Government of Madras

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1351, 30th September 1919

FOR RECORD ONLY.

Editors' Table privileges

Recording notes leading to the Order in Council, dated 24th September 1919, stating that — may ordinarily be given irrespective of conduct to papers having a circulation of 800 or over.

1,000—22-3-18

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Number of copies { Letter.
Order.

N. P.   ORIGINAL

Government of Madras

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT

2

G.O. No. 1351, 30th September 1919

FOR RECORD ONLY.

Editors' Table privileges

Recording notes leading to the Order in Council, dated 24th September 1919, stating that — may ordinarily be given irrespective of conduct to papers having a circulation of 800 or over.

Read—Notes relating to the principles to be observed in granting Editors' Table privileges to newspapers and periodicals.

Order—No. 1351, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 30th September 1919.

Recorded.

(True extract)

R. Ramachandra Rao,
Secretary to Government.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 1351, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS), DATED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1919.

[SUBJECT.—*Editors' Table privileges.*]

PUBLICITY BUREAU.

The Editor of the *Desabhaktan* tells me that he is renewing his application for Editors' Table
privileges. This is not at my instigation. All the same I should be glad if he can be given this
privilege. I do not know the principles on which the privilege is given or the circumstances
A in which it was refused to the *Desabhaktan*. But so far as I can see, now that the Publicity
Board is in existence it will be advantageous to extend the privilege as widely as possible.

As regards the man himself, he has, I believe, some reputation as a Tamil scholar and is quite as keen on the Tamil *v.* Sanskrit controversy as on political controversies.

J. T. GWYNN—1-8-19.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Home (Miscellaneous) u.o.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—4-8-19.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

Please see G.Os. No. 1271, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 18th December 1917, and No. 808, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 23rd April 1919, as regards the non-admission of *Desabhaktan* to the Editors' Table privileges.

2. Submitted we may await the renewal of the application which, the Publicity Officer reports, the Editor is sending up.

S.N.P.—4-8-19.

S.A.—4-8-19.

Await.

But **A** above requires separate action. Mr. Gwynn should have copies of Government Orders relating to admission of papers to the Editors' Table. His opinion as to the extension of the privilege should be noted for embodying in the main file.

C. H. BROWN—5-8-19.

G.O. No. 1208, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 14th August 1919, contains as an annexure the latest list of newspapers, institutions, officials and others admitted to the privileges of the Editors' Table up to 31st March 1919.

2. The following four—papers, individuals and association—have been admitted to the privileges since the 31st March 1919:—

(i) *Hindu Nesan*—Already admitted to Editors' Table; recently given the privilege of receiving bound copies of departmental reports—G.O. No. 751, dated 10th April 1919;

(ii) Members of the Publicity Board—G.O. No. 1162, dated 31st July 1919;

(iii) The Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants' Association—only papers of commercial importance—G.O. No. 1176, dated 4th August 1919; and

(iv) *Margadarsi*, Calicut—G.O. No. 1229, dated 21st August 1919.

3. The existent privilege was discontinued in the following five cases, from the 1st January 1918 up to date, owing to failure to take delivery of the papers in the first four cases and the non-ascertainability of the whereabouts of the Editor in the last case:—

(i) *Anglo-Indian*—G.O. No. 72, dated 30th January 1918;
(ii) *Madras Law Journal*—G.O. No. 226, dated 12th March 1918;
(iii) *Educational Review*—G.O. No. 584, dated 3rd August 1918;
(iv) *Christian Patriot*—G.O. No. 816, dated 27th November 1918; and
(v) *Dravida Patrika*—G.O. No. 673, dated 31st March 1919.

4. An examination of the papers from the 1st January 1918 shows that there were nine cases up to date in which the applicants were declined privileges.

Two of these were applicants from outside the Presidency and they were refused the privilege on the principle not to supply papers outside the Presidency as a measure of war economy. They were (1) *The Servants of India*, Poona (G.O. No. 124, dated 14th February 1918) and (2) *The Searchlight*, Patna (G.O. No. 743, dated 4th November 1918).

As regards the principle on which papers are admitted to Editors' Table privileges attention is requested to Sir Murray Hammick's note, dated 6th November 1911, on page 2 of notes to G.O. No. 1395, Public, dated the 16th December 1911. The privilege is generally given to a paper "which has an established circulation sufficient to give it a substantial amount of authority, which is moderate in tone and does not write so as to excite racial animosity."

In this Presidency the following six papers and one institution were refused the privilege for the reasons noted in abstract against each :—

(i) *Hithakarini*—Tone at times objectionable : two warnings—G.O. No. 613, dated 26th August 1918, and G.O. No. 799, dated 21st November 1918 ;

(ii) *Panchayat*—New venture—circulation to be established—G.O. No. 720, dated 23rd October 1918 ;

(iii) Muhammadan Literary Society, Nellore—Not fairly well established—G.O. No. 806, dated 23rd November 1918 ;

(iv) *Everyman's Review*—Small circulation : tone at times objectionable : recent warning —G.O. No. 809, dated 25th November 1918 ;

(v) *West Coast Reformer*, Calicut—Departmental reports alone refused—G.O. No. 913, dated 12th December 1918;

(vi) *Desabhaktan*—Recently forfeited security for rabid articles—G.O. No. 808, dated 23rd April 1919; and

(vii) *Hindu Message*—Circulation small and general conduct far from satisfactory—G.O. No. 1180, dated 5th August 1919.

5. These notes may, it is submitted, be sent to Mr. Gwynn u.o. for perusal and for his remarks as to the extension of the privilege.

S.N.P.—23-8-19.
S.A.—23-8-19.

The principle is that a paper will normally be afforded Editors' Table privileges on application unless—

(*a*) it has conspicuously misbehaved,
(*b*) its circulation is so small as to deprive it of any real standing or influence.

I do not think sanction has been withheld in any case of reasonable claim.

Mr. Gwynn may be furnished with a copy of the main Government Orders bearing on the subject and may be asked whether in the light of the instructions therein and the above notes he would wish to recommend any extension of Editors' Table privileges.

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Editors' Table privileges are entirely different from the sole question of publicity.

There is not the slightest doubt, though as a matter of practical usefulness we restrict the privilege to papers of wide circulation, a chief criterion is the tone of the paper. The grant is a 'privilege' strictly. Though for purposes of publicity Mr. Gwynn may consider it desirable to communicate orders widely—e.g. to village officers—it does not follow that all his correspondents should be put on the Editors' Table list.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—25-8-19.

PUBLICITY BUREAU.

I submit for consideration whether it is good policy to take 'tone' into consideration in deciding whether Editors' Table privileges are to be given or not. Might it not be better to decide the question with reference to circulation only ?

This is the issue.
L.D.—2-9-19.

I am not quite sure what is included under Editors' Table privileges, but I think it is in the interests of Government that every newspaper in the Presidency with large circulation should get the Editors' Table Government Orders. If hostile papers do not get these Government Orders, they may make this an excuse for misunderstanding and misrepresenting Government's actions and indeed there may be some substance in the excuse. In fact I suggest that the Editors' **A** Table should not be looked on as a favour granted to the deserving but simply as an arrangement for securing publicity in the interests of Government.

J. T. GWYNN—28-8-19.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

Submitted for orders as to the principles that should in future be observed in granting Editors' Table privileges, with reference to Mr. Gwynn's remarks above. Public Department will also have to be consulted u.o.

S.N.P.—1-9-19.
S.A.—1-9-19.

Hostile papers determined to misunderstand and misrepresent will want no excuse : indeed, they will only twist the material supplied to them to their own nefarious ends.

Mr. Gwynn's view of the Editors' Table at **A** above is, of course, one way of looking at the question and under it the only criterion to go by would be circulation. This, however, is not the traditional view which has regarded the grant of Editors' Table accessions as a privilege. If this view is maintained, it is clearly illogical to confer this boon on periodicals whose unswerving aim is the misrepresentation or vilification of Government and its doings.

C. H. BROWN—2-9-19.

The Publicity work is only just now beginning. The Editors' Table work is being done under certain conditions. I do not think it is necessary to vary these from the point of view of the Publicity Officer.

2. There is *practically* no difference of opinion between Mr. Gwynn and me. Any paper not admitted to Editors' Table privileges will get the publications from the Publicity Officer if he so thinks fit.

3. The specific case now in question is the *Desabhaktan*. The formal application has not yet been received. Unless our policy is changed, there is clearly no case for admitting this paper to Editors' Table privileges.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—2-9-19.

I should like this to be considered in Council. Please print for the purpose—omitting routine matter. Note the circulation of the *Desabhaktan*.

L. D[AVIDSON]—2-9-19.

The circulation of *Desabhaktan* is 800 as shown in report on Newspapers for 1918.

S.N.P.—3-9-19.
S.A.—3-9-19.

All papers can get what they want from the stock file kept at the Publicity Board. Editors' Table privileges, if asked for, may ordinarily be given irrespective of conduct to papers having a circulation of 800 or over.

L. D[AVIDSON]—24-9-19.
W[ILLINGDON]—24-9-19.

A draft demi-official to Mr. Gwynn intimating for his information the decision of Government is submitted.

2. After issue of the demi-official these notes may be recorded for reference.

S.N.P.—29-9-19.
S.A.—29-9-19.

C. H. BROWN—30-9-19.

Issue.

R.R.—30-9-19.

[G.O. No. 1351, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 30th September 1919.]

Demi-official—from M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
To—J. T. GWYNN, Esq., I.C.S., Publicity Office, Bank of Madras Buildings, Mount Road, Madras.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 30th September 1919.
No.—5361-2.

I am to state for your information that the Government have decided that Editors' Table privileges, if asked for, may ordinarily be given, irrespective of conduct, to papers having a circulation of 800 or over. All papers can, however, obtain what they want from the files kept at the Publicity Bureau.

Editors' Table Privileges

Sectt. II-10 (a)—5,002 13 1-19 (6)

........................DEPARTMENT.

Recording notes leading to the order in Council of 24th Sept. 1919 stating that ~~the~~ —— may ordinarily be given irrespective of conduct to papers having a circula of 800 or over

For Record only

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

" " " " .... " .... 191 .

READ ~~ALSO~~:— Notes relating to the principles to be observed in granting Editors Tables Privileges to newspapers and periodi

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

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

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

ORDER. No. 1351, dated 30 Sep 191

Pres.

Recorded.

True Extract

R Ramachand

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NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 1351, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS), DATED 30th SEPTEMBER 1919.

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PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Home (Miscellaneous) u.o.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—4-8-19.

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HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT. C

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J. T. GWYNN—28-8-19.

P.L-3/x

1357—30-9-

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

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I should like this to be considered in Council. Please print for the purpose—omitting routine matter. Note the circulation of the *Desabhaktan*.

L. D[AVIDSON]—2-9-19.

The circulation of *Desabhaktan* is 800 as shown in report on Newspapers for 1918.

S.N.P.—3-9-19.
S.A.—3-9-19.

~~The old principles & continue,~~ [illegible]

all ~~other~~ papers can get what they want from the stock file kept at the Publicity Board. ordinary E.T. privileges, if asked for, may be given irrespective of content to papers having a circulation of 800 or over.

W. 24.9.19

L.D. 24/9/19

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
24-SEP-1919
HOME DEPARTMENT

PTO

D.O. No. 5361-2 Home (Mis) Dept.

Dear Gwynn

I am to state for your ~~private~~ information that the Government have decided that Editors' Table Privileges, if asked for, may ordinarily be given, irrespective of conduct, to papers having a circulation of 800 or over. All papers can, however, ~~can~~ get obtain what they want from the files kept at the Publicity Bureau.

Yours sincerely

30/9

29.9.19

29.9.19

30/9

To
J. T. Gwynn Esq. I.C.S.
Publicity Office
Bank of Madras buildings
Mount Road
Madras.

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Home (Mis) Dept.

A draft d.o. to Mr. Gwynn intimating for his ~~private~~ information the decision of Govt is subd.

2. After issue of the d.o. these notes may be

No 1351 Home (mis). d/ 30 Sep 1919

Recorded

for reference.

Press series

SM
29.9.19

30.9.19

29.9.19

After perusal by S.
(The 2 or 3 cases held up pending this decision sh^d be put up at once)

30.9.19

Done
30.9.19

D.O. comes here

Desabaktan - E.T. Privileges.

Home (Mis) Dept

Publicity Bureau

note submitted to C.S.

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As regards the man himself he ~~is~~ has I believe some reputation as a Tamil scholar and is quite as keen on the Tamil v Sans-crit controversy as on political controversies

1.8.19

REGISTRAR HOME DEPARTMENT -4 AUG 1919 GOVT. OF MADRAS

C.No. 5361 5 th

4.8.19

Home Mis

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REGISTRAR HOME DEPARTMENT -4 AUG 1919 GOVT. OF MADRAS

U.S.

Home (Mis) Dept.

D

Please see G.O. No. 1271 Home (Misc)

C

dt 18. Dec 1917 and No. 808 Home (Misc) dt 23 apr. 1918 as regards the non-admissi admission of 'Desabaktan' to the Editor's Table Privileges.

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SMD
4.8.19

Await.

But the above requires separate action. Mr. Gunyon shd have copies of Cos. relating to admission of papers to the Ed. T. His opinion as to the extension of the privilege shd be written for embodying in the main file.

[Extract taken & papers are being collected]

5.8.19

4.8.19.

5.8.19

I do not think we need keep this open as a separate case pending the pleasure of the Editor of Desabhaktan. Incorporate this in the main file: if & when the Editor renews his applictn you may refer to this.

I do not understand the delay

in dealing with para 2 of my note above. Please get on with this at once.

22-8-6.

PTO

NOTES.

Home (Misc) Department.

Under Secretary.-

Ⓐ G.O. No. 1208, Home (Mis), dated 14-8-19 contains as an annexure the latest list of newspapers, institutions, officials and others admitted to the privileges of the E.T. up to 31-3-19.

2. The following four papers, individuals & associations have been admitted to the privileges since the 31-3-19:-

Ⓕ (i) Hindu Nesan - already admitted to E.T. - recently given the privilege of receiving bound copies of departmental reports - G.O. No. 751, dated 10-4-19.

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3. The existent privilege was discontinued in the following five cases, from the 1-1-18 up to date, owing to failure to take delivery of the papers in the first four cases and the non-ascertainability of the whereabouts of the Editor in the last case:-

⑤ (i) Anglo-Indian - G.O. 72, d/30-1-18.
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Ⓦ (iii) Educational Review - G.O. 584, d/3-8-18.
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NOTES.

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and

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Ⓑ

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SMP
23.8.19.

23.8.19.

S.

The principle is that a paper will normally be afforded E.T. Privileges on application unless

(a) it has conspicuously misbehaved

(b) its circulation is so small as to deprive it of any real standing or influence.

I do not think sanction has been withheld in any case of reasonable claim.

Mr. Gwynn may be furnished with a copy of the main G.O.s bearing on the subject & may be asked whether in the light of the instructions therein & the above notes he would wish to recommend any extension of E.T. privilege.

25-8

E. T. privileges are entirely different from the sole question of publicity. There is not the slightest doubt, that as a matter of practical usefulness we restrict the privilege to papers of wide circulation, a chief criterion is the tone of the paper. The grant is a "privilege" strictly.

Though for purposes of publicity Mr. Gwynn may consider it desirable to communicate orders widely — eg to village officers — it does not follow that all his correspondents should be put on the E. T. list

25/8/09

Home (Mi) no 5361-1
26.8.09

Publ offr I note

Publicity Bureau

This is the issue.
D
2.9.09

I submit for consideration whether it is good policy to take "tone" into consideration in deciding whether E T Privileges are to be given or not. Might it not be better to decide the question ~~entirely~~ with reference to circulation only?

I am not quite sure what is included under E T privileges but I think it is in the interests of Govt that ~~all~~ every newspaper in the presidency with large circulation should get the E.T. G.O.s

~~This~~ If ~~they~~ hostile papers do not get these G.O.s they may make this ~~an~~ excuse for ~~misrepresenting~~ misunderstanding & misrepresenting Govts action, and indeed there may be some substance in the excuse.

In fact I suggest that the Editors table should not be looked on as a favour granted to the deserving but ~~as a~~ simply ~~place for~~ as an arrangement for securing publicity in the interests of Govt.

A

O. Gwynn
28.8.19

HOME DEPARTMENT
30-AUG-1919
GOVT. OF MADRAS

Secy Home Dept

Publicity Bureau
R. O. C. No. 206

U.S. –

Home (Mis) Dept.

Submitted for orders as to the principles that should in future be observed in granting E.T. privileges, with reference to Mr Gwynn's remarks above. Public Dept will also have to be consulted u.o.

S.M.P.
1.9.19.

S/

Hostile papers determined to misunderstand & misrepresent will want no excuse: indeed, they will only twist the material supplied to them to their own nefarious ends.

Mr. Gwynn's view of the E.T. at A above is, of course, one way of looking at the question & under it the only criterion to go by wd

1.9.19.

Box 27
2-9-19

be circulation. This, however, is not the traditional view which has regarded the grant of E.T. concessions as a privilege. If this view is maintained it is clearly illogical to confer this boon on periodicals whose unswerving aim is the misrepresentation or vilification of Govt. & its doings.

2-9-19

The Publicity work is only just now beginning. The E.T. work is being done under certain conditions. I do not think it is necessary to vary these from the point of view of the Pub office.

2. There is practically no difference of opinion between Mr Gwyn & me. Any papers not admitted to E.T. privileges will get the publications of the Pub office if they so think fit.

3. The specific case now in question is the Desabaktan. The formal application has not yet been received. Unless our policy is changed, there is clearly no case for admitting this paper to E.T. privileges

2/9/19

I shd like this to be considered in Council. Please print for the purpose - omitting routine matter. Note the circn. of the Desabhaktan.

LD
2.9.1

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
-3 SEP 1919.
HOME DEPARTMENT

The circulation of Desabaktan is 800 as shown in Report on Newspapers for 1918.

S.V.P
3.9.19

3.9.19

Scott. II-38—1,703—17-1-18.

PRESS SLIP.

ORDINARY. ~~PREFERENCE.~~ ~~URGENT (a).~~

No notes print

Home (mis) DEPARTMENT.

Current No........., dated..............................191 .

G.O. No. 1351, dated 30 Sep 1919.

Number of MS. pages sent { (b) Correspondence.......... (b¹) Notes..........

Brief subject E.T. Privileges

(c) Number of copies required when struck off (*not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press*).	E. T. copies to supply requisitions for purchase by the public.	Complete correspondence and orders.	Notes.
FOR RECORD.*			
Madras Records	4	40	40
Ooty Records		3	3
For filing with original ...		1	1
Total ..		44	44

For Record only

FOR ISSUE.†	Letter only.	Complete G.O.	(b) Special issue copies of G.O. No.	Papers.	Notes.
Signature copies					
India Office					
Govt. of India..........Dept.					
Revenue Department					
Public Works Department					
Local and Municipal Department					
Educational Department					
..........Dept.					
Public Dept. } Judicial Dept } Political } Financial Dept. } Marine Dept. } Ecclesiastical Dept. } Total					
Total ...					
Spare copies. The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
The..........					
Total ...					

Copies distributed on..........................‡(Press Clerk).

† Copies distributed on..........................‡(Press Despatcher).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT.

(*a*) If a paper is marked to be printed urgently, the Superintendent of the section concerned should sign the Press slip. The Superintendent should exercise a careful discretion in the matter.

(*b*) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item has been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(*b*¹) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 315 of the office Manual.

(*c*) The number of copies and the details of distribution should be filled in by the Superintendent or Referencer concerned.

(*d*) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for *one* week, and larger papers for *two* weeks only. *The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.*

(*e*) This slip, properly and completely filled in, should accompany every paper sent to Press; it will be returned by the Press when proofs are furnished; it should be sent to the Press when a call is made for revised proofs or when a corrected proof is sent for striking. When finally returned by Press it should be filed with the original order or letter.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESS.

(*a*) If, in the opinion of the Superintendent of the Press, a paper has been marked urgent unnecessarily, he should send the Press slip to the Registrar with a remark to that effect.

(*b*) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

(*c*) Signature copies of letters to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India should be printed on hand-made paper.

(*d*) This slip should be returned by the Press to the Secretariat when proofs are furnished; it will be sent back to the Press when proofs are returned corrected and should be finally returned to the Secretariat when struck-off copies are supplied.

(*e*) The names of the Secretary and Members should be printed in full when they occur on the right hand side, only the first time when they appear on the left side, the initials alone being printed later.

[P.T.O.

‡ *To be initialled and dated.*

TO PRESS, ~~MADRAS~~ OOTY.

A	B	C
ease send proof in duplicate. The apers have been carefully edited.	Proof returned corrected. Please strike off and send number of copies as indicated.	As the matter is clear manuscript and has been carefully edited, (*b*) proof need not be sent. Please print and supply number of copies as indicated.
	Type may be released after usual interval. / at once.	Type may be released after usual interval.
.... *Referencer.* / *Clerk.*	.... *Referencer.* / *Clerk.*	.... *Referencer.* / *Clerk.* 30/
.... *Supt.*	.... *Supt.*	.... *Supt.* 30.8.19

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PRESS.

Diary.	Initials of Press official.
Received in Press on................	....
First proof furnished on................	....
Call for revised proof received on................	....
Revised proof furnished on................	....
Corrected proof received for striking on................	....
Final copies supplied on................	....

Account of copies.	Complete copies.	Notes.	Issue copies.	Special E.T. edition.
Supplied to Secretariat for Record................	....	....	....	....
" " " Issue................	....	....	....	....
" " " for Extra E.T. copies to supply requisitions for sale to the public.	....		....	4
For Volumes................	....	....	....	....
For supply to newspapers and institutions admitted to the privileges of the E.T.	....	....	....	....
Total ...				