 15,000 be provided under 22. EDUCATION for establishing an additional Civil Engineering school at some convenient centre to meet the growing demands for engineering subordinates by local boards and municipalities as well as from the departments of Government and that a corresponding reduction be made under 45. CIVIL WORKS, Civil Buildings.

The question of establishing an additional engineering school had been under consideration on previous occasions also. It seems necessary now briefly to refer to the correspondence.

This idea was first mooted by Mr. Chatterton. In his note on technical education, presented to the Educational Conference held at Allahabad in 1911, he suggested that the Engineering College at Madras, when removed from its present site, might be converted into a high-class technological institute, that the subordinate classes might be removed from it and that for the training of subordinates, two engineering schools, one in the north and the other in the south of the Presidency might be established. With reference to a copy of Mr. Chatterton's note submitted by him to the Government for information, the Hon'ble Mr. (now Sir Murray) Hammick noted as below :—

(E) "I have long held that we should make the new Engineering College a college for high technical education and open two schools for engineering of the lower grade, one at Madura and one at Bezwada. I agree very much with what Mr. Chatterton says on this point."

But no action was taken on this.

(F) Later on the Hon'ble Mr. Seshagiri Ayyar asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th February 1912 whether the Government had considered the proposal of Mr. Chatterton to bifurcate the Engineering College. The Government replied that the proposals for having subordinate schools elsewhere were then only in the air and that nothing had been formally decided. The same gentleman referred to this question in the debate on the resolution moved by him at the Council meeting of the 3rd April 1912 recommending the appointment of a committee to enquire into and report on the reorganization of the College. The Government then undertook to examine and consider the points raised at the debate. While these were under consideration, the Hon'ble Sir Harold Stuart noted on 7th March 1913 that he would like to see an engineering school established at Dowlaishwaram or somewhere in the Telugu country.

(G) Please see paragraph 11, page 9 of notes with G.O. No. 121, Educational, dated 27th January 1914.

(H) Please see page 5 of notes with G.O. No. 121, Educational, dated 27th January 1914.

(I) Please see page 5 of notes with G.O. No. 121, Educational, dated 27th January 1914.

(J) Please see page 5 of notes with G.O. No. 121, Educational, dated 27th January 1914.

About the same time, the Hon'ble Mr. B. Narasimheswara Sarma moved a resolution (at the meeting of the 14th March 1913) to the effect that a sum of Rs. 15,000 might be provided in the budget estimate for 1913-14 for the establishment of an engineering school at Dowlaishwaram or another convenient centre in the Circars. As the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Sir Harold Stuart was then engaging the attention of the Government, the Hon'ble Mr. L. Davidson replied on their behalf that they had then under their consideration a similar suggestion, with the result that the resolution was withdrawn.

2. Meanwhile the Government of India referred to this Government for opinion the proposals contained in the report of the Lieutenant-Colonel E. H. de V. Atkinson and Mr. T. S. Dawson on technical institutions. The first recommendation in this report was that the existing system of training for the Civil Engineering profession in central colleges was the most suitable one for the requirements of India. It was their opinion that "engineering education of every grade should be concentrated when possible in large colleges where the lower classes can obtain the advantage of the traditions, ideals, moral training and above all the supervision of a high grade competent staff which can only be met with in large institutions in India." Mr. James, the Principal of the Madras College, who was consulted in this matter, fully concurred in the above view; and this Government expressed their acceptance of this opinion in their reply to India.

Paragraph 22, page 6 of the report.

Paragraph 5, page 3 of notes with G.O. No. 798, Educational, dated 26th August 1913.

Accordingly the proposal to establish an engineering school at Dowlaishwaram was, agreeably to the above view, dropped and a separate proposal was taken up for the establishment of a school at Cocanada in connection with the local fund workshop, similar to the Madura Technical Institute, for imparting instruction in mechanical engineering of an elementary grade for the benefit of intelligent artisans. The establishment of this school has been since approved.

3. During His Excellency's recent tour in the north a deputation of the Gōdāvari District Association waited on him and one of the subjects discussed was the establishment of an engineering school at Dowlaishwaram. His Excellency replied that the Madras Engineering College was as nearly as possible central for the whole Presidency and that it was not possible to provide two such institutions any more than it would be possible to afford a second university. He at the same time referred to the Cocanada school and added that it had also been decided to develop the mechanical engineering classes of the St. Aloysius' school at Vizagapatam.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—8-3-15.

4. From the above it would seem that the proposal made by the additional member to open a new engineering school has been definitely abandoned by the Government already as being opposed to the policy referred to at A *supra*.

5. It may perhaps be urged by the additional member that the Engineering College in its present condition is not able to meet the existing demand for trained men. This is no doubt the case. In view of the paucity of qualified persons the Public Works Department drew in October 1913 the attention of the Principal of the College of Engineering to the necessity for increasing the number of students admitted to the College, providing some extra accommodation if possible.

In compliance with this request, the Principal has been admitting of late as many students as he could possibly find accommodation for. The number of admissions to the probationary subordinate class in 1913-14 and 1914-15 was * 111 and † 125, while the number ordinarily admissible under the rules is only 90. In February 1914, the Public Works Department noted that there were then 40 vacancies of overseers to be filled up and for that purpose the practical course of the upper subordinates then undergoing practical training was cut short and they were allowed to accept employments at once.

Public Works Department Memorandum No. 868 D., dated 11th October 1913, not available but please see paragraph 2, page 2 of notes with G.O. No. 467, Educational, dated 2nd April 1914.

* Paragraph 4, page 4 of G.O. No. 841, Educational, dated 18th July 1914.

† Ascertained from the Principal of the College.

Rule 29, page 7 of G.O. No. 194, Educational, dated 1st March 1913.

Paragraph 2, page 1 of notes with G.O. No. 467, Educational, dated 25th April 1914.

G.O. No. 467, Educational, dated 25th April 1914.

Paragraph 12, page 6 of G.O. No. 1379 W., dated 10th July 1914.

6. It may also be noted that the new College buildings at Guindy have been designed so as to train 500 students altogether against the present ordinary limit of about 380. Though the margin allowed may not appear adequate enough to admit of a very large addition to the subordinate classes, the new buildings admit of considerable expansion and when the need is proved, doubtless arrangements will be made for training additional men.

7. It is therefore for consideration whether the resolution may be opposed.

8. The mover of the resolution has also asked for the information regarding the number of applicants for admission and of those actually admitted to the upper and lower subordinate classes in 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15 and the accommodation provided at present. He is being informed in reply that there are no admissions to the upper and lower subordinate classes as such that students are first admitted into what is called the probationary subordinate class extending over a period of two years and forming a common preliminary to the upper and lower subordinate courses, and that they are thereafter promoted to the two classes. The following figures are also being furnished to him:—

Year.	Number of applicants.	Number of admissions.
1911-12	262	77
1912-13	401	102
1913-14	385	111
1914-15	454	125

(In 1911-12 when the probationary class was first introduced there was also direct recruitment for the upper subordinate class, 35 out of 81 applicants having been selected.) It is also proposed to inform the additional member that owing to the greater demand for qualified persons in recent years larger numbers of students are being admitted to the utmost possible extent to which room could be found for them.

Orders solicited.
P.R.—8-3-15.

9. It has to be settled as to who should be in charge of the resolution.

- S. ANANTANARAYANAN—8-3-15.
- C. RAMANUJA ACHARI—8-3-15.
- P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—8-3-15.

yes. As to para 9 Educational Secretary and The D.P.S. may be prepared to speak, if necessary P.

13

Education

14

13

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 Regulations 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.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHOOL.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—"Your Excellency, I beg to propose the following resolution :—

'**XI. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a sum of Rs. 15,000 be provided under 22. EDUCATION for establishing an additional civil engineering school at some convenient centre to meet the growing demands for engineering subordinates by local boards and municipalities as well as from the departments of Government and that a corresponding reduction be made under 45. CIVIL WORKS, Civil Buildings.**'

"I may say that this is a subject which is not at all new to the Council. Various interpellations and resolutions have come up before us from time to time as regards the necessity for training more men in all branches of the profession of civil engineering including the assistant engineers. In connection with the re-organisation of the Engineering College various interpellations have come up before this council during the last four years. In connection with the resolution proposed in the year 1912 for the re-organisation of the Civil Engineering College, it was suggested on the views contained in the papers which were read before the Educational Conference at Allahabad, that the Civil Engineering College should be re-organised and that two

(Mr. Ramachandra Rao.)

engineering schools should be started, one in the south and the other in the north of the Presidency. In connection with that resolution, the subject was fully discussed in this Council. Since then the position has become much more acute. It was then stated on behalf of the Government by the Hon'ble Mr. Davidson that the question of establishing subsidiary schools in connection with the Engineering College would be looked into.

"Then, my Lord, in the year 1913 the question came up again for consideration in the form of a resolution, at this time of the year, by my Honourable friend Mr. Sarma who suggested that an engineering school should be established at Dowleswaram. The Hon'ble Mr. Davidson held out some hopes that the question would be considered, and that there were some proposals actually then under consideration to locate a school at Dowleswaram independently of the resolution. We thought that something would be done in the matter.

"Then again, my Lord, last year just about this time, I made inquiries as to what became of that proposal and it was replied on behalf of the Government that it was dropped and that a mechanical engineering school in connection with the District Board workshop at Cocanada would be established. This was quite a different matter, because it was not our object, in pressing this matter on the attention of the Government, that fitters, drivers and persons who are mechanically trained and who have received a certain amount of education in mechanical engineering should be turned out in larger numbers. They are also quite necessary; but what we feel is that there is a large and growing demand for civil engineering subordinates which should be met by an adequate provision for their training and education.

"My Lord, I have only to give the figures which have been furnished to me and which show the absolute urgency of the question. The figures relate to the number of applicants for admission into the probationary engineering subordinate course in the years 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15 and the actual admissions that were made into the Civil Engineering college.

Year.	Number of applicants.	Number admitted.
1911-12	262	77
1912-13	401	102
1913-14	385	111
1914-15	454	125

"It is also stated that the accommodation—I am given the assurance by the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar—in the College of Engineering for the subordinate classes is limited. Provision has been made for about 90 students; and that is the number which could be admitted. I think Honourable Members will see that the number of applicants is thrice or even four times as many as could be admitted into these classes."

"Now, my Lord, apart from this, the Madras Civil Engineering College has to supply candidates not only to the departments of the Government in this Presidency, but also to the municipalities, district boards and various other bodies which engage the services of those who are trained as civil engineers but also to the Native States in Southern India, Travancore, Mysore and Hyderabad and various other states—which appear to have their demands met from those who are trained in this institution. I am sure that the Chief Engineer for Irrigation will also inform the Council whether his department has its present requirements sufficiently met by the Engineering College. The Council will be able to see that the Public Works Department is, so far as I can see, very much hard pressed for men. There is no doubt whatever that the question is one of urgent necessity, and that something should be done to secure the training of more persons in this branch of engineering. There are very many applicants and it is also without doubt that the college does not provide sufficient accommodation. It has been stated in the scheme for the re-organization of the Engineering College that provision is made for 500 students. As to how many of the class of students for whom I am now speaking will be received in the College I am not in a position to say; and I do not believe that any Honourable Members of this Council are in a position to say what the scheme is which has been approved and had been given effect to in connection with the construction of the new Engineering College at Guindy. Any way I trust that the question will occupy the immediate attention of the Government and that the scheme which was suggested of establishing

(Mr. Ramachandra Rao; Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar.)

two subsidiary schools, will be considered as early as possible. I may say that municipalities and district boards are very hard put to secure this class of officers; and I think that the situation is one which requires immediate attention."

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR:—"Your Excellency, the Honourable Member has quoted the figures furnished to him by me to show that the existing provision for training engineering subordinates is not adequate. I may at once say that that is a point on which the Government are at one with him. It is true that year after year in the Engineering College the number of applicants is far in excess of the number of admissions. In the year 1911-12 the number of applicants was 262, while the number admitted was only 77; in 1912-13 the number of applicants was 401 and the number admitted 102; in 1913-14 the number of applicants was 385 and the number admitted 111; and in 1914-15 the number of applicants was 454 and the number admitted 125. It does not of course follow that every one who was refused admission was fit for training. There must have been a fair percentage of young men who were refused admission, because they were not considered fit for training. Making allowance for that, the information before the Government is to the effect that the accommodation in the Engineering College for training subordinates is not adequate. About that there need be no doubt. Also there have been complaints by the Public Works Department and local bodies regarding the want of accommodation.

"The point in regard to which the Government are unable to see eye to eye with the Honourable Member is as to the remedy proposed by him. He proposes a second engineering school, somewhere in the Northern Circars, to meet the demand for accommodation and training. In regard to that, I may say that at one time the Government favoured that idea; but after careful consideration they came to the conclusion about the middle of 1913 that it would be better to improve and enlarge the existing Civil Engineering College and thereby meet the demand for training rather than establish a second engineering school elsewhere. In coming to that decision the Government were influenced by the report of the Committee appointed by the Government of India to inquire into the question of technical institutions. With Your Excellency's permission I would read from the report of that Committee, as it was upon the strength of that report that this Government came to the conclusion that it would be better to concentrate their attention upon the Engineering College and improve the accommodation therein than go in for a second school. This is what the Committee said:

'Engineering education of every grade should be concentrated when possible in large colleges where the lower classes can obtain the advantage of the traditions, ideals, moral training, and above all the supervision of a high grade competent staff which can only be met with, in large institutions in India.

'The manner in which civil engineering work is controlled in India differs largely from that which obtains in the west. In the west we have the consulting engineer or architect who is responsible for the engineering or architectural features of a work which is carried out by a clerk of works. Overseers and sub-overseers do not exist. In India generally the engineer has to combine all these functions, the scattered nature of his work and the distances rendering necessary the overseer and sub-overseer to supervise labour and work. These men, while not requiring any high theoretical knowledge, require a very sound training. This training requires expert supervision, which is usually only financially possible in the larger establishments where the scope for education must necessarily be of a wider character than is possible in smaller and less well equipped institutions.'

"When this report came to this Government, they took local expert opinion and that was at one with the recommendation made in that report. It was in pursuance of that, that the Government definitely decided to give up the idea of a second engineering school elsewhere than at Madras and they proceeded with the amplification and improvement of the existing college. The Honourable Member is no doubt aware that the construction of buildings for the Engineering College has commenced at Guindy. The plans and estimates for these buildings aggregate about Rupees 15,00,000. A sum of over one lakh of rupees would have been spent by the close of this year, and there is an allotment of one lakh for the work in the next year's budget. It is understood that, when the college is established at Guindy, it would take in more students of every grade, including those of the subordinate grade, than it now does. It is, however, quite possible that even then the demand would turn out to be more than could be met by the enlarged accommodation. In that case

(Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar ; Mr. Narasimheswara Sarma.)

arrangements will, of course, have to be made for still further enlarging the accommodation. This question having been decided so recently, and we having taken action in accordance with that decision, this is somewhat an inopportune moment for the Honourable Member to move for a reconsideration of that decision. I would, therefore, ask him to consider whether he may not be content with our assurance that the question will receive attention if the accommodation provided at Guindy is found insufficient. We wish to improve that accommodation and to provide for more space and to see whether we may not adhere to the decision already arrived at to concentrate our attention upon a single institution instead of going in for a second institution. I may point out that Madras is fairly central for the whole Presidency; and it should not be difficult for students to come to Madras for training. Hostel accommodation is being provided in the new buildings. Whatever we may do in connection with a second school, it is unlikely that the second school would work up to the efficiency of the existing college, which would be considerably increased in the near future. In these circumstances the Government prefer not to accept the Honourable Member's proposal to go in immediately for a second engineering school."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur B. NARASIMHESWARA SARMA :—" I, for one, have heard with great regret that the Government are not at present prepared to alter the decision which seems to have been arrived at in 1913. There seems to be a radical difference of opinion between some of us and the Government; and I do not think that there can be any such thing as a compromise. The Government are all powerful; they will have their way and we may take it that the resolution is practically lost. What the Government seem to think is that one institution for the Presidency, consisting of 25 districts and 42 millions of people, can meet the requirements of the whole Presidency, not only for five years but for the next 10 or 20 years; and the clamour of the people for more engineering institutions, in order to enrich the soil of the country, is a clamour of an unreasonable nature, which the financial condition of the Government does not permit them to listen to. The whole question is one of convenience of the people—whether the Government are in a position to undertake the equipment of one or more schools in the Presidency or to confine themselves entirely to one institution. I can very well understand the argument of the Government if there are half a dozen civil engineering institutions in the Presidency and more institutions are wanted at the hands of the Government in order to afford additional facilities. But while admitting that the Government cannot guarantee even at the present moment that the accommodation which it is intended to provide in the new college buildings would suffice to meet the requirements of the Presidency within the next ten years, we are asked to wait indefinitely and see whether, after the buildings are completed, which may take five or ten years and the institution is allowed to run for another five or ten years and reports are received and the matter is then referred by the Government to officials for opinion or to persons concerned and the matter is sent up to the Government of India and the Secretary of State—we are asked to wait till then to see whether this Presidency can expect at the hands of the Government another engineering school or two for meeting the substantial requirements of the country. That I must confess is an unsatisfactory position.

"As far as I have been able to read the political literature of the past few years, there is nothing which has roused so much dissatisfaction in this country as the attitude of the Government towards the advancement of the material interests of the country. Consequently one should have been very glad if the Government had shown in a practical manner that they are prepared to accommodate themselves to the wishes of the people, even assuming that there is wastage of some money in that direction. For the sake of efficiency, good many things seem to be sacrificed in this country. We want first-class medical practitioners and therefore there must be one medical college. We must have first-class overseers who are to be pitted against men from Roorke, and we must have one first-class institution. But that, I hope, will not be the attitude of the Government. As the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar said, the present is an inopportune moment and we cannot induce the Government to spend Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 10,000; but the matter could not and should not be allowed to rest there. Madras is no doubt central; and although southern, western and northern districts could send up pupils for training in various branches to the Colleges at Madras, still the fact that several applicants for admission into the Engineering College are refused admission, and that a number of young men go to Bombay and even to England to study engineering shows distinctly that there is

(Mr. Narasimheswara Sarma ; Mr. Ramachandra Rao ; the President.)

a need for another school or two. I can speak for my part of the country, that the delta and some of the Agency tracts require engineers—engineers and none but engineers; engineers in large numbers are required to improve the country. I hope that good times will soon come and that in the near future and the Government will see their way to revise their view on the subject."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" I may also say that the announcement that no action could be taken immediately is one with which I am unable to feel any satisfaction. The Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar referred to the decision that was arrived at in connection with the school at Dowleswaram, in the middle of 1913. It is a matter for extreme regret that none of us knew the grounds upon which your Excellency's Government seem to have acted in this matter. There was a motion in this Council about this subject; and it was only by an incidental question in 1914 at the time of the presentation of the Financial Statement that we became aware that that proposal was dropped. No further information has been furnished to us and no papers have been published; and we are really unable to understand the position of the Government. I may submit, my Lord, that there was a motion for the establishment of an engineering school at Dowleswaram and the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar states that that proposal was abandoned."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—" Is not the Honourable Member referring to the Dowleswaram school? If so, that has nothing to do with this motion. The motion before the Council at the time to which the Honourable Member refers suggested the establishment of a school of mechanical engineering at Dowleswaram; but subsequently Cocanada was preferred and the establishment of that school there is in progress, I understand. But that has nothing to do with the kind of engineering school that we are talking about at present."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" I am only asking for a school for the training of civil engineer subordinates—for the establishment of an additional school at some convenient centre. Those are the terms of my resolution; and I take it that it refers exactly to the institution that was contemplated in the year 1913."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—" No."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" Then it is quite likely I am mistaken. I think that the necessity for it is admitted by the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar. The demand is quite plain and there is enough material for training in the country. Every department of Government as well as municipalities and district boards want these subordinates to be trained for work; and I trust that, under these circumstances, the Government will give effect to this resolution as far as it lies in their power. It is not quite clear from the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar's statement to what extent the College, which will be completed and occupied as pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. Sarma six or seven years hence, would meet the present day requirements. What he did say was that it was likely to provide for a certain number more being educated at the Civil Engineering College. I am, therefore, unable to withdraw the resolution."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—" Perhaps the Council will let me supplement, by just one word, what has been stated by the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar, because it is evident that his statement has not been thoroughly understood as not applying at all to the discussion which took place last year with respect to the establishment of a mechanical engineering school at Dowleswaram. The Honourable gentleman opposite [Mr. Narasimheswara Sarma] took a great deal of interest in it at the time, and I think that I may be able to do something to relieve the feelings which he has expressed just now on this matter. Last year a suggestion was made that there should be a mechanical engineering school established at Dowleswaram, not for the training of engineer subordinates but for the training of superior artisans, fitters and men of that class, whom we employ in the public works of this Presidency. Subsequently it was found, on a consideration of that subject, that Cocanada afforded special facilities for the establishment of such a school in the northern part of the Presidency; and accordingly Cocanada has been selected. Cocanada has a local fund workshop which makes a convenient laboratory for this work and accordingly this particular school is to be established there, and in fact is in process of being established there.

(The President; Mr. Ramachandra Rao.)

"Now comes the motion of the Honourable gentleman for the establishment in effect of another engineering college. That is to say, if the arguments put before the Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar, who quoted the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Government of India on this very subject, are to have effect, this motion can mean nothing less than the establishment of another engineering college. If you will allow me to make a remark, the opinion of that Committee was that even these subordinates cannot be fully trained except in a complete engineering college; and the training which they receive under such conditions—the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar gave the quotation—cannot but be more effective in producing properly qualified and efficient men than under inferior conditions. The Government, as he says, accept and have accepted that decision so far as it lays down the principle that, if these subordinates are to be properly trained, they must be trained in an institution of the first class. As we are aware, at the present moment the new Engineering College is to be built at Guindy and it will provide for the training of a slightly larger number of these subordinates than we can train in our present Engineering College. The Honourable gentleman says, and quite rightly, that that will not meet the whole demand. Possibly it will not. But the Government are entirely at one with him in the desire to meet that demand. All that we say is, for the present let us get on with the construction of the College at Guindy; let us finish what we are doing at present. We have no desire but to promote the interests of the people and to give larger opportunities to those who want to enter this field than at present exist. There is no radical difference of opinion, let me suggest to the Hon'ble Mr. Sarma, between the Government and members of Council in regard to that matter. All that we say is, as practical men, especially just at this juncture, we cannot commit the Government to the erection of another college or to a very extensive enlargement of the college we have now undertaken.

"I do suggest to the Honourable Member, because I am warmly interested in the subject—the Government are warmly interested in it—that it is not wise at this moment to place on record a decision against the establishment of another engineering college of the first class. I do not think it is wise at this moment to press the Government to place upon record a decision against it. The case against it at this moment is overwhelming. We have not finished our college; we have hardly begun it; and it is quite impossible for us without injury to other interests—there are many interests clamouring for satisfaction in the Presidency—to commit ourselves to the expenditure of establishing another first-class college. Whereas if, on the other hand, the consideration of this question is deferred to a more favourable opportunity, then it will be quite open to discussion whether, if funds are more plentiful, it would not be wise to adopt a less centralizing policy in regard to all such institutions. It is quite true, and I think it is quite reasonable to lay it down, that for 45 millions of people and a Presidency of 150,000 square miles, there should be more than one first-class institution in more than one branch of education. But the question of finance is of prime importance. The Honourable gentleman opposite has said that it is a question "merely" of finance. Finance is the governing consideration in many of these matters, and is certainly a most paramount consideration in this. If I may offer a suggestion to the Honourable Member—I do so with the greatest respect, feeling perfectly convinced that there is no difference of opinion between him and the Government in this matter, viz., the importance of providing, as far as we can, further facilities,—I would urge him not to press the Government to record a decision against it at the present time."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"After your Excellency's speech it is impossible for me to press this resolution upon the attention of the Government just at present. I have only to make one small explanation. In the course of the proceedings of last year, just at this time, the Hon'ble Mr. Francis was asked by me as to what had become of the proposal to establish a civil engineering school at Dowleswaram and he replied that the Government had since abandoned that proposal. That was quite independent of the mechanical engineering school. I therefore think that at one time—I have every reason to think that it is so and if the Hon'ble Mr. Francis would look up the proceedings of 1914 he would be able to verify it—the Government contemplated the establishment of a civil engineering school at Dowleswaram and not a mechanical engineering school."

(The President; Mr. Ramachandra Rao.)

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"The Honourable gentleman is perfectly right. It was the report of the Committee—to which the Hon'ble Mr. Rajagopala Achariyar referred—which changed the character of the school which the Government intended to provide."

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"It was my intention and the intention of the Hon'ble Mr. Sarma that the institution we desired to see established was for the training for civil engineers though it could not be on the same scale as the proposed college at Guindy. It might be at present for the training of subordinates and might not be for the training of a higher type of engineers. That was the kind of institution which we contemplated, and it was that proposal which, we were told by the Hon'ble Mr. Francis last time, was abandoned, and in the place of that institution a mechanical engineering school for the training of artisans was substituted which it was proposed to be started in Cocanada; and therefore I was, from the very beginning, for this proposal to establish a civil engineering school though not a college. After your Excellency's assurance that the further discussion of this resolution would not conduce to the fulfilment of our desires, I am certainly not at all willing that this matter should be pressed upon the Council at this juncture. At the same time, I trust that this question will receive very early consideration at the hands of the Government."

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

W. FRANCIS,
Secretary to Government, Legislative Dept.

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An extract from the proceedings of the ¹⁷Legislative Council relating to the resolution has been added to the file. As no action is at present necessary, the papers may be recorded. A draft order is placed below.

La 28.4.15 LA 29.4.15

[Signature]
30/4/15

12

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191 .

" " " " 191 .

READ ALSO:-

C. No. 821 Edl, From the, No., dated 191 .

" " " " 191 .

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ORDER.

misc.

No. 466 Edl misc, dated 1. 5 1915.

Recorded.

28. 4. 15

28. 4. 15

M. 20/4/15

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191 .

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT. _____

STATEMENT WITH PITTO. _____

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