

EDN (1950) Department.

IN SERIES.

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to

G.O. NO. 3090 Em

Dated

18. 11. 50.

W 11 of and notes at pp 1-5 of - A

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Libraries — Road children
 Library cum play ground —
 Employment of a Librarian
 — Sanctioned.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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From

The Director of Public Instruction,

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education Department, Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir,

R.C.No. 56-N/50 dated 28th September, 1950.

Opening of a model Children's Library cum playground--
Request for very early sanction to employ a qualified
Librarian for this Library.

Reference:-1.G.O.Ms.No.1392-Education dated 29th April
1950.

2.Letter to Government from the Librarian,
Connemara Public Library C.L2/49 dated 19.5.1949, para 6

3.Letter to Government from the Librarian, Connemara
Public Library, C.L4/49 dated 26th September 1949 - para 5

4.Memo.No.8301-50 E2 Education dated 16.5.1950
and

5.G.O.Ms.No.1947-Education dated 6th July 1950.

Attention is invited to the sanction accorded by
Government, in the first G.O. referred to above, for the establishment
of a model Children's Library cum playground within the compound of the
Office of the Director of Public Instruction with the staff of an
attender and a peon for a period of one year in the first instance.

2. When this subject was under correspondence with Government,
the Librarian of the Connemara Public Library in his letter to
Government (reference No.2 cited above), clearly submitted his proposal
to them, that for the Children's Library alone, the following staff will
be required, namely, to start with,

- (i) A Librarian in the scale of Rs. 75-5-145
- (ii) An Assistant in the scale of a Lower Division Clerk; and
- (iii) Two peons

(with Dearness and House allowance to be paid according to the existing
rules).

3. Once again, while writing to Government on the same subject
(please vide reference No.3 given above) the Librarian, ~~and the Librarian~~
~~the Librarian~~ Connemara Public Library invited their attention to the
availability of a qualified Librarian to conduct the working of the said
Children's Library.

4. In spite of definite proposals for the staff submitted by
the Librarian, Connemara Public Library, and later, the attention of
Government invited to the availability of a qualified Librarian,
Government were pleased to sanction only an attender and a peon for the
staff of the Library and for the playground, as indicated above.

5. I have to invite the attention of Government to the fact that
no library can be conducted without a Librarian who has to pay attention
to a good deal of technical work connected with the library technique, such
as classification and cataloging of books, proper arrangement of books in
the shelves, attending to the reference service to the readers, answering
different kinds of queries from the visitors, and indeed several other
items of work as can be seen from an article (Please vide enclosure 1-
para 4) prepared by my Special Officer for Libraries for publication and
broadcasting.

6. When the Government were addressed by me (Letter No. 17-M/49 dated 21.4.1950) to kindly sanction one of the temporary qualified Librarians, trained at Government cost for being employed at my office for the preliminary work connected with the formation of the Children's Library, that is for classification and cataloging of books and to make the necessary arrangement for getting the paper cover books bound, and so on, Government obviously satisfied with the reasonableness of my request were pleased to comply with it (Please vide reference 4, cited above). This temporary Librarian (a graduate with Diploma in Library Science in the scale of pay of Rs. 75-5-145/-) is now doing the work for the Children's Library, the details of which are shown above.

7. The building of the Children's Library within the compound of my office is getting ready for occupation and also the playground for being used by the children. The books so far procured for the Children's Library, classified and catalogued, will be soon shifted to the building with the Librarian. The term of office for the temporary Librarian as at present sanctioned, will last only until 31st December 1950 (Please vide reference No. 5 cited above). Unless the post of a Librarian for the Library is permanently sanctioned, it will not be possible at all to conduct the Library. It is impossible to conduct it by an ordinary attender. If due to financial stringency Government are unable to sanction an extra post, and yet if the kind decision of Government to work the Library successfully is to be given effect to, as a compromise, until the financial stringency lasts, Government are requested to keep the post of the attender in abeyance while according sanction for the creation of a permanent post of Librarian. Without a Librarian, the Library cannot at all be conducted efficiently and it will be a misnomer to call it a model children's Library fitted up for the whole State to follow the example.

8. In view of all the facts stated above, I request the Government will be pleased to accord very early sanction for the creation of a permanent post of a Librarian to the Children's Library in the scale of pay already approved by Government namely Rs. 75-5-145, together with dearness and house allowance.

Yours faithfully,

R. Janardhanay
(29.12.1950)
For Director of Public Instruction.

P.S.- While about to despatch this letter to Government there arrived at this office an important report a copy of which is herewith enclosed (Enclosure - 2) marking the relevant portions, in support of my request to Government to kindly sanction forthwith a Librarian for the Children's Library.

R. J.
F. D. P. I.

Encl. 2

Children's Library at Madras.

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Children from their early age, say from the sixth year onwards, should be trained to cultivate the habit of reading for themselves, books suited to their age, grouped under headings such as "Adventure Stories", "Books about People", "Inventions", "Things to do", "Fairy Tales and Legends", and so on. It is only when they form this taste that they will have the eagerness to know where more and more books can be had for their reading in addition to the small number of books which they use as their school text books. When the task is undertaken to give them the training to read widely, naturally, they must be shown the place where they can see a large collection of books to pick and choose and to read according to their taste. Such a place, obviously, is a Children's Library.

The first Children's Library for this State is about to be opened within the premises of the Office of the Director of Public Instruction. There will be stocked in it suitable books in English and in South Indian Languages, story books, biographies, books on general knowledge, on travel, Civics and so on. There will be interesting pictures on the Walls such as of animals, of railway engines, of the latest type of aircraft and so on. The Library will be equipped with furniture to suit the children of ages between 6 and 12. It will be kept open on all days in the week except Friday between 7.30 and 10 a.m. and between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. A trained staff in the Library will always be ready to render proper service to the children making use of the Library. Mothers may accompany the children, but the former for whom there will be provision for a limited number of seats will have to take separate seats and not along with children. Facilities will be given

to authors to study the collection of books in the Library to watch which set of books attract the children more than others, to choose ^{them} as models to write similar attractive and useful books in South Indian languages to satisfy the demand of this State.

Children who live in the neighbourhood of the Director's Office such as at Pudupet, Egmore and Nungambakkam can walk up to this Library and make use of it. Those who live away from it may visit it on days suitable for them. The Library is easily approachable from all parts of the city by means of trains, trams and buses. Schools can bring children as and when possible to give them an idea of a Children's Library and how it can be made use of.

There is attached to this Children's Library, also, a playground for children. The children may read for sometime in the Library and when they feel the need for a change they can get into the playground for a little relaxation and recreation and get in again for reading if they feel like it. Thus they can alternate reading and playing and feel refreshed by both. Arrangements will also be made for the provision of "Story Hour", film shows and gramophone recitals in the library during stipulated hours every week of which announcement in advance will be indicated over the notice board of the library.

It is hoped that this 'Children's Library' will attract large number of children from all parts of the city, accompanied by teachers or parents, or marching into the library by themselves. It is trusted that the authors will study the collections of books and journals in the library and the books among them that ~~z~~ attract the children a great deal, to enable them to select the models to write books on similar lines in South Indian languages. It is expected that the visitors who go to this City from different parts of the State will not fail to pay a visit to this library with or without their children and be benefited by it. The value of 'Children's Library' is bound to be appreciated by one and all, and, as in all advanced countries, in this State also, it is in all public libraries, already existing or ^{to} be opened, a section attached exclusively for children.

R. Janardhanam

CENTENARY OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT.

Speech by Mr. Herbert Morrison.

(Member of the present British Cabinet - Lord President of the Council)

I am very pleased to have this opportunity of the Conference of the Library Association, and particularly to the Conference which celebrates the hundredth anniversary of the first Libraries Act, which received the Royal Assent on 14th August, 1853, towns with over 10,000 inhabitants to levy a very modest rate of the pound for the provision of public libraries - or rather of the ings and furniture for public libraries, for the money could not be on books, which had still to be supplied by the generosity of private individuals. The measure could hardly have been more modest.

This Act was largely the work of three men, two of whom I am glad to say were Members of Parliament - William Ewart, the Duke of Devonshire, who as Chairman of the Select Committee on Public Libraries in 1849 had played the leading part in preparing and carrying the Bill through the House, and Joseph Brotherton, the M.P. for Salford, who did what he could to establish a public library in his own town. The man to whom I must also pay my tribute was Edward Edwards, the British Museum, who behind the scenes prepared the material and great deal of the donkey work upon which Ewart and Brotherton acted.

The Act of 1850 was not, of course, the beginning of public libraries in England. As early as 1421, Sir Richard Whittington, Lord Mayor of London, had established a library in the Guildhall, and similar libraries had been established in other towns. Most of these have since been neglected except perhaps for Whittington's Guildhall library, which was borrowed in 1549 by the Duke of Somerset and never returned - probably the first recorded example of a problem which has perplexed so many libraries since!

During succeeding centuries libraries grew up here and there in various parishes and in 1708 an Act "for the better preservation of parochial libraries in that part of Great Britain called England" received the Royal Assent. In 1845 a Museums Act was passed, which gave towns authority to levy rates to establish and maintain museums, and this Act was used by one or two towns - notably Salford as a result of the work of Joseph Brotherton - to establish buildings for public libraries.

But despite these early attempts to provide libraries, we are not in a position to celebrate the anniversary of the 1850 Act. It was this Act on which the public library system as we know it today grew up. In the early years progress was very slow, but the development of education from 1870 onwards brought about a growing demand for public libraries. I was impressed to learn that by last year we had some 587 library authorities with a stock of 42 million books and with 12 million readers borrowing 300 million books a year. In the prophetic words of William Ewart during the Second Reading Debate on the 1850 Act, our public libraries have become great "public institutions legally founded by the people, supported by the people and enjoyed by the people."

(page 2.)

are totally illiterate. When young - as Omar Khayyam would

If I may refer to myself which I do, even if only once, I would say that reading is important - even if only once, it is not pernicious in character. I have known people who never read are

It is well known that when I was a young man, I was an open air phrenologist at a street corner. He said "what are you doing?" - "I am selling novelettes" - which usually started

I said "Wild west and id. November. He said "Well that's a dreary day in November. He said "Well that's a good head and it's a dreary day in November. But you have got a good history and biography of that man."

...e nice if you read some better stuff. Try some of the economic opinions - and all fo

a lot to do with shaping my political and social

I think he was right. I would only add that, for if they go within the limits of discretion - for if they go

they may bring about the opposite effect - to encourage the straight history and pe

example. It is more readable for many than Strabo. We also get history in novel +

are perhaps, some liberties are taken with - "Captive Prince" - That is another

perial". These are not only interesting in themselves, but also serve to introduce young and adult alike to the study of history.

I think then that our public libraries have three main

purposes in our society.

Finally, I hope you will not take it amiss if I suggest a in which our public library service can be improved. I believe libraries are doing a fine job but that there are some ways in y could do it better. I would like to see every public library service centre with a special children's section and I would e the employment of many more trained children's librarians. ke to see many more than 12 million readers, and I hope that- se of travelling libraries and the extension of service centres, will be done to take books to the reader instead of expecting the er to come to the books.

In the countries mobile libraries have for years done a job especially in rural areas. But I have also seen a mobile library work organised by the Lewisham Borough Council in my own constituency at Lewisham.

People come freely to change their books at mobile
ies in various parts of the Borough each week. Even in towns the
library has its place in encouraging the habit of reading.

No doubt you, the experts on public libraries, can think of more things that you would like to see done. Your work may still be hindered by the shortages and difficulties which we have faced since the war, which we are still facing, but we must do what we can.

The development of education after the Education Act of 1944 provided the basis for the great expansion of public libraries towards the end of the 19th century. The wider educational facilities introduced by the Education Act of 1944 present new opportunities and a new challenge for libraries. I am sure that you will accept this challenge and seize the opportunities.

(True Copy);
 'ing has been done by me.

R. f anardhanan

Director of Pub

various — Model child
cum playgrounds — Employ
of a Librarian — Sandhi

Amu

p 25 of (E)

Read again: G.O. 1392 En. d. 29.4
Pro on 1A S.P.J. no. 56 N 50 d. 20.9.55

g.o. (Rs) 3090 Est. No. 18.11.50
The Govt. sanction

The post of a librarian on No. 75-5-145 temporarily for a period of six months from the date of appointment in the first instance, for the ^{provisional} ~~provisional~~ ^{provisional} children's Library cum play ground. ~~to be~~ ^{to be} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~post~~ ^{post} of an American Sanitation for the library in the ~~g. o. ated~~ ^{g. o. ated}, above will be kept in

To The S.P.I. ✓

A. C. 1700 Fin!

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the date on

Which this
refers given 11.11.50.
effect to -

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Libraries - Model children's library
cum playgrounds - Employment
of a Librarian - Proposal.

cf From the S.P. D. no. 56 of 50 dt. 20.9.50

para 3 of ⑤

In G.O. 1392 Edn. dt. 24.4.50
the Govt. sanctioned the opening of a
model children's library cum play-
grounds within the compound of the
office of the S.P. D. A staff of an
attendant on Rs. 24-35 and a peon on
Rs. 18-25 was also sanctioned for the library.

para 3 of ⑤

2. The Librarian, Commerson
Public Library, while submitting proposal
for the establishment of the children's
library reported that the following staff
would be required :-

para 6 of ⑤

- (1) A Librarian on Rs. 75-145
- (2) An assistant (L.D. class) on Rs. 45-90.
- (3) Two Peons on Rs. 18-25.

⑤

However, as it was considered that the
Candidate trained in Library Science
at Delhi who was posted as Librarian
in the S.P. D.'s office could attend to the
library also, this Dept. suggested that it
would be sufficient if the employment
of an attendant instead of a clerk, and
one peon instead of two peons is sanctioned
and Finance accepted this view.

⑤

3. In view of the circumstances
reported by the S.P. D. in para 7 of his letter
at page, the Director requests for the employ-
ment of a separate Librarian for
the children's library, or at least to
sanction a ^{post} Librarian, ^{keeping} ~~in view of~~
the report of attendant sanctioned in the past
referred to above in above.

para 2 of ⑤

para 2 of ⑤

33018
25 OCT 1950
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

necessary, the post of attendant
sanctioned in G.O. 1392 E.D. & 29.4.50.
I am doubtful the necessity
of a separate librarian as the books
to be purchased now for the library
are only to the tune of Rs 5000.

Of the D.P.D. presses for the creation
the post of librarian, they want that
certain particulars as in para. 4 of the
note may be called for. It is while
that the Children's Lib. has not yet
been opened for want of a qualified
librarian and the statistics required
by Finance cannot be available.

The post of a trained librarian for the
Children's Lib. is a desideratum. The
difficulty of conducting the Children's
Lib. without a trained librarian has
been explained by the D.P.D. in para. 7
of his letter. In the circumstances,
this dept. may perhaps press for
the a temporary post of librarian
at Rs 75-5-145 for at least six
months. It begins with keeping in
abeyance the post of attendant at
Rs 24-35. At the same time in this connection
reference is made to para A of Mr. Herbert
Mumford's speech - member of the British
Council - on the Centenary of the Public
Reading Act. in which he stresses the
necessity of skilled children's librarians.

The proposal for a
Librarian for the library
may be ~~be~~ approved
as the post seems to be
necessary for the new library

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1-3 anti

13.11.50

The building
is getting
ready & the
books pro-
cured will
soon be
assembled
here

1.11.50

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19 of



H.M. (Fin)

Draft above
11/11/50

This Children's library ~~at the~~
has been warmly welcomed by
public, and from the opinions of the
Teachers Association I feel it is
going to be a very great success. It is at
under contemplation by City Schools to take
children by batches every day to the
library. So a librarian is essential. It
be agreed to

14/11

The post of attendant
with oblige.

R.V. 1

Please see the orders in circulation
about draft order is submitted for approval
by Finance may see before issue.
11.11.50.

56
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11.11.50

11/11

For no
30225/50-2

13.11.50



93959 E.H. 1507
18.11.50

(Previous Fin. note on pp. 2-3 above).
The further note of Edu. and Orders
in circulation on pp. 3-5 above may be
perused.

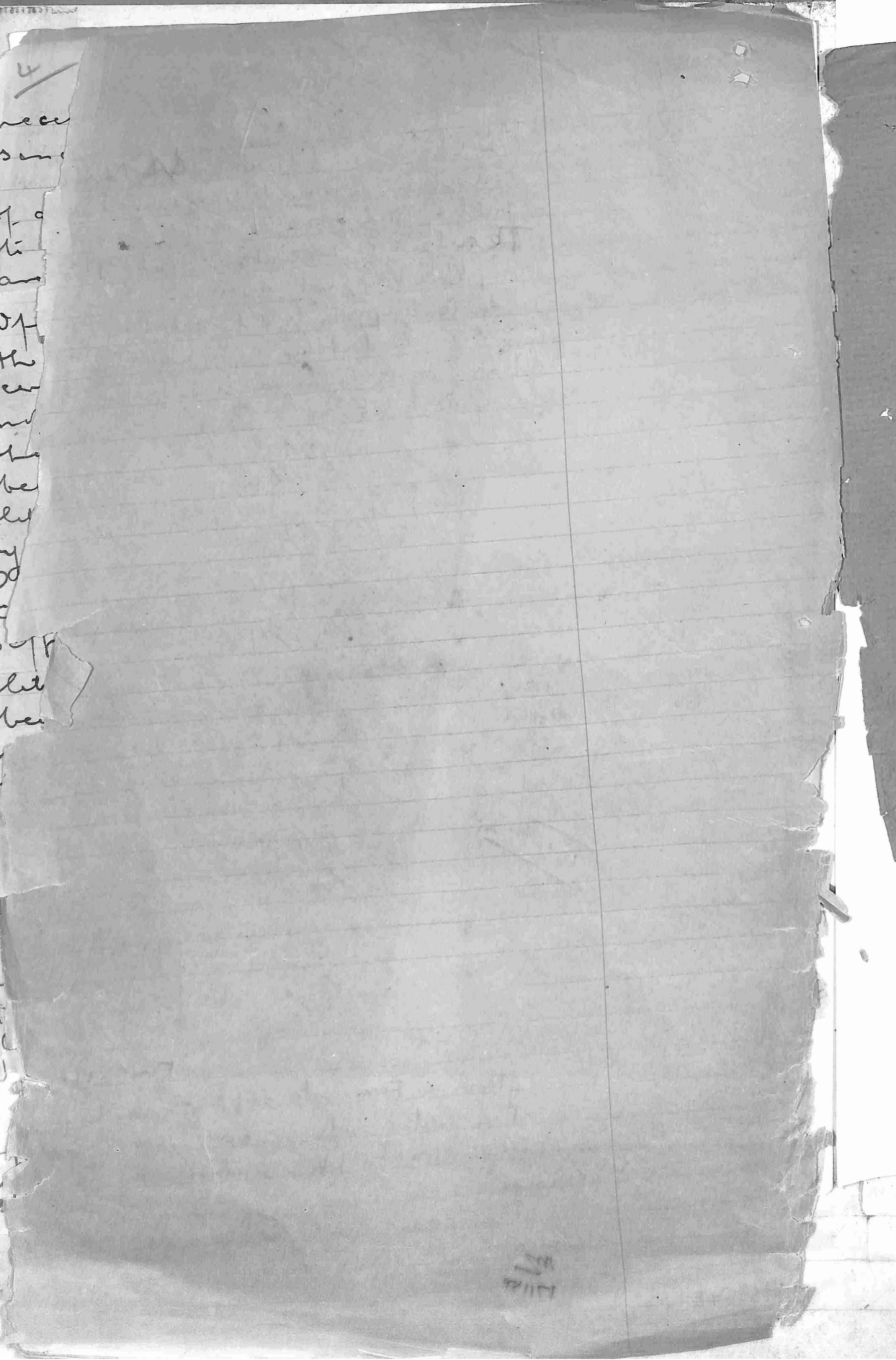
The draft order below may be
accepted.

16.11.50 17.11.50

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