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Despatch [Abstract.]

Conventura Library
Buildings.

Passing upon the
proposals of the Council
of the Victoria Technical
Institute regarding
the portions of the —
which it would require
and the use to which
each room would be
put if made available;
and directing that
the issue of orders on
the subject of Technical
Education be deferred
for the present.

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18 . No.

FURTHER PAPER, No.

3764

OF 1895

Ed CN: 1454/95.

ENCLOSURE.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITIO.

ORDER, &c., OF GOVERNMENT—A.

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5. It will thus be seen that the calls on the available accommodation are already heavy, and at the present juncture the Government is not in a position to do more than provide space for the Council's library in a room which could also be used for the meetings of the Council, and to grant permission to the Council to use the small theatre in the Central Museum for lectures, the new theatre being apparently much too large for the purpose.

6. In regard to item (c) in paragraph 4 *supra*, the Director of Public Instruction has stated in paragraph 10 of his letter recorded in G.O., No. 471, Educational, dated 7th June 1895, that he approves the proposed transfer subject to the conditions that no articles are moved which are in constant requisition at the School of Arts as models or otherwise. With advertence to item (d), it is observed that a selection of objects of interest has been made by Mr. Thurston, and the Government of India has been addressed in reference to their transfer to the new buildings.

7. In the absence of details of the space required for each of the purposes enumerated above, the Government is unable to pass orders as to the actual distribution of the rooms in the new buildings. In paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 597, Public, dated 16th August 1894, the Government agreed generally in the observations in paragraph 21 of the report of the committee recorded therein to the effect that the whole of the buildings should be in charge of an officer of some standing and position and that, as the most economical and convenient arrangement, the Superintendent of the Central Museum should be entrusted with the duty and have also general charge of the free library and the public collections to be deposited in the buildings. His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that the time has now arrived to give effect to this suggestion, and Mr. Thurston will therefore be requested to submit with the least possible delay the distribution of the accommodation which he would propose for the purposes indicated above. He should consult the Honorary Secretary of the Literary Society as to the space that will be required for its books. The question of an allowance to the Superintendent of the Museum for the additional duties he will be called upon to perform must be held over for future consideration. But meanwhile the Director of Public Instruction will be requested to favour Government with his views on the subject.

8. In regard to the evening classes referred to by the President in paragraph 5 of his letter, the Government fully agrees with the Director of Public Instruction that the situation of the new buildings is unsuitable for the purpose. Such classes to be a success should be held in the midst of the people who are to profit by them. Provided that the Council finds the requisite funds and does not deal with subjects which are already met by existing institutions, there can be no objection to its undertaking to give instruction in technical subjects. This, however, is a matter in which it would be wise to defer action pending the promulgation of the decision of Government as to the future scope of the work connected with the School of Arts. The disposal of the various minor matters referred to by the President of the Council and the Director of Public Instruction must similarly be held over.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Secretary, Victoria Technical Institute, Madras. 3
 „ Director of Public Instruction. 7
 „ Superintendent, Government Central Museum. 3
 „ Revenue Department. 7
 „ Public Works Department. 11
 „ Educational Department. /
 „ Honorary Secretary, Madras Literary Society. 3

Exd. A. Raitt.

ORDER—No. 872, Public, dated 19 October 1895.

In G.O., No. 975, Public, dated 22nd December 1894, the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute was requested to submit definite proposals as to the portions of the new buildings on the Pantheon Road, Madras, which it would require and the use to which each room would be put if made available. In his reply, No. 12, dated 25th February 1895, the President of the Council briefly states that it is proposed to reserve the upper floor for a museum and a library, while the rooms downstairs are required for class, meeting, office, record and store rooms. He then proceeds to remark on the solution of the “technical education problem” in this Presidency and the position which the Council proposes to adopt in reference thereto. It is to be regretted that, before despatching his communication to Government, the President did not take greater care to verify the statements which it contains. For instance, in paragraph 3 the President presumes that the Government will admit that it has not yet broken ground in regard to technical education, and from paragraph 8 it would appear that the Council is under the impression that no technical museum already exists in the Presidency Town. These statements and the whole position taken up by the Council have been fully and accurately dealt with by the Director of Public Instruction in his letter, No. 4833, dated 23rd April 1895, and the Government cannot do better than communicate it to the President and commend Dr. Duncan's remarks to the earnest consideration of the Council.

2. It appears to Government, from a perusal of the President's letter of the 25th February last, that the Council has conceived an idea of its position and duties in connection with technical education which cannot be regarded otherwise than as untenable. While the Government must in the ordinary course of things be held primarily responsible for the advancement of technical education and must necessarily provide by far the greater proportion of the funds without which the object in view cannot be achieved, it is obviously impossible to entrust to a body composed as the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute is the duty of supervising, directing and advising as to the steps which should be taken to promote the cause of technical education. The Government cannot at present make any further pronouncement of its views or pass any orders on the subject: these must necessarily be held over until G.O., No. 471, Educational, dated 7th June 1895. It is in possession of the recommendations of the committee which is at present considering the various questions connected with the re-organization of the School of Arts.

3. The Government regrets that it cannot accede to the request that the whole of the new buildings should be placed at the Council's disposal. The Council has lost sight of the fact that the primary object of the new buildings was a Free Library; the Technical Institute was a secondary consideration.

4. It has, in separate Proceedings, been decided that the Library of the Literary Society shall be accommodated in the new buildings, pending the decision of the question of providing for it elsewhere. There are also the following collections to be provided for therein:—

- (a) The Connemara Free Library, the nucleus of which consists of the books now lodged in the Museum library.
- (b) The Art and Ethnological sections of the Government Central Museum.
- (c) The Art collection at present in the School of Arts.
- (d) The collection of Arms now deposited in the Arsenal, Fort St. George.
- (e) The Oriental Manuscripts Library.

In regard to the last mentioned, it is observed that in paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 597, Public, dated 16th August 1894, it was remarked that if sufficient space for the manuscripts and special staff employed in connection with them could not be found in the new buildings it was possible that they might be accommodated in the Museum after the removal of the Art and Ethnological sections. No report from the Superintendent on the point has yet been received.

Again, to show that Government and those responsible for and engaged in technical education were alive to the need for keeping abreast with the times and that they were aware that there was no finality in educational work of this kind, I may allude to the thorough revision to which the technical scheme was subjected in 1892-93. A strong committee was then formed consisting largely of gentlemen who had been engaged in teaching and examining under the technical notification since 1886. These gentlemen, some of whom had served on the original committee, brought to bear on the syllabuses the knowledge they had gained in the actual working of the scheme during five or six years. It is not for me to assert that the scheme was improved, but improvement on the lines suggested by past experience was what the committee aimed at and what it fondly believed it had in some measure accomplished. Was this committee also labouring under a delusion? Most of the members of it are still happily amongst us, and they will doubtless be surprised to learn that their work had no relation at all to technical education and did not even break ground in that direction. Further, the names of the examiners who conduct the examinations under the technical notification are published twice a year in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Any one who takes the trouble to look through those lists will see that it contains the names of gentlemen acknowledged to be experts in those departments of science and art in which they examine. Are we, on the authority of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, to believe that gentlemen of their standing are either so ignorant that they mistake for technical education something which is not technical education, or so insincere that year after year they go through the farce of pretending to conduct technical examinations, knowing all the time that technical education does not exist in this Presidency? Again, what are we to say of the managers and teachers of the technical and industrial schools and colleges which prepare candidates for these examinations? Are they also so ignorant that they do not know that there is no such thing as technical education in this Presidency, or so immoral that they do not scruple to lend a hand in maintaining that huge imposture which pretends to be genuine technical and industrial training?

3. In what I have said above there is nothing new to Government or to any one who has really taken the trouble to follow the course of education in Madras since 1886. I think I have said enough to lead Government to pause before it admits, as the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute in a high *a priori* way assumes that it must, "that Government has not yet broken ground" in the direction of technical and industrial training. And I will venture now to add by way of conclusion or moral to this part of my letter, that the operations of the Victoria Technical Institute are doomed to failure unless the Council makes itself fully acquainted with what has already been done, recognizes the efforts of the past in a generous spirit, and sets itself to build upon the foundations already laid.

4. The Council of the Victoria Technical Institute is of opinion that its proper function is to supervise, direct and advise, but that for some time to come it can hardly avoid engaging to some extent directly in the duties of instruction. It was this latter consideration that led the Council to suggest to Government that it should take charge of the School of Arts, in view to converting it into an efficient and powerful industrial school. In my letter, No. 794, dated 28th January 1895, dealing with the re-organization of the School of Arts, I have stated my views on this proposal, and would only add here that, since Government is to remain burdened with the entire financial responsibility for the upkeep of the school, it is highly expedient that the Council should put Government in possession of the specific measures it proposes to take in order to effect this transformation of the School of Arts. The Council admits that its income will be fully absorbed by the salaries of the Curator of the museum and the clerical and other staff. Who then is to pay for the teachers which the council proposes to employ? If it is intended that Government is to pay the salaries of all the teachers employed by the Institute, it will introduce this novel feature into the administration, namely, that the teachers are to be paid by Government, but their work is to be directed and supervised by an independent body.

5. As for the building in Pantheon Road, I am not in possession of the views entertained by Government when it was first proposed to erect it. One thing, however, is clear, namely, that the situation is badly chosen, if it was intended to carry

on consecutive and systematic instruction in the building. It lies on the outskirts of the city removed alike from the great centres of the population and from the seats of such industries as Madras can boast of. The Council proposes to hold evening classes as well, but I venture to predict that evening classes will not be well attended if held in a place so far removed from the haunts of the industrial population as the institute building is. Equally clear it is to my mind that the building, admirable as it is for other purposes, is badly planned for purposes of instruction. The theatre is much too large for the small audiences or classes which the Institute could bring together. Even a highly popular course of lectures would fail to bring together a sufficient number to fill the theatre, and any course of lectures on a strictly technical subject would seldom be attended by a larger number than could be accommodated in the two front benches. The Council need not object to the theatre being retained by Government for other purposes as well, seeing that the room could not be continuously used (could in fact rarely be used) for any of the objects the Council has in view, and the maintenance of it in a state of good repair and in a cleanly condition would absorb a not inconsiderable part of the funds at the disposal of the Council. As for the other rooms down-stairs, which it is proposed to utilize as class rooms, I have merely to say that they are ill-adapted for purposes of instruction, and none of them could be adapted to the teaching of such a subject as tinctorial chemistry without considerable structural changes carried out at no small cost. The Council recognizes the necessity of making efforts for the improvement of the condition of Eurasian women and Muhammadans of both sexes. With regard to Eurasian women the Council wishes to arrange for instruction in laundry-work, cooking, domestic economy, dress-making and needle-work. It would also arrange to teach Muhammadan women needle-work, embroidery and the use of the sewing machine. I agree with the Council in recognizing the importance of these things; but if the teaching of these subjects is to be successful it is useless to attempt it in the palatial building on the Pantheon Road. Such instruction must be brought nearer to the homes of the people who are to benefit by it.

Three of the rooms up-stairs the Council proposes to occupy as a museum and the fourth as a library. The Council attaches considerable importance to the museum, which would, it is expected, become the parent of similar museums in the mofussil. Up-country museums have not hitherto been a success, and I doubt whether the Council would be able to infuse vitality into those which now exist in a moribund condition, much less to establish new ones. But this by the way. What I wish to invite attention to, in connection with the museum part of the Council's proposals, is the repetition by the Council of the same mistake as I have adverted to in the early part of this letter—viz., the assumption that a beginning has to be made in the establishment of a technical museum. Just as it expects Government to take for granted that there has been up till now no such thing as technical instruction, so it expects it to be taken for granted that there is at present no such thing as a technical museum in Madras. To say nothing of the small museums attached to the Christian College, the Presidency College, the Medical College, the Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture and the School of Arts—museums which are all more or less technical in their character—I would ask the Council whether it altogether forgot the existence of the splendid museum in the Pantheon Road, or, if it had this museum in mind, whether it means to deny to it the epithet "technical." There are sections of this museum which are in the strict sense technical—as technical as any museum which the Council could establish. If the Council were to establish a museum of its own it could not fail to overlap with certain sections of the present museum. It would, in my opinion, be a grave blunder to allow a second museum to be established in the same compound, the new one to arrogate to itself the title of "technical." The present museum is overcrowded, and unless space can be set apart for certain sections of it in the Institute building, Government will have to sanction large additions to the old building. Failing both these, Government will have to face the inevitable conclusion that the usefulness of the museum must for the future be curtailed. I cannot understand why there should be a moment's hesitation in appropriating the space down-stairs and up-stairs in the Institute building for the extension of the existing museum. The rooms, ill-adapted for teaching purposes, are admirably adapted for museum purposes and in

appropriating them in this way Government may rest assured that it is advancing the cause of technical and industrial education. This is also the opinion of the committee on the future management, &c., of the Museum, Connemara Library, and Technical Institute, two of the members of which were also members of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute. I make bold to say that the expansion of the museum under the present able Superintendent will do more to promote the interests of technical education than an attempt to hold classes for instruction as proposed by the Council. The Council may have a room for its library and in which to hold its meetings, and the theatre may be used for any courses of lectures which the council may inaugurate. The small theatre in the old museum building is also available for lectures. Beyond this I do not see that the Council can have any need for more accommodation.

6. I do not think that the firms mentioned in paragraph 11 of the Council's letter would be prepared to allow their workshops to be used as industrial schools for the training of stipendiary and other students sent by the Institute.

7. With much that the Council says regarding the importance of developing technical and industrial training I fully concur. I would further remark that Government and the department are fully alive to the importance of the subject and are moving as fast as the circumstances of the country and the resources at the disposal of the State will admit. It is idle to urge the Government of this Presidency to imitate the gigantic operations of Great Britain with its practically boundless wealth and resources.

8. I hope it will not be thought an impertinence on my part if I suggest that the Council might well reconsider its position, which is in several important particulars different from what it was when the Council was instituted in 1887. What are the means with which the Council proposes to effect, or assist in effecting, the educational reform which it has at heart? To effect a reform of this kind two things amongst others are absolutely essential—money in large amount and expert opinion. The Council has, on its own confession, no money whatever to spend on the teaching of technical and industrial subjects or on the inspection of institutions in which such instruction is given. Government is expected to provide the funds for those two purposes. It remains then for the Council to provide the necessary body of expert opinion, to furnish the intelligent and skilled knowledge and insight which shall constitute the moving and directing spirit of technical and industrial education. I can hardly believe that the Council is serious when it says that its main function is to supervise, direct and advise. I am aware that there may always be on the Council at least one man who is an expert in some branch of technical instruction, and who would consequently be able to give Government and the country the benefit of his special knowledge and skill. I am also aware that as long as the Council can retain at its head a gentleman of the ability and resource of its present President, it will not fail to furnish to all engaged in technical education advice both highly suggestive and stimulating. But this is a very different thing from the Council, consisting of busy men the majority of whom have only an amateurish acquaintance with the subject, setting itself up as the highest authority in the Presidency on the matter of technical and industrial training.

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., Director of Public Instruction,
to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 7th May 1895,
No. 5425.

In continuation of my letter, No. 4833, dated 23rd April 1895, I should have mentioned that a brief history of the Government Technical examinations will be found in the Calendar of the Commission for Government Examinations, pages 10–12, also in Mr. Sathianadhan's *History of Education in the Madras Presidency*, pages 254–63. The Council of the Victoria Technical Institute might well have perused these brief sketches and the connected papers before telling Government that it had not yet broken ground in the matter of technical education.

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 23rd April 1895, No. 4833.

I have the honour to submit the following remarks with reference to endorsement, No. 634, dated 22nd March 1895.

2. I must begin by entering my most emphatic protest against the assumption with which the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute sets out that the Government of Madras has not yet broken ground in the direction of technical education. Not the smallest attempt is made to prove a statement which, to any one having merely an ordinary acquaintance with the progress of education in this Presidency, must appear astounding. And yet such a statement surely requires that some attempt at least should be made to substantiate it. The Government, the Educational Department and the several Managers of private institutions have in recent years been under the impression that something was being done to promote technical education and the annual reports on public instruction have described the work done year by year. It seems to me to be incumbent on the Council to show that Government, the Educational Department and Managers of Technical and Industrial schools have been living during these years in a fool's paradise; that the impression that something was being done in the matter of technical education was a mere fantasy of the brain; and that the paragraphs devoted to this subject year by year in the Report on Public Instruction were nothing more than the airy imaginings of successive Directors of Public Instruction. In 1884 Mr. Grigg, at the request of Government, sketched the outlines of a scheme of scientific and technical education. This outline was followed by a detailed scheme, and in approving of it Government certainly believed that it was taking an important step in the direction of promoting other than purely literary education (see G.O., No. 377), dated 3rd June 1885. Are we now to believe, on the authority of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, that both Mr. Grigg and the Government of the day were under a complete delusion? Then came the Technical Education committee appointed by Government* in 1885, on Mr. Grigg's

* (Vide G.O., No. 540, Educational, dated 11th September 1885, also G.O., No. 198, Educational, dated 31st March 1886. recommendation, to draw up courses of instruction and standards of examination in scientific and technical subjects. It is, I know, the fashion to speak of the technical scheme of 1886 as a scheme of examination solely. But this opinion is due to the fact being overlooked that the syllabuses drawn up professed to lay down courses of instruction as well as standards of examination, and that the promulgation of the notification was accompanied by the strengthening and enlargement of existing institutions on the scientific, technical and industrial sides, and by the opening of schools and classes where such did not formerly exist. (See paragraph 222 of the Report on Public Instruction for the year 1886-87). I make bold to say that never before in this Presidency had there been called together such an able and influential body of experts, official and non-official, as were brought together to assist Mr. Grigg in drawing up the technical scheme. This committee, which began its sittings in September 1885, carefully considered every detail of every syllabus, its report being submitted to Government in February 1886 (see G.O., No. 198, Educational), dated 31st March 1886. Are we to be asked to take for granted, on the mere *ipse dixit* of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, that this large and representative body of experts knew nothing of technical education—that the experience they had acquired in the lecture-room, in the laboratory, in the workshop, in the factory, and in the field did not stand them in good stead when they met to assist Government in its earnest endeavours to promote industrial and technical education? Are we to be asked to take for granted that, in working this scheme from 1886 to 1892, and in believing that they were doing something to promote industrial and technical training and through it to advance the material well-being of the country, the Government and Educational department and the heads of technical and industrial institutions were labouring under a delusion, what they did not being technical and industrial education at all?

8

ORDER—No. 872, Public, dated 19 October 1895.

In G.O., No. 975, Public, dated 22nd December 1894, the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute was requested to submit definite proposals as to the portions of the new buildings on the Pantheon Road, Madras, which it would require and the use to which each room would be put if made available. In his reply, No. 12, dated 25th February 1895, the President of the Council briefly states that it is proposed to reserve the upper floor for a museum and a library, while the rooms downstairs are required for class, meeting, office, record and store rooms. He then proceeds to remark on the solution of the "technical education problem" in this Presidency and the position which the Council proposes to adopt in reference thereto. It is to be regretted that, before despatching his communication to Government, the President did not take greater care to verify the statements which it contains. For instance, in paragraph 3 the President presumes that the Government will admit that it has not yet broken ground in regard to technical education, and from paragraph 8 it would appear that the Council is under the impression that no technical museum already exists in the Presidency Town. These statements and the whole position taken up by the Council have been fully and accurately dealt with by the Director of Public Instruction in his letter, No. 4833, dated 23rd April 1895, and the Government cannot do better than communicate it to the President and commend Dr. Duncan's remarks to the earnest consideration of the Council.

2. It appears to Government, from a perusal of the President's letter of the 25th February last, that the Council has conceived an idea of its position and duties in connection with technical education which cannot be regarded otherwise than as untenable. While the Government must in the ordinary course of things be held primarily responsible for the advancement of technical education and must necessarily provide by far the greater proportion of the funds without which the object in view cannot be achieved, it is obviously impossible to entrust to a body composed as the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute is the duty of supervising, directing and advising as to the steps which should be taken to promote the cause of technical education. The Government cannot at present make any further pronouncement of its views or pass any orders on the subject: these must necessarily be held over until it is in possession of the recommendations of the committee which is at present considering the various questions connected with the re-organization of the School of Arts.

3. The Government regrets that it cannot accede to the request that the whole of the new buildings should be placed at the Council's disposal. The Council has lost sight of the fact that the primary object of the new buildings was a Free Library; the Technical Institute was a secondary consideration.

4. It has, in separate Proceedings, been decided that the Library of the Literary Society shall be accommodated in the new buildings, pending the decision of the question of providing for it elsewhere. No. , Public, dated September 1895.

There are also the following collections to be provided for therein:—

- (a) The Connemara Free Library, the nucleus of which consists of the books now lodged in the Museum library.
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In regard to the last mentioned, it is observed that in paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 597, Public, dated 16th August 1894, it was remarked that if sufficient space for the manuscripts and special staff employed in connection with them could not be found in the new buildings it was possible that they might be accommodated in the Museum after the removal of the Art and Ethnological sections. No report from the Superintendent on the point has yet been received.

11. Then, as to pure handicrafts, the railway workshops for smiths' work and carpentry; Messrs. P. Orr and Sons for metal-work and the manufacture of scientific instruments; Messrs. Moses and Co. for boots and shoes and harness; Messrs. Simpson and Co. for carriage building; and the School of Arts for carpentry, wood carving, tile making, pottery and metal-work, might be availed of as industrial schools for the training of stipendiary and other students.

12. The history of the original firm of Deschamps and Co. exemplifies the aptitude of local workmen in the construction of high-class furniture, for which there is a steady demand, not only within the Presidency, but also from far beyond its borders. It is a severe commentary on the existing want of systematic training that this industry is now extinct.

13. The persons in immediate charge of the industrial concerns alluded to above belong to the very class which produces similar articles in England, and one of the first fruits of extended instruction in such crafts would be the stoppage of the vast drain on the resources of India, caused by the source of supply being at present confined to the Store department of the India office, or private importation from Europe.

14. The same advantage would follow from obtaining the services of experts from Great Britain in order to put capitalists and employers of labour in the way of understanding the proper methods of tanning and preparing hides to be worked up into boots, shoes, bags and portmanteaus, harness and saddlery. At present there is a vast export of hides from Madras, which return loaded with the wages and profits of highly-paid foreigners for working them up. The same remark applies to the export of wool and of cotton, while the knowledge of the chemistry of the dye stuffs and the making of good paper remains locked up in the same quarter.

15. Finally, the Council regards the present condition of agricultural education with grave concern. It has to do with far the greatest industry in the country, and not until farm schools, museums and local exhibitions, have thoroughly impregnated the ryot with enlightened methods and the freshest scientific knowledge, communicated in a manner in which he will be able to assimilate and utilize them, can this branch of technical education be considered to have been placed on a basis befitting an industry on which the finances of the country are, so far as Madras is concerned, unfortunately increasingly dependent.

16. In the above compressed *resumé*, the Council has endeavoured to sketch a programme of the possibilities of technical education during the next few years. It feels that in doing so it has provided a syllabus of imperial work, and that, for a financially weak private body to attempt independent action, would be merely to court certain failure, and the discredit of a great and much needed educational and economic advance. The Council has endeavoured to confine itself to strictly practical lines and wants. If its scheme be considered ambitious, it can only see in such an opinion an overwhelming argument in favour of the direct intervention of Government for the fulfilment on the part of the State of a great duty.

17. If the Government should be pleased to approve of the views now laid before it, legislation, somewhat on the lines adopted in Great Britain, will, no doubt, be eventually unavoidable; but it does not appear to the Council that it is immediately essential. In addition to the usual allotment for the School of Arts, a grant of Rs. 20,000 towards the furnishing and equipment of the library and museum, the payment of stipends to pupils and salaries to teachers, and for grants-in-aid would probably suffice to make a commencement of real work in 1895-96. Detailed estimates would be submitted for sanction from time to time.

Endorsement No. 634, dated 14th March 1895.

Referred, through the Educational Department, for the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 23rd April 1895, No. 4833.

I have the honour to submit the following remarks with reference to endorsement, No. 634, dated 22nd March 1895.

2. I must begin by entering my most emphatic protest against the assumption with which the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute sets out that the Government of Madras has not yet broken ground in the direction of technical education. Not the smallest attempt is made to prove a statement which, to any one having merely an ordinary acquaintance with the progress of education in this Presidency, must appear astounding. And yet such a statement surely requires that some attempt at least should be made to substantiate it. The Government, the Educational Department and the several Managers of private institutions have in recent years been under the impression that something was being done to promote technical education and the annual reports on public instruction have described the work done year by year. It seems to me to be incumbent on the Council to show that Government, the Educational Department and Managers of Technical and Industrial schools have been living during these years in a fool's paradise; that the impression that something was being done in the matter of technical education was a mere fantasy of the brain; and that the paragraphs devoted to this subject year by year in the Report on Public Instruction were nothing more than the airy imaginings of successive Directors of Public Instruction. In 1884 Mr. Grigg, at the request of Government, sketched the outlines of a scheme of scientific and technical education. This outline was followed by a detailed scheme, and in approving of it Government certainly believed that it was taking an important step in the direction of promoting other than purely literary education (see G.O., No. 377), dated 3rd June 1885. Are we now to believe, on the authority of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, that both Mr. Grigg and the Government of the day were under a complete delusion? Then came the Technical Education committee appointed by Government* in 1885, on Mr. Grigg's recommendation, to draw up courses of instruction and standards of examination in scientific and technical subjects. It is,

* (Vide G.O., No. 540, Educational, dated 11th September 1885, also G.O., No. 198, Educational), dated 31st March 1886.

I know, the fashion to speak of the technical scheme of 1886 as a scheme of examination solely. But this opinion is due to the fact being overlooked that the syllabuses drawn up professed to lay down courses of instruction as well as standards of examination, and that the promulgation of the notification was accompanied by the strengthening and enlargement of existing institutions on the scientific, technical and industrial sides, and by the opening of schools and classes where such did not formerly exist. (See paragraph 222 of the Report on Public Instruction for the year 1886-87). I make bold to say that never before in this Presidency had there been called together such an able and influential body of experts, official and non-official, as were brought together to assist Mr. Grigg in drawing up the technical scheme. This committee, which began its sittings in September 1885, carefully considered every detail of every syllabus, its report being submitted to Government in February 1886 (see G.O., No. 198, Educational), dated 31st March 1886. Are we to be asked to take for granted, on the mere *ipse dixit* of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, that this large and representative body of experts knew nothing of technical education—that the experience they had acquired in the lecture-room, in the laboratory, in the workshop, in the factory, and in the field did not stand them in good stead when they met to assist Government in its earnest endeavours to promote industrial and technical education? Are we to be asked to take for granted that, in working this scheme from 1886 to 1892, and in believing that they were doing something to promote industrial and technical training and through it to advance the material well-being of the country, the Government and Educational department and the heads of technical and industrial institutions were labouring under a delusion, what they did not being technical and industrial education at all?

19. OCTOBER 1895, PUBLIC, No. 872

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. CROLE, President of the Council, Victoria Technical Institute, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 25th February 1895, No. 12.

As desired by Government in its order of 22nd December 1894, No. 975, Public, I have the honour to lay before it two tracings of the rooms in the Victoria Technical Institute. The entries in red ink show at a glance the uses to which the council would put the accommodation provided. Briefly stated, the upper floor is reserved for the museum and library, the rooms in the lower are allotted for meeting, office, record and store-rooms, while three class rooms and the lecture hall absorb the space downstairs.

2. The principle on which the Council has made the above allocation of the space available in the new buildings of the Technical Institute in the Pantheon road involves some consideration of the solution of the technical education problem in the Madras Presidency, and it likewise requires that some clear understanding with Government should be arrived at. The Council does not pretend to take any long views on a Latin subject of such importance and complexity, or to forestall developments which it would be hard to predict; but it is not impossible to lay down the proper sphere of duty belonging to the council of the Victoria Technical Institute for the present and in the immediate future. The present opportunity may, it is submitted, be not inappropriately taken by Government of advertising the Council, and through it the public, in respect of the attitude towards technical education, which Government purposes to assume in the Madras Presidency.

3. The object of, and necessity for, technical education, the field of its operations, the duties of Government and of local bodies in respect of it, and the manner in which funds are raised and administered have, in so far as Great Britain especially is concerned, been fully discussed in a speech delivered by the President in Pachaiyappa's Hall, which has since been printed in pamphlet form (copy enclosed) by the Trustees of that institution. The Council, therefore, in order to avoid repetition proposes to assume it as common ground that technical education is as much the special care of civilized Governments as the literary education of the people. It will likewise, the Council supposes, be admitted that Government has not yet broken ground in this direction in Madras.

4. The real question which the completion of the Victoria Technical Institute buildings in the Pantheon road has brought into prominence is in what manner it may appear desirable for Government to commence to discharge its responsibilities in this all important matter. Incidentally the decision will involve the future of this Council, for it is beyond dispute that, except as an instrument in carrying out the determinate policy of Government, a body of this character would, by itself, be absolutely powerless to cope with the gigantic task of bringing about an educational reform closely affecting thirty millions of human beings. The most that the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute can be expected to do,—and it is quite ready to strain every nerve for the due performance of that function—is to supervise, direct and advise. It might also do much in the way of bringing capital and labour in India into touch with the most improved methods of the day in other countries. As an auxiliary to the due performance of this duty, the establishment of an efficient and

representative museum containing specimens of raw and manufactured products and models of machines and appliances would be of immense utility in the way of disseminating new ideas, of indicating to the producer in what direction profitable markets may be found, and of placing the capitalist and the merchant in possession of facts as to the existence of products, skilled labour and industries, the development of which would enrich the country, and might profitably be exploited by themselves. In this connection the library of the institute, in the formation of which a substantial commencement has been made, must not be left out of account.

The salaries of the curator and the clerical and other staff will fully absorb the available income of the institute, which is at present about Rs. 4,500.

5. While, however, holding the opinion that, in theory, the proper functions of the institute would not, under normal conditions, permit it usefully to engage directly in the duties of instruction, the Council does not conceal from itself that, for some time to come, it can hardly avoid some work of this kind. It was this consideration which prompted it to suggest to Government that it should take charge of the Government School of Arts, in view to converting it into an efficient and powerful industrial school. It is more than possible, also, that it may be found advisable to impart instruction in subjects such as tinctorial chemistry, drawing, and so on, in evening classes. To this purpose the three class rooms and lecture hall downstairs will be devoted, and it is proposed also to open their use to private persons licensed by the Council to teach and to deliver lectures from time to time.

6. In this connection, the Council recognizes the necessity for making efforts for the improvement of the depressed condition of Eurasian women and of the Muhammadan community of both sexes. It seems desirable to arrange for the instruction of the former in laundry work, cooking, domestic economy, dress-making and needlework, so as to afford them the means of earning an honest and self-respectful livelihood. A project has also been mooted for amalgamating the Anjuman Mufid with the reformed Madrasa-i-Azam, if Government eventually carries out the proposed reforms in the latter institution. The Council anticipates being enabled, if the proposed amalgamation takes place, to take an active part in assisting the good work which the Anjuman has commenced in fostering industrial knowledge among Muhammadans. The condition of the female portion of that community is likewise most distressing, and systematic efforts ought to be made in order to teach these women needlework, embroidery which will sell, and the use of the sewing machine.

7. These may, in comparison with more ambitious departments of technical education, be considered humble walks of duty, but they are recognized as responsibilities in Great Britain, and the Council proposes that they be likewise accepted as such in Madras.

8. It may be anticipated that the establishment of a technical museum in Madras will lead to the formation of similar museums in the mufussil. One of the most useful and gratifying duties of the former would be to assist in the furnishing forth of the latter. For this purpose it would be necessary to maintain spare specimens of many of the exhibits for distribution to local museums. In this view the space reserved for the museum ought to be liberal, and that provided seems to be none too large.

9. In all attempts to map out the work of a technical institute, the distinction between industrial training or the teaching of handicrafts, and the higher or scientific instruction of the employers, and managers of labour, must never be lost sight of. The education of the two classes referred to may doubtless often overlap; and the more frequently it does so, the greater the success of the system will be. There is besides the provision of trained teachers, the importation of experts from England, and resort to the skilled English knowledge available in Madras—all of these ought to be provided or induced to enlist themselves in the service of technical education.

10. First, as regards the *quasi* literary species of it, the Trustees of Pachaiyappa's College have opened very successful evening classes, and the Council understands that there is a considerable demand for instruction in Surveying, Short-hand, Type-writing, Commercial Correspondence, Commercial Geography, and Book-keeping, to which Printing and Lithography may be added. This enterprise ought to be fostered.

There can be no objection to its undertaking to give instruction in technical subjects

by existing institutions. This however is a matter in which ~~no action~~ ^{it will be} ~~was to defer action~~ ^{pending} the promulgation of the decision of Govt. as to the future scope of ^{the} work ~~on~~ connected with the School of Arts. The disposal of the various minor matters referred to by the President of the Council and the D.P.I. must similarly be held over.

20/12

18/1/95

24/2/95

- Secy
- Shree V.T. Inst. Madras
- D.P. Instr.
- Supt. G.C. Museum
- Revenue Dept.
- P.W. Dept.
- Education Dept.
- Hon. Secy, Mad.
- Gov. Secy
- Revenue Secy

...one time has now arrived to give effect to this suggestion for an immediate adoption, and Mr. ^{Keefe} Thurston will be requested to submit with least possible delay the distribution of the accommodation which he would propose for the purposes indicated above. He should consult the Hon. Secretary of the Literary Society as to the space that will be required for its books. The question of an allowance to the Supt. of the Museum for the additional duties he will be called upon to perform must be held over for future consideration. But meanwhile ~~the~~ the D.P.I. will be requested to favour Govt. with his views on the ^{subject} ~~point~~.

8. In regard to the evening classes referred to by the President in para. 5 of his letter, the Govt. fully agrees with the D.P.I. that the situation of the new buildings is unsuitable for the purpose. Such classes to be a success should be held in the midst of the people who are to profit by them. ~~The Govt. however, does not~~ ~~take objection to the Council~~ ~~taking instruction subject to the~~ ~~provision that the Council~~ ~~shall be empowered to~~ the requisite funds and does not deal with the subjects which are already ^{met} ~~mentioned~~.

The Committee reported that he had received such information as to the building as to the disposal of the building was asked, so I think we must refer to the subject.

I think so too. 20/1/95
we are already committed.

W
Took
Very well
31/1/95

para. 10 of his letter recorded in G.O. No. 471^{Subst.} dated 7th June 1895, ~~which~~ that he approves the proposed transfer subject to the conditions that no articles are moved which are in ~~constant~~ constant requisition at the School of Arts ^{as models} ~~as~~ or otherwise. With advertance to item (d) it is observed that a selection of objects of interests ^{has} ~~have~~ been made by Mr. Thurston, and the Govt. of India has been addressed in reference to their transfer to the new buildings.

7. The Govt. is not in a position ^{unable} ~~to~~ to pass orders as to the actual distribution of the rooms in the new buildings.

in the absence of details of the space required for each of the purposes enumerated

above. In para. 6 of G.O. No. 597^{Sub} dated

16th August 1894, ~~the~~ the Govt. agreed generally in the observations in para. 21

of the report of the Committee recorded therein to the effect that the whole of the buildings should be in charge of an officer of some standing and position and

~~that~~ ~~as the most economical and convenient arrangement,~~ ~~the~~ ^{be entrusted with the duty} Supt. of Central Museum should ^{and also} have general

charge ~~of the Free~~ of the Free

Library and ^{the} ~~Public~~ ^{to be} collections deposited in the buildings. ^{He} ~~The~~ Govt. ^{in C. considers that} ~~approves of this~~ suggestion

G.O. dated 3-4-95. No. 416. R

(d) The collection of Arms now deposited in the Arsenal, Fort St. George.

(e) The Oriental Manuscripts Library
In regard to the last mentioned, it is observed that in para. 3 of G.O. 597, Public, dated 16th August 1894, it was remarked that ^{if} sufficient space for the Manuscripts and special staff employed in connection with them could not be found in the new buildings it ~~was~~ possible that they might be accommodated in the Museum after the removal of the Art and Ethnological sections. No report from the Supt. on the point has yet been received.

5. It will thus ~~be~~ be seen on the that the calls ~~for~~ available accommodation are already heavy, and at the present juncture the Government is not in a position to do more than ^{provide} ~~provide~~ space for the Council's Library in a room which could also be used for the meetings of the Council, and to grant permission to the Council to use the small theatre in ^{the} Central Museum for lectures, ^{being elephants} ~~the new theatre appears to be~~ ^{much} ~~too~~ too large for the purpose.

6. In regard to item (c) in para. 4 supra, the D.P.I. has stated in

The statement which it contains.

~~that his statements were based on~~
~~facts.~~ For instance, in para. 8 the
~~President himself~~

~~states~~ that the Govt. will
admit that it has not yet broken
ground in regard to technical education
and from para. 8 it would appear that
the Council ^{is} under the impression that
no technical museum already exists in
the Presidency Town. These statements

~~have~~ ^{and the whole periculum taken up by the Council}
~~been~~ ^{have} been ~~so~~ fully and accurately dealt

with by the D. P. I. in his letter
No. 4886, dated 28th April 1895, ^{and} ~~that~~

the Govt. cannot do better than com-
municate it to the President and ~~to~~
^{Dr Duncan's Remarks}
commend ^{to} the earnest consideration
of the Council ~~the information afford-~~
~~ed and the remarks made by Mr. Duncan~~
~~therein.~~

2. ^{It appears to Govt.}
~~from a personal~~ ^{the Govt. is constituted}
~~to observe that it appears from~~

President's letter of the 25th February
~~last~~ ¹⁸⁹⁵ that the Council has conceived
an idea of its position and ^{due} ~~more~~ in

connection with technical education
~~which it is impossible for it ever to~~
~~carry out. It is~~ ^{the} ~~not~~ ^{Committee}

~~to suppose that its functions should~~
~~be restricted to supervision, direc-~~
~~tion and advice while the whole of the~~
~~practical portion of the scheme and~~

While the Govt. must in the ordinary
course of things be held primarily responsible
for the advancement of technical
education and must necessarily provide
by far the greater proportion of the funds
without which the object in view cannot
be achieved, it is obviously impossible
to submit to a body composed as the
Council of the V J I in the

of supervising teaching & advising
as to the
steps which should be
taken to promote the cause of
technical education. The Govt.
cannot at present

G.O. dated 7-6-95. No. 471, Educ. I.

471 Sub. dt 26/95

... recorded in G.O. No.

~~the provision of the ... funds~~
~~... on the Govt. It is impossible for~~
~~the Govt. to make any further pronounce-~~
ment of its views or to pass any orders
on the subject ^{These must necessarily be held over} until it is in possession
of the recommendations of the ^{Committee} Council

which it is at present considering the
various questions connected with the
re-organization of the School of Arts.

3. The Govt. ^{regret that it cannot} ~~is quite unable~~
to ^{at} ~~concede~~ to the ~~Council~~ request that
the whole of the new buildings should
be placed at ^{the Council's} ~~its~~ disposal. The ~~Council~~
Council has lost sight of the fact that
the primary object of the new buildings
was ~~to be~~ a Free Library. The Technical
Institute was a secondary ~~as~~ considera-
tion.

4. It has, in a separate Proce-
been decided that the ^{library of} ~~books belonging~~
to the Literary Society ^{shall be} ~~should find a~~
^{accommodated} temporary habitation in the ^{new} buildings
pending ^{the decision of the question of providing} ~~the provision~~ ^{if elsewhere} for them of some
permanent accommodation. There are also
the following collections to be provided
for ^{therein} ~~in the new buildings~~

- (a) The Connemara Free Library ^{the nucleus}
^{of which consists of the books now lodged in the}
^{Museum Library}
- (b) The Art and Ethnological Sections
of the Govt. Central Museum.
- (c) The Art collection at present in the
School of Arts

(d)

*of supervising directing & advising
as to the
steps which should be
taken to promote the cause of
technical education. The Govt.
cannot at present*

G.O. dated 7-6-95 No. 471, Memo.

~~the provision of the requisite funds~~
~~on the Govt. It is impossible for~~
~~the Govt. to make any further pronounce-~~
ment of its views or to pass any orders
on the subject *: these must necessarily be held over*
until it is in possession
of the recommendations of the ~~Council~~ *Committee*

which ~~it~~ is at present considering the
various questions connected with the
re-organization of the School of Arts.

3. The Govt. ~~is quite unable~~ *regrets that it cannot*
to ~~concede~~ *ac* to the ~~Council's~~ request that
the whole of the new buildings should
be placed at ~~its~~ *the Council's* disposal. The ~~Council~~
Council has lost sight of the fact that
the primary object of the new buildings
was ~~to~~ a Free Library. The Technical
Institute was a secondary ~~as~~ considera-
tion.

4. It has, in a separate Pro-
been decided that the ~~books~~ *library of* belonging
to the Literary Society ~~should find a~~ *shall be*
~~temporary habitation in the buildings~~ *accommodated*
pending ~~the provision~~ *the decision of the question of* ~~for them of some~~ *if elsewhere*
permanent accommodation. There are also
the following collections to be provided
for ~~in the new buildings~~ *therein*

- (a) The Commemorative Free Library *the members of which consist of the books now lodged in the Museum Library*
- (b) The Art and Ethnological Sections of the Govt. Central Museum.
- (c) The Art collection at present in the School of Arts

(d)

The statements which it contains.

that his statements were based on
facts. For instance, in para. 8 the
~~Council~~ *President* ~~states~~ that the Govt. will
admit that it has not yet broken
ground in regard to technical education
and from para. 8 it would appear that
the Council ~~is~~ *is* under the impression that
no technical museum already exists in
the Presidency Town. These statements
~~have~~ *have* been ~~so~~ fully and accurately dealt
with by the D. P. I. in his letter
No. 4886, dated 28th April 1895, ~~that~~ *and*
the Govt. cannot do better than com-
municate it to the President and ~~to~~ *Dr Duncan*
comm~~and~~ *and* to the earnest consideration
of the Council ~~the information afford-~~
~~ed and the remarks made by Mr. Duncan~~
~~therein.~~

2. *It appears to Govt.*
~~to observe that it appears from the~~ *from a personal of*
President's letter of the 25th February
last ~~1895~~ that the Council has conceived
an idea of its position and ~~work~~ *due* in
connection with technical education
which ~~it is impossible for it ever to~~ *cannot be regarded otherwise than as feasible.*
~~carry out. It is the duty of the Council~~
~~to suppose that its functions should~~
~~be restricted to supervision, direc-~~
~~tion and advice while the whole of the~~
~~practical portion of the scheme and~~

and the whole portion taken up by the Council
While the Govt. must in the ordinary
course of things be held primarily responsible
for the advancement of technical
education and must necessarily provide
by far the greater proportion of the funds
without which the object in view cannot
be achieved, it is obviously impossible
to submit to a body composed as the
Council of the V J I to the

"in the Ministry or the master of
 technical & industrial training"
 nearly the whole ground covered by
 Mr. Cole's programme will be
 covered by the Committee appointed
 to consider the future of the School
 of Arts and it is submitted, that it is
 far better to let that institution,
 when reorganized, play the part which
 Mr. Cole maps out for the Technical
 Council, assisted by the Educational
 Department, the existing colleges of
 engineering, agriculture &c & the
 system of technical examinations, than
 to permit the Council to "superimpose
 direct & direct" as to the march of
 technical ^{instruction} ~~institutions~~, with the aid
 of funds provided by Govt.

The Council may do good by giving
 scholarships, & occasional lectures
 & by gathering together a good technical
 library, but ~~has not~~, which is ^{about} ~~the~~
 its present funds permit, but its
 past history ^{and present attitude} ~~and~~ seems to preclude
 any more exalted programme of work.

to
 3.9.95

The report of the Council is now playing
 to the gallery. It does not contain a
 single historical of any value. It says
 have been way the building will be
 worked as well the money and nothing
 will come of it. 3.9.95

Technical Education
 and the
 Victoria Technical Institute
 FOR ORDERS.

H. M. Cole.

Note for Co.

This is the "Public" paper which
 Co. handed over to me early in May.
 The delay in noting out is due partly
 to the fact that I knew nothing of the previous
 papers, & partly to the fact that Mr. Cole's
 that the matter should be over till after
 a decision had been arrived at as to
 the Literary Society (1888 90 of 24-6-95
 No. 319.

Note for C.A.

This note touches on the function
 of "Public". Please add or correct
 where necessary, as I know nothing
 of papers other than those in the file
 3.9.95

In G.O. ¹ dated 22nd December 1895, (No. 975, Public,) the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute ^{has} ~~were~~ requested to submit definite proposals as to the portions of the new buildings on the Pantheon Road, Madras, which it would require and the use to which each room ^{was} ~~to~~ be put if made available. In his reply, No. 12, dated 25th February 1895, the President of the Council briefly states that it is proposed to reserve the upper floor for a museum and a library, while the rooms downstairs are required for class, meeting, office, record and store-rooms. He then proceeds to remark on the solution of the "technical education problem" in the Presidency and the position which the Council proposes to adopt in reference thereto. It is to be regretted that before despatching his communication to Govt. the President ^{has been unable to verify} ~~did not take steps to ascertain~~

4-8-5

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

* I had a long talk with Mr. On a hot inquiry on this subject and they will certainly not take pupils unless very highly paid for it. They have their own people and they are not at all disposed to teach more than there are necessary to teach their own needs. I have not spoken to Mr. Dine on this subject but I have had little doubt from what he has said to me about the competition of native weavers that he will have nothing to do with a scheme which means in the end lead to their being heavy losers.

* This is a funny way of speaking of them. The large majority of the Council is absolutely ignorant of any knowledge of the subject in question or otherwise. * Is it not so, Mr. C.?

of weaving, paper making etc. The proposed interference with free schools & agriculture has been condemned; it is improbable that Messrs. Dine & Son, Simpson & Co. will take, depending apprentices. * foundation stone of Prof. Dine with ~~the~~ ^{the} whole edifice. All the Council's money is required for its staff & food is to supply it with the funds with which its programme is to be carried out without having any control over the way in which the money is to be spent.

10. The concluding sentence of Dr. Dine's letter forcibly points out the absurdity of the Council, consisting of ~~a number~~ of busy men the majority of whom have only an amateurish acquaintance with the subject, setting itself up as the highest authority

the Council might appropriately form a committee to supervise the School of Arts. The has never been suggested to Dr. Dine, I believe; it is not improbable that as D.P. he would object to a system of local control over the institution. Subhead (iii) proposes instruction in "technical chemistry, drawing & so on" Drawing is already amply provided for, technical chemistry would probably require a laboratory & for this the Council would ask Govt. to supply the funds. Subheads (iii) & (iv) are very indefinite. The instruction of Eurasian women in laundry work & cooking, if at all practicable, would require special rooms & appliances, which Govt. would have to supply. It is not stated how the Council proposes to "foster industrial knowledge" among Mahomedans, or to teach Eurasian Mahomedan women domestic economy, dress-making & needle-work. The Friends need workshop & existing girls schools already provide ^{for} instruction in such subjects. In position to VIII & practically all depend on help from Govt.; which would have to pay for the trained teachers. English experts whom it is proposed to employ in order to further the industrial

We need more so orders are in a few days we get the Committee's report. 25

FOR ORDERS.

* And a teacher who as it is a very special subject would have to be imported and would expect high pay.

* Only I think as regards needle work and perhaps in schools the theory of domestic economy but not its practice. There is no alternative unless the Govt. are prepared to take it up. 26

No we give an order to keep up. 27

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

negatives

Proposition no IV is little more than
a "pious opinion"

Proposition no V is not open to objection
in so far as it recommends the establish-
ment of a technical library. The absurdity of
starting a separate technical museum
has been pointed out by Dr. Duncan.

Proposition no VI, that the Council should
undertake instruction may perhaps be
accepted - subject to the limitation that
it finds the funds necessary & does not
give instruction in subjects already provided
for by other existing institutions.

Proposition no VII & its various sub-
heads call for few remarks. Sub-head
no (i) that the Council should undertake
the management of the School of Art
has already been practically negatived
but the Hon. Mr. Ellis considered that

A room must be given for the
Tech Library. They seem to have
got something in the way of a
museum already: what is it?

Is
it known
in Public?

Approved
by

to which will probably
limit instruction to
occasional paid lectures

20

32
H. Overton
Battersea
in 70. 77 6. 95
marked

offerors of the proposed transfer subject
to the condition that no articles are trans-
ferred which are constantly required for
the purposes of the school of Arts - as
models or otherwise.

With reference to (iii) above, Mr. Thurston
has been asked on 20. 7. 10 Oct 1894
No. 75 & Public. to make a list of the
objects of interest in the Arsenal
Museum which it is proposed to trans-
fer.

9. It will be necessary to pass orders on
page 21 of the Committee's report on
20. 7. 16. 8. 94 No. 587 which suggests
that the library & Institute should be
under the general charge of the
Superintendent of the Central Museum, with
some increase in pay & the additional
title of "Principal Librarian of the
"Consemmara Free Library".

In offering the Technical Institute
Council room for its library, I think
perhaps he stated that the library
must be open to the public as
suggested on page 20 of the Committee's
report

It now remains to discuss Mr.
Croft's programme of technical
education

Proposition no III has already been

the Trustees of this fund, propose
to take under their own management
the direction of the whole of the Technical
Education in Madras. The D. P. I. shows clearly
that this is absurd & impracticable.
If the Govt. can be induced to utilize these
buildings to the full in aid of Tech. Ed.
(insofar as this is possible, the Govt. on the
FOR ORDERS.

School of Arts will help us to decide, it seems

to me that we must leave the Council to
spend their money on the Tech. Library,
or dole it out in honoraria to lecturers
so many per annum. Beyond this, they
cannot go. Meanwhile, as I have already

* please see para 60 - 61 of the
16. 8. 94 the conduct of the
Council in the matter of the
note in the 2. 5. 94

I think the fact under his charge
as once. I am doubtful whether
the amount of pay paid to him. Perhaps
it would be better to cut out the
D. P. I. before deciding about this

stated. I think we must hasten the
opening of the Consemmara library to the
public.

3 sep
We must say nothing about this
now. The Technical Inst.
Council want to keep it
separate & that will not
do any harm.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

The fact is that as far as Technical Education is concerned, the buildings in the Pantheon Road area paid - & the Council are merely a drag on the coach wh. is being driven by the D.P.T. in the direction of Tech. Ed.
 It appears to me that when the jubilee fireworks were being let off, the current of air thereby displaced got into the heads of certain people at the time - & they ran away with the idea that to erect a certain magnificent building as a central temple for the worshippers of the Technical Ed. culte would be a way of showing off their loyalty to the throne. The idea once started took hold of the public, & they erected a building without the slightest idea why they were erecting it, and put off the consideration of how it sh^d be made use of to the remote future. But we, as inheritors of the future are called upon to decide what sh^d be done with rooms & theatres etc. constructed on no plan or with any settled or definite purpose. We ask the Council to apportion out the rooms to any special purpose, and they answer us by vague generalities and bombastic ideas - supported by glaring inaccuracies. - No scheme whatever is elaborated, and we have not advanced a step in the direction of properly utilizing these buildings. At something will have to be done, but whatever is done must be under the control of Govt. Of course it must be the direction of Tech. Ed. One difficulty is the small yearly income of the Govt. Council. That is insignificant.

- (i) the Art and Ethnological sections of the Govt Central Museum
 - (ii) the art collection now at the School of Art
 - (iii) the collection of arms now in the Fort Arsenal.
 - (iv) the Cochin Free Library
 - (v) ~~a combined library~~
 the Technical Council's library (in a room also to be used for the meetings of the Council)
- The lecture theatre which is available for lectures in science, art, & industries, engineering, dramatic performances for charitable purposes, & exhibitions. - The small theatre in the Museum sh^d also be available for technical lectures.
- As regards (ii) above, the D.P.T. in reply to para 5 of L.O. 2716 dated 28.4.24 states (see p. 10 of the letter and L.O. 277 dated 12.5.25 No. 271 Col) that the

too large for any audience which would
 be likely to attend technical lectures.
 He therefore concludes with the
 expression of his opinion that the
 Council cannot properly use more
 than one room in which to place its
 library & hold its meetings, supplemented
 by permission to use the small theatre
 in the old museum building for any
 course of lectures which it may inaugurate.
 If this view, which is certainly not
 unreasonable is accepted, it will
 be possible to pass orders at once on
 the subject of the matters under con-
 sideration, viz: the distribution of
 the accommodation in the new buildings.
 For there appears no reason why
 the recommendation of the Committee
 has report was disposed of in R.C.
 16 August 1894 No 597 Public, should
 be accepted; ~~the~~ subject to
 be precise definite of the space to
 be allotted to the Literary Society.
 A modification as is necessitated
 the decision to build separate
 accommodation for the Literary
 Society.

The effect of this will be that the
 block of buildings will be used

FOR ORDERS.

X This is excellently adapted for the purpose
 & will hold a far larger class than
 is ever likely to attend any technical
 lectures.

Yes, but has it not been ordered
 that this Oriental MSS is to go
 down?

25

* P.O. 2724-6-95 No 579 Pub.

Note
 The Council has not yet been decided
 that the subject of replies are decided.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

Yes, it is contrary to our experience
to expect that "museums" can
be established in the hospitals
25

X This is undoubtedly the
case.

I think the D.P. is right. Evening classes
such as the Crocker program must be
situated in the midst of the
people who are to profit by them.

Arts, & on a larger scale at
the Museum in the Pantheon Road.
It is therefore for better policy to
aid existing museums than to
endeavour to start a fresh one. Further,
as the "Museum" is overcrowded already,
it is obviously desirable to house
portions of it in the Technical Institute
which is admirably situated for the
purpose, rather than to go to the expense of
erecting new buildings.
7. With reference to the proposals to
start evening classes in the "Art" rooms
of the Institute (VII (iii)) the D.P.
points out, firstly, that the building
is too far away from the haunts of
the industrial population, secondly
that the smaller rooms are badly placed
for the purposes of instruction & thirdly
that the lecture hall (Theatre) is far

from capital & labour in India in
which with the most improved methods

emphatic contradiction of Mr. Goble's
assumption that "Govt. has not yet
broken ground" in the direction
of technical education in Madras.
It is hardly necessary to go into
detail in order to ~~convince~~ ^{show} how
unwarranted the assumption is.

A brief account of what Govt. has
done will be found at pp. 254 to
255 of Mr. Sathianathan's History
of Education in the Madras Presidency.
The establishment of technical examinations,
the grant of scholarships in connection with
them, the work done at the College of
Engineering, the Saidapet College, the
School of Arts, & the grant of ^{to more largely in the form of} ^{of in technical} ^{to} private industrial schools, are familiar
instances of the assistance which
has been afforded to the advance of
technical education by Govt.

With reference to point ^{VI} ~~V~~ the
D.P. shows that Mr. Goble has made
the fundamental mistake of
starting on the assumption that a beginning
has to be made in the establishment of
a technical museum. He points out that
such museums already exist in the
Christian College.

FOR ORDERS.

Technical Education is with the approval of Govt
to be carried on.

Quicker so. Work is wanted in
improvement & extension of existing scheme

[G.
25.]
800-8-7-95.

DEPARTMENT.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

And if it opens up an area
do so after consulting responsible
officers & retaining control.

25

which is already spending quite a
much as it can well afford on education.
Contention no. III has also been
rejected on the ground that the Council
has no claim to interfere with the
management of farm schools or other
local institutions.

4. Mr. Croker's letter was referred to
Dr. Duncan "for remarks"; - it is to be
noted that the reference did not ask
him to "elaborate a detailed scheme
in consultation with Mr. Croker" as
desired by Mr. E. The Govt. ~~was~~ but
from the views which Dr. Duncan
expresses it is tolerably evident that
no modus vivendi between him &
Mr. Croker would have been arrived at
if reference desired by Mr. E. had

king capital & labour in India in
touch with the most improved methods
of industry in ^{other} countries.
This object will be served by establishing
a representative industrial museum and
a good technical library.
II. Though instruction is not proper in
speaking the only of the institute, (1)
is necessary to set an example for
others by undertaking work of "free
kind."

III. The Council therefore proposes:
(i) to take the school of Arts and
management.
(ii) to impart instruction in "high
"such as historical chemistry and
"and so on" in evening classes
held in the lecture hall with free
access to the grounds which would
be available for use as a
lecture hall, on license to, for
to "arrange for the visit of
Persian bones in the
looking, domestic work
making & needlework
in the event of the people
from Rajawade Prof. J. S.
Zhadra - 1 - again to visit
battering industrial houses
in the morning

FOR ORDERS.

* This will cost Rs. 100.

I don't know what the proposal
about the School of Arts is
definitive. The subject of the
organizing it is a very different
matter. The President does not
give any indication of the way
in which he will improve it.

25

* Note

It is not probable that the
of the buildings will be allowed
to the Literary Society.
* I don't think that Mr. Croker's letter
include the room intended for the
Commercial Library though the many
have an eye on the to us do the
two ends.

25 on paper

to be able to take a better
to be reported that the Council has
discussed how the purposes to carry
out the scheme.

1/15/26
The reference issued a
fortnight before Mr. E.
and was written

I W
on
at
for

* I should certainly say that
was not the slightest chance
of any modus vivendi. Dr.
Duncan has made no mention
of it. That is insignificant
with taking into

x They will not go far.

x They will not go far.

4 I don't know what the proposal
about the School of Art is
definitive. The subject of the
organizing it is very difficult
matter. The M^{rs} don't does not
give any indication of the way
we will be used in it.

* Note

* Note
It is now probable that one of the small rooms with an opening to the Library will be used.
* I don't think that Mr. Carter wishes to include the room intended for the Commemorative Library though the many have agreed on the larger of the two rooms.

diff will fully absorb the available income'. It therefore by way of comment asks Govt.

9) I had over the school of the
with its usual allotment

(ii) to grant a sum of Rs 20,000⁷ for 1895-96 to be devoted towards "furnishing and equipping the library & museum, paying stipends to pupils, salaries to teachers and grants-in-aid"

2. The above are the "Definite proposals" which were called for by Govt. It will be seen that there is very little which is not indefinite except, the proposal to monopolize all the 'molding', to take over the School of Arts, its allotment plus a sum of Rs. 1000 to be provided by Govt.

H. H. : have already perused Mr.
G. : proposals & the Hon. Mr. Gosse
has negatived proposals I & II
enumerated above on the grounds that
large portions of the building, he
can pledge for the use of the literary
club; & the Free Library, & that the
Local Council has not sufficient

be able presentable information
is it is a very great deal
it is to be regretted that the Committee has
not mentioned how the purposes to carry
out this measure

M.L.
W.

7 Apr.

DEPARTMENT.

[G.]
25.
900-8-3-95.

We have already decided in our own minds that the proper way to foster technical education in this country is to support the existing Board of Arts. Let us await the report of the Council which is considering how this may best be done.

Dr. Dunsen is away at the latter a complete "focal" to Mr. Coker. Very well - but why should there be any further delay? RDERS. 30/8/95

about the Public Library: we have agreed to provide elsewhere for the Literary Society. The public one might go ahead. 28/8

- VIII. Other important objects of the Institute will be to encourage technical Education
- (i) by providing trained teachers & importing experts from England
 - (ii) by fostering the teaching of shorthand, typewriting, commercial subjects &c at Pachayappa's college
 - (iii) by training stipendiary and other students at our schools, Sanjivani &c the School of Arts & elsewhere various handicrafts
 - (iv) by procuring expert instruction in weaving, paper-making & dyeing
 - (v) by starting farm schools, agricultural museums & exhibitions.

IX. As to the funds with which to effect these reforms are to be effected the

matter. It is one with which we must deal with through our own representative officers after full consultation with them - not giving money by order of a Council which is an independent body, it consists of men amateurs & in other directions, and who does not know anything of what has been already done in this direction so as to be able to build on foundations already laid & improve operations which have already commenced.

* For whom Govt. is to pay. Govt. has not had a helping hand on the whole in this respect. The workman class would have much to be thankful for the Govt. would be very busy.

* How? What need to foster? Any good work handwork is a pleasure to do, so does a good type worker.

* These firms will not take them: make my own market on.

* This all means money & a good deal too. The Govt. Training Fund started with 10 lakhs & is now 15 lakhs. As for paper making it can never compete with the mills in Bengal: if the Govt. had been worth anything here it would have been started long ago. As for dyeing where does the Council intend to teach this and to try and teach European methods will be successful in the future.

bring capital & labour in India in touch with the most improved methods of industry in other countries. This object will be served by establishing a representative industrial museum & a good technical library.

VI. Though instruction is not properly speaking the duty of the institute, yet it is necessary to set an example at the outset by undertaking work of the kind.

- VI. The Council therefore proposes.
- (i) to take the School of Arts under its management.
 - (ii) to impart instruction in "subjects" such as technical chemistry, drawing, and so on in evening classes to be held in the lecture hall and three dormitories on the grounds which will be available for use as a private lecture hall, on license by the Council to "arrange for the instruction" of Sanskrit women in laundry work, book binding, domestic economy, dress-making & needlework.
 - (iii) in the event of the proposed amalgamation of the Rajawade Museum with the Rajawade Museum to "assist in gathering industrial knowledge from the various sources."

* And then they would never do.

FOR ORDERS.

* Dr. Dunsen apparently deals with this, his grounds for rejecting the technical museum scheme are ample. As for a technical museum in Madras leading to the institution of similar institutions up country the idea is rubbish. In the first place local bodies have not the money and the public would not contribute to the second museum of this sort would have to be started & worked by some one with technical knowledge. There is no one of this description to be found up country. To give a conclusion of the idea which marks up country as a technical museum should contain a mention that when one was started at Coimbatore one of the first of the first thing put into it were china figures of large size & a dog & a deer & a deer at large cost. 12.

* Where is the room; where the teacher; what is the use of it when learned. They have ample shops in their own countries & know well how to use them. They have been utterly spoiled by the introduction of the Indian European style. As for drawing: if the Committee had read the book by Dr. D. & Educational Reports they would have found that it had been provided for almost all houses.

What is the laundry to be? Are there any English washerwomen to be imported or do instruction to be imparted by a Native: where is the cost to be paid; certainly not out here as far as my experience goes. So too with dressmaking: any dress maker with her skills would make more on her own account than as a teacher. The whole thing is very pretty on paper but that's all.

* This is a very good scheme and 7 Apr.

bring capital & labour in India in
touch with the most improved methods
of industry in ^{other} countries

I. This object will be served by establishing
a representative industrial museum &
a good technical library.

II. Though instruction is not properly
speaking the duty of the institute, yet it
is necessary to set an example at the
outset by undertaking work of the
kind.

III. The Council therefore proposes.

(i) to take the school of Arts under its
management.

(ii) to impart instruction in "subjects
such as ^{*}historical chemistry, drawing

"and so on" in evening classes to be
held in the lecture hall and three
down on the ground ^{floor} which will also

be available for use as a private
lecture hall, or library by the Council
to "arrange for the instruction" of

Arasian women in laundry work
book binding, domestic economy, dress-
making & needlework

in the event of the proposed amalgamation
of the Arasian Institute with the Arasian
Institute - i.e. to assist in
battering industrial knowledge among
the masses

* But then they would
never do.

FOR ORDERS.

* ^{Dr. Dutt} Dr. Dutt deals with this; his grounds
for rejecting the technical museum
scheme are ample. As for a technical
museum in Madras leading to the
institution of similar institutions
up country the idea is rubbish. As
the first place local bodies have not
the money and the public would not
contribute it in the second museum
of this sort would have to be started
& worked by some one with technical
knowledge. There is no one of this description
in the present state of country. To give a
description of the idea which meets up
country as to what a museum should contain
I may mention that when one was
started - I think at Coimbatore one of the
first of the first thing put into it
were china figures of large size of a dog
& deer & mounted on large cart from the
Museum.

* Where is the room; where the teacher;
what is the use of it when learned. Men
have ample days in their own countries
& know well how to use them. They
have been utterly spoiled by the introduction
of the idea of European authors days. As
for drawing: if the Committee had
read the much L. D. Educational
reports they would have found that
it had been provided for almost all
countries.

Where is the laundry to be? Are there
so many English washerwomen to be
imported or do we intend to be
imported by a Native: where is
the cost to be found; certainly
not out here as far as my experience
goes. So too with dressmaking: any
dress maker worth his salt would
make much more on her own account
than as a teacher.

The whole thing is very pretty on paper
but that's all.

* This is a ... of ... and

7 Apr.

FOR ORDERS.

IV. The main aspect will be

C. No.

Much as I appreciate the
importance of education, and
as such, I look extremely at the
educational field, but I don't think
I can do much to help the
cause. It has hitherto
produced no results with
respect to entrusting it with
public money, & it can do nothing
without that help except grant
scholarships, & is it doing more.
The best that can be done is to
do it. It is not in our power

H
13/3

This should certainly go to the D. P. T.
who should be asked to elaborate
some scheme in detail. He will
have some difficulty in doing so
from Mr. Gole's very vague mem.
but perhaps if he puts himself
into communication with that
gen. Zinnaw, he might extract more
from him than we have been able
to do. I do not expect much from
teaching Eurasian women how to
wash clothes - for instance - but
if we had something definite to
start with, we might do some good
eventually - even if our first steps
only show us w^h to avoid.
Personally I am very doubtful how
to begin - & the Council themselves
have not done much to enlighten

ml. W
7 Apr.

From

The President, Victoria Technical Institute.

Dated 25th February 75

FOR ORDERS.

LD

9/3/95

I have no idea on this subject except that before ^{EO} moving forward in such on definite proposals. That as the matter is an educational one, I don't understand why it has been sent to me first. I don't understand why a paper opening up consideration, schemes of such magnitude has been sent into Circⁿ unaccompanied by a note dealing with it in its various aspects.

AS
11/3/95

There certainly on part we have
been a note indicating an
what points orders are wanted &
what for ~~that~~ information is
required before orders can be passed.

Mr. Crook seems, so far as I can understand the plans to wish to appropriate the whole of the building, and this is in accordance with part 8 of his former letter where he assumes that the Building is specially designed for the Technical Institute, whereas this was only the secondary object of the building. The primary object was the provision of a Free Library. Mr. Crook wants to use the Building

(1) for the establishment of
a library (not a free library)

* & Museum for the Institute &
(2) for improving instruction in
"bacterial chemistry" & in
evening classes for women as well
as men.

It is obvious that this cannot be allowed with full extent inasmuch as Govt is prohibited from an indefinite (but a large) part of the building to the Latent ray Society.

[illegible]

From,
The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

To
The Honble the Chief Secretary to
Government.
Fort St. George.



Transferred to the
Public Department

By
Honble David M.
of Under Secy

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras, 7 May 1895.

No. 5425

From

THE HONORABLE MR. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc.,

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Madras,

To

THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

FORT ST. GEORGE.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter no. 4833, dated 23rd April 1895,
I should have inclosed that a brief history of the Government
Technical examinations will be found in the Calendar of
the Commission for Government Examinations, pages 10-12,
also in Mr. Sathiyadhy's History of Education in the
Madras Presidency, parts 4-63. The Council of the
Victoria Technical ^{pages 23} might well have perused
these brief sketches and the connected papers before
Government the ^{present} ~~subject~~ ^{subject} ~~discussed~~ ^{discussed} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ
in the matter of Technical Education.

new one to arrogate to itself the title of "technical." The present museum is overcrowded, and unless space can be set apart for certain sections of it in the Institute building, Government will have to sanction large additions to the old building. Failing both these, Government will have to face the inevitable conclusion that the usefulness of the museum must for the future be curtailed. I cannot understand why there should be a moment's hesitation in appropriating the space down-stairs and up-stairs in the Institute building for the extension of the existing museum. The rooms, ill-adapted for teaching purposes, are admirably adapted for museum purposes and in appropriating them in this way Government may rest assured that it is advancing the cause of technical and industrial education. This is also the opinion of the committee on the future management, &c., of the Museum, Connemara Library, and Technical Institute, two of the members of which were also members of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute. I make bold to say that the expansion of the museum under the present able Superintendent will do more to promote the interests of technical education than an attempt to hold classes for instruction as proposed by the Council. The Council may have a room for its library and in which to hold its meetings, and the theatre may be used for any courses of lectures which the council may inaugurate. The small theatre in the old museum building is also available for lectures. Beyond this I do not see that the Council can have any need for more accommodation.

6. I do not think that the firms mentioned in paragraph 11 of the Council's letter would be prepared to allow their workshops to be used as industrial schools for the training of stipendiary and other students sent by the Institute.

7. With much that the Council says regarding the importance of developing technical and industrial training I fully concur. I would further remark that Government and the department are fully alive to the importance of the subject and are moving as fast as the circumstances of the country and the resources at the disposal of the State will admit. It is idle to urge the Government of this Presidency to imitate the gigantic operations of Great Britain with its practically boundless wealth and resources.

8. I hope it will not be thought an impertinence on my part if I suggest that the Council might well reconsider its position, which is in several important particulars different from what it was when the Council was instituted in 1887. What are the means with which the Council proposes to effect, or assist in effecting, the educational reform which it has at heart? To effect a reform of this kind two things amongst others are absolutely essential—money in large amount and expert opinion. The Council has, on its own confession, no money whatever to spend on the teaching of technical and industrial subjects or on the inspection of institutions in which such instruction is given. Government is expected to provide the funds for those two purposes. It remains then for the Council to provide the necessary body of expert opinion, to furnish the intelligent and skilled knowledge and insight which shall constitute the moving and directing spirit of technical and industrial education. I can hardly believe that the Council is serious when it says that its main function is to supervise, direct and advise. I am aware that there may always be on the Council at least one man who is an expert in some branch of technical instruction, and who would consequently be able to give Government and the country the benefit of his special knowledge and skill. I am also aware that as long as the Council can retain at its head a gentleman of the ability and resource of its present President, it will not fail to furnish to all engaged in technical education advice both highly suggestive and stimulating. But this is a very different thing from the Council, consisting of busy men the majority of whom have only an amateurish acquaintance with the subject, setting itself up as the highest authority in the Presidency on the matter of technical and industrial training.

the teachers which the council proposes to employ? If it is intended that Government is to pay the salaries of all the teachers employed by the Institute, it will introduce this novel feature into the administration, namely, that the teachers are to be paid by Government, but their work is to be directed and supervised by an independent body.

5. As for the building in Pantheon Road, I am not in possession of the views entertained by Government when it was first proposed to erect it. One thing, however, is clear, namely, that the situation is badly chosen, if it was intended to carry on consecutive and systematic instruction in the building. It lies on the outskirts of the city removed alike from the great centres of the population and from the seats of such industries as Madras can boast of. The Council proposes to hold evening classes as well, but I venture to predict that evening classes will not be well attended if held in a place so far removed from the haunts of the industrial population as the institute building is. Equally clear it is to my mind that the building, admirable as it is for other purposes, is badly planned for purposes of instruction. The theatre is much too large for the small audiences or classes which the Institute could bring together. Even a highly popular course of lectures would fail to bring together a sufficient number to fill the theatre, and any course of lectures on a strictly technical subject would seldom be attended by a larger number than could be accommodated in the two front benches. The Council need not object to the theatre being retained by Government for other purposes as well, seeing that the room could not be continuously used (could in fact rarely be used) for any of the objects the Council has in view, and the maintenance of it in a state of good repair and in a cleanly condition would absorb a not inconsiderable part of the funds at the disposal of the Council. As for the other rooms down-stairs, which it is proposed to utilize as class rooms, I have merely to say that they are ill-adapted for purposes of instruction, and none of them could be adapted to the teaching of such a subject as tinctorial chemistry without considerable structural changes carried out at no small cost. The Council recognizes the necessity of making efforts for the improvement of the condition of Eurasian women and Muhammadans of both sexes. With regard to Eurasian women the Council wishes to arrange for instruction in laundry-work, cooking, domestic economy, dress-making and needle-work. It would also arrange to teach Muhammadan women needle-work, embroidery and the use of the sewing machine. I agree with the Council in recognizing the importance of these things; but if the teaching of these subjects is to be successful it is useless to attempt it in the palatial building on the Pantheon Road. Such instruction must be brought nearer to the homes of the people who are to benefit by it.

Three of the rooms up-stairs the Council proposes to occupy as a museum and the fourth as a library. The Council attaches considerable importance to the museum, which would, it is expected, become the parent of similar museums in the mofussil. Up-country museums have not hitherto been a success, and I doubt whether the Council would be able to infuse vitality into those which now exist in a moribund condition, much less to establish new ones. But this by the way. What I wish to invite attention to, in connection with the museum part of the Council's proposals, is the repetition by the Council of the same mistake as I have adverted to in the early part of this letter—viz., the assumption that a beginning has to be made in the establishment of a technical museum. Just as it expects Government to take for granted that there has been up till now no such thing as technical instruction, so it expects it to be taken for granted that there is at present no such thing as a technical museum in Madras. To say nothing of the small museums attached to the Christian College, the Presidency College, the Medical College, the Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture and the School of Arts—museums, which are all more or less technical in their character—I would ask the Council whether it altogether forgot the existence of the splendid museum in the Pantheon Road, or if it had this museum in mind, whether it means to deny to it the epithet "technical." There are sections of this museum which are in the strict sense technical—as technical as any museum which the Council could establish. If the Council were to establish a museum of its own it could not fail to overlap with certain sections of the present museum. It would, in my opinion, be a grave blunder to allow a second museum to be established in the same compound, the

be asked to take for granted that, in working this scheme from 1886 to 1892, and in believing that they were doing something to promote industrial and technical training and through it to advance the material well-being of the country, the Government and Educational department and the heads of technical and industrial institutions were labouring under a delusion, what they did not being technical and industrial education at all?

Again, to show that Government and those responsible for and engaged in technical education were alive to the need for keeping abreast with the times and that they were aware that there was no finality in educational work of this kind, I may allude to the thorough revision to which the technical scheme was subjected in 1892-93. A strong committee was then formed consisting largely of gentlemen who had been engaged in teaching and examining under the technical notification since 1886. These gentlemen, some of whom had served on the original committee, brought to bear on the syllabuses the knowledge they had gained in the actual working of the scheme during five or six years. It is not for me to assert that the scheme was improved, but improvement on the lines suggested by past experience was what the committee aimed at and what it fondly believed it had in some measure accomplished. Was this committee also labouring under a delusion? Most of the members of it are still happily amongst us, and they will doubtless be surprised to learn that their work had no relation at all to technical education and did not even break ground in that direction. Further, the names of the examiners who conduct the examinations under the technical notification are published twice a year in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Any one who takes the trouble to look through those lists will see that it contains the names of gentlemen acknowledged to be experts in those departments of science and art in which they examine. Are we, on the authority of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, to believe that gentlemen of their standing are either so ignorant that they mistake for technical education something which is not technical education, or so insincere that year after year they go through the farce of pretending to conduct technical examinations, knowing all the time that technical education does not exist in this Presidency? Again, what are we to say of the managers and teachers of the technical and industrial schools and colleges which prepare candidates for these examinations? Are they also so ignorant that they do not know that there is no such thing as technical education in this Presidency, or so immoral that they do not scruple to lend a hand in maintaining that huge imposture which pretends to be genuine technical and industrial training?

3. In what I have said above there is nothing new to Government or to any one who has really taken the trouble to follow the course of education in Madras since 1886. I think I have said enough to lead Government to pause before it admits, as the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute in a high *a priori* way assumes that it must, "that Government has not yet broken ground" in the direction of technical and industrial training. And I will venture now to add by way of conclusion or moral to this part of my letter, that the operations of the Victoria Technical Institute are doomed to failure unless the Council makes itself fully acquainted with what has already been done, recognizes the efforts of the past in a generous spirit, and sets itself to build upon the foundations already laid.

4. The Council of the Victoria Technical Institute is of opinion that its proper function is to supervise, direct and advise, but that for some time to come it can hardly avoid engaging to some extent directly in the duties of instruction. It was this latter consideration that led the Council to suggest to Government that it should take charge of the School of Arts, in view to converting it into an efficient and powerful industrial school. In my letter, No. 794, dated 28th January 1895, dealing with the reorganization of the School of Arts, I have stated my views on this proposal, and would only add here that, since Government is to remain burdened with the entire financial responsibility for the upkeep of the school, it is highly expedient that the Council should put Government in possession of the specific measures it proposes to take in order to effect this transformation of the School of Arts. The Council admits that its income will be fully absorbed by the salaries of the Curator of the museum and the clerical and other staff. Who then is to pay for

~~Forwarded.~~

(Signed) ~~L. DAVIDSON,~~
~~Acting Under Secretary.~~

To the Director of Public Instruction.

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 23rd April 1895, No. 4833.

I have the honour to submit the following remarks with reference to endorsement, No. 634, dated 22nd March 1895.

2. I must begin by entering my most emphatic protest against the assumption with which the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute sets out that the Government of Madras has not yet broken ground in the direction of technical education. Not the smallest attempt is made to prove a statement which, to any one having merely an ordinary acquaintance with the progress of education in this Presidency, must appear astounding. And yet such a statement surely requires that some attempt at least should be made to substantiate it. The Government, the Educational Department and the several Managers of private institutions have in recent years been under the impression that something was being done to promote technical education and the annual reports on public instruction have described the work done year by year. It seems to me to be incumbent on the Council to show that Government, the Educational Department and Managers of Technical and Industrial schools have been living during these years in a fool's paradise; that the impression that something was being done in the matter of technical education was a mere fantasy of the brain; and that the paragraphs devoted to this subject year by year in the Report on Public Instruction were nothing more than the airy imaginings of successive Directors of Public Instruction. In 1884 Mr. Grigg, at the request of Government, sketched the outlines of a scheme of scientific and technical education. This outline was followed by a detailed scheme, and in approving of it Government certainly believed that it was taking an important step in the direction of promoting other than purely literary education (see G.O., dated 3rd June 1885, No. 377). Are we now to believe, on the authority of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, that both Mr. Grigg and the Government of the day were under a complete delusion? Then came the Technical Education committee appointed by Government* in 1885, on Mr. Grigg's recommendation, to draw up courses of instruction and standards of examination in scientific and technical subjects. It is,

* (Vide G.O., dated 11th September 1885, No. 540, Educational, also G.O., dated 31st March 1886, No. 198, Educational).

I know, the fashion to speak of the technical scheme of 1886 as a scheme of examination solely. But this opinion is due to the fact being overlooked that the syllabuses drawn up professed to lay down courses of instruction as well as standards of examination, and that the promulgation of the notification was accompanied by the strengthening and enlargement of existing institutions on the scientific, technical and industrial sides, and by the opening of schools and classes where such did not formerly exist. (See paragraph 222 of the Report on Public Instruction for the year 1886-87). I make bold to say that never before in this Presidency had there been called together such an able and influential body of experts, official and non-official, as were brought together to assist Mr. Grigg in drawing up the technical scheme. This committee, which began its sittings in September 1885, carefully considered every detail of every syllabus, its report being submitted to Government in February 1886 (see G.O., dated 31st March 1886, No. 198, Educational). Are we to be asked to take for granted, on the mere *ipse dixit* of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute, that this large and representative body of experts knew nothing of technical education—that the experience they had acquired in the lecture-room, in the laboratory, in the workshop, in the factory, and in the field did not stand them in good stead when they met to assist Government in its earnest endeavours to promote industrial and technical education? Are we to

11. Then, as to pure handicrafts, the railway workshops for Smiths' work and carpentry; Messrs. P. Orr and Sons for metal-work and the manufacture of scientific instruments; Messrs. Moses and Co. for boots and shoes and harness; Messrs. Simpson and Co. for carriage building; and the School of Arts for carpentry, wood carving, tile making, pottery and metal-work, might be availed of as industrial schools for the training of stipendiary and other students.

12. The history of the original firm of Deschamps and Co. exemplifies the aptitude of local workmen in the construction of high-class furniture, for which there is a steady demand, not only within the Presidency, but also from far beyond its borders. It is a severe commentary on the existing want of systematic training that this industry is now extinct.

13. The persons in immediate charge of the industrial concerns alluded to above belong to the very class which produces similar articles in England, and one of the first fruits of extended instruction in such crafts would be the stoppage of the vast drain on the resources of India, caused by the source of supply being at present confined to the Store department of the India office, or private importation from Europe.

14. The same advantage would follow from obtaining the services of experts from Great Britain in order to put capitalists and employers of labour in the way of understanding the proper methods of tanning and preparing hides to be worked up into boots, shoes, bags and portmanteaus, harness and saddlery. At present there is a vast export of hides from Madras, which return loaded with the wages and profits of highly-paid foreigners for working them up. The same remark applies to the export of wool and of cotton, while the knowledge of the chemistry of the dye stuffs and the making of good paper remains locked up in the same quarter.

15. Finally, the Council regards the present condition of agricultural education with grave concern. It has to do with far the greatest industry in the country, and not until farm schools, museums and local exhibitions, have thoroughly impregnated the ryot with enlightened methods and the freshest scientific knowledge, communicated in a manner in which he will be able to assimilate and utilize them, can this branch of technical education be considered to have been placed on a basis befitting an industry on which the finances of the country are, so far as Madras is concerned, unfortunately increasingly dependent.

16. In the above compressed *resumé*, the Council has endeavoured to sketch a programme of the possibilities of technical education during the next few years. It feels that in doing so it has provided a syllabus of imperial work, and that, for a financially weak private body to attempt independent action, would be merely to court certain failure, and the discredit of a great and much needed educational and economic advance. The Council has endeavoured to confine itself to strictly practical lines and wants. If its scheme be considered ambitious, it can only see in such an opinion an overwhelming argument in favour of the direct intervention of Government for the fulfilment on the part of the State of a great duty.

17. If the Government should be pleased to approve of the views now laid before it, legislation, somewhat on the lines adopted in Great Britain, will, no doubt, be eventually unavoidable; but it does not appear to the Council that it is immediately essential. In addition to the usual allotment for the School of Arts, a grant of Rs. 20,000 towards the furnishing and equipment of the library and museum, the payment of stipends to pupils and salaries to teachers, and for grants-in-aid would probably suffice to make a commencement of real work in 1895-96. Detailed estimates would be submitted for sanction from time to time.

Endorsement on Mr. Croft's letter, No. 63, dated 14th March 1895.

Referred, through the Educational Department, for the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

representative museum containing specimens of raw and manufactured products and models of machines and appliances would be of immense utility in the way of disseminating new ideas, of indicating to the producer in what direction profitable markets may be found, and of placing the capitalist and the merchant in possession of facts as to the existence of products, skilled labour and industries, the development of which would enrich the country, and might profitably be exploited by themselves. In this connection the library of the institute, in the formation of which a substantial commencement has been made, must not be left out of account.

The salaries of the curator and the clerical and other staff will fully absorb the available income of the institute, which is at present about Rs. 4,500.

5. While, however, holding the opinion that, in theory, the proper functions of the institute would not, under normal conditions, permit it usefully to engage directly in the duties of instruction, the Council does not conceal from itself that, for some time to come, it can hardly avoid some work of this kind. It was this consideration which prompted it to suggest to Government that it should take charge of the Government School of Arts, in view to converting it into an efficient and powerful industrial school. It is more than possible, also, that it may be found advisable to impart instruction in subjects such as tinctorial chemistry, drawing, and so on, in evening classes. To this purpose the three class rooms and lecture hall downstairs will be devoted, and it is proposed also to open their use to private persons licensed by the Council to teach and to deliver lectures from time to time.

6. In this connection, the Council recognizes the necessity for making efforts for the improvement of the depressed condition of Eurasian women and of the Muhammadan community of both sexes. It seems desirable to arrange for the instruction of the former in laundry work, cooking, domestic economy, dress-making and needlework, so as to afford them the means of earning an honest and self-respectful livelihood. A project has also been mooted for amalgamating the Anjuman Mufid with the reformed Madrassa-i-Azam, if Government eventually carries out the proposed reforms in the latter institution. The Council anticipates being enabled, if the proposed amalgamation takes place, to take an active part in assisting the good work which the Anjuman has commenced in fostering industrial knowledge among Muhammadans. The condition of the female portion of that community is likewise most distressing, and systematic efforts ought to be made in order to teach these women needlework, embroidery which will sell, and the use of the sewing machine.

7. These may, in comparison with more ambitious departments of technical education, be considered humble walks of duty, but they are recognized as responsibilities in Great Britain, and the Council proposes that they be likewise accepted as such in Madras.

8. It may be anticipated that the establishment of a technical museum in Madras will lead to the formation of similar museums in the mufussil. One of the most useful and gratifying duties of the former would be to assist in the furnishing forth of the latter. For this purpose it would be necessary to maintain spare specimens of many of the exhibits for distribution to local museums. In this view the space reserved for the museum ought to be liberal, and that provided seems to be none too large.

9. In all attempts to map out the work of a technical institute, the distinction between industrial training or the teaching of handicrafts, and the higher or scientific instruction of the employers, and managers of labour, must never be lost sight of. The education of the two classes referred to may doubtless often overlap; and the more frequently it does so, the greater the success of the system will be. There is besides the provision of trained teachers, the importation of experts from England, and resort to the skilled English knowledge available in Madras—all of these ought to be provided or induced to enlist themselves in the service of technical education.

10. First, as regards the *quasi* literary species of it, the trustees of Pachaiyappa's College have opened very successful evening classes, and the Council understands that there is a considerable demand for instruction in Surveying, Short-hand, Type-writing, Commercial Correspondence, Commercial Geography, and Book-keeping, to which Printing and Lithography may be added. This enterprise ought to be fostered.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. CROLE, President of the Council, Victoria Technical Institute, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 25th February 1895, No. 12.

As desired by Government in its order of 22nd December 1894, No. 975, Public, I have the honour to lay before it two tracings of the rooms in the Victoria Technical Institute. The entries in red ink show at a glance the uses to which the council would put the accommodation provided. Briefly stated, the upper floor is reserved for the museum and library, the rooms in the lower are allotted for meeting, office, record and store-rooms, while three class rooms and the lecture hall absorb the space downstairs.

2. The principle on which the council has made the above allocation of the space available in the new buildings of the Technical Institute in the Pantheon road involves some consideration of the solution of the technical education problem in the Madras Presidency, and it likewise requires that some clear understanding with Government should be arrived at. The council does not pretend to take any long views on an Indian subject of such importance and complexity, or to forestall developments which it would be hard to predict; but it is not impossible to lay down the proper sphere of duty belonging to the council of the Victoria Technical Institute for the present and in the immediate future. The present opportunity may, it is submitted, be not inappropriately taken by Government of advertising the council, and through it the public, in respect of the attitude towards technical education, which Government purposes to assume in the Madras Presidency.

3. The object of, and necessity for, technical education, the field of its operations, the duties of Government and of local bodies in respect of it, and the manner in which funds are raised and administered have, in so far as Great Britain, especially, is concerned, been fully discussed in a speech delivered by the President in Pachaiyappa's Hall, which has since been printed in pamphlet form (copy enclosed) by the Trustees of that institution. The council, therefore, in order to avoid repetition proposes to assume it as common ground that technical education is as much the special care of civilized Governments as the literary education of the people. It will likewise, the council supposes, be admitted that Government has not yet broken ground in this direction in Madras.

4. The real question which the completion of the Victoria Technical Institute buildings in the Pantheon road has brought into prominence is in what manner it may appear desirable for Government to commence to discharge its responsibilities in this all important matter. Incidentally the decision will involve the future of this council, for it is beyond dispute that, except as an instrument in carrying out the determinate policy of Government, a body of this character would, by itself, be absolutely powerless to cope with the gigantic task of bringing about an educational reform closely affecting thirty millions of human beings. The most that the council of the Victoria Technical Institute can be expected to do,— and it is quite ready to strain every nerve for the due performance of that function—is to supervise, direct and advise. It might also do much in the way of bringing capital and labour in India into touch with the most improved methods of the day in other countries. As an auxiliary to the due performance of this duty, the establishment of an efficient and

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1895.

Educational Department.

From

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras,

To

THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY
TO GOVERNMENT,

Fort St. George.



Transferred to the Public
Department.

Lionel Davidson
Ag under Secretary.

Date 23rd

Despatched 24th

Received 25th

April 1895

No.

ENCLOSURE Ex. no 364
Encls.
with two tracings
Subject. rd. 30-4-95.
7B

Submitting his remarks
on the report of the Council
of the Victoria Technical
Institute.

7B
1895

lection of institutions in which such instruction is given. Government is expected to provide the funds for those purposes. It remains then for the council to provide the ^{necessary} body of expert opinion - to furnish the intelligent and skilled knowledge and insight which shall constitute the moving and directing spirit of technical and industrial education. I can hardly believe that the Council is serious when it says that its main functions are to supervise, direct and advise. I am aware that there may always be on the Council at least one man who is an expert in some branch of technical instruction, and who would consequently be

he

is also available for lectures. Beyond this I do not see that the Council can have any need for more accommodation.

6. I do not think that the firms mentioned in para 11 of the Council's letter would be prepared to allow their workshops to be used as industrial schools for the training of stipendiary and other students sent by the Institute.

7. With much that the Council says regarding the importance of developing technical and industrial training I fully concur. I would further remark that Government and the Department are fully alive to the importance of the subject and are moving as fast as the circumstances of the country and the resources at the disposal of the State will admit. It is idle to urge the

Government.

10.
museum. It would, in my opinion, be a grave
blunder to allow a second museum to be
established in the same compound, the new
one to arrogate to itself the title of "technical".
The present museum is overcrowded, and
unless space can be set apart for certain sections
of it in the Institute building, Government will
have to sanction large additions to the old
building. Failing both these, Government
will have to face the inevitable conclusion
that the usefulness of the Museum must for
the future be curtailed. I cannot understand
why there should be a moment's hesitation
in appropriating the space down-stairs and
up-stairs in the Institute building for the
extension of the existing Museum. The rooms,
ill-adapted for teaching purposes, are ad-
mirably adapted for museum purposes;

and

21.
be able to give Government and the country
the benefit of his special knowledge and
skill. I am also aware that as long as the
Council can retain at its head a gentleman
of the ability and resource of its present
President, it will not fail to furnish to all
engaged in technical education advice
both highly suggestive and stimulating. But
this is a very different thing from the Council;
consisting of laymen, the majority of whom
have only an amateurish acquaintance with
the subject, setting itself up as the highest
authority in the Presidency on the matter
of technical and industrial training.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

J. B. Curran

Director of Public Instruction.

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 the benefit of his special knowledge and
 skill. I am also aware that as long as the
 Council can retain at its head a gentleman
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 this is a very different thing from the Council;
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 have only an amateurish acquaintance with
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 authority in the Presidency on the matter
 of technical and industrial training.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

J. B. M. M.

Director of Public Instruction.

Government of the Presidency to imitate the
gigantic operations of Great Britain with its
practically boundless wealth and resources.

8. I hope it will not be thought an impertinence
on my part if I suggest that the Council might
well reconsider its position, which is in several
important particulars different from what
it was when the Council was instituted in
1887. What are the means with which the
Council proposes to effect or assist in effecting
the Educational reform which it has at
heart? To effect a reform of this kind two
things amongst others are absolutely essential:
Money in large amount and expert opinion.
The Council has on its own confession no
money whatever to spend on the teaching of
technical and industrial Subjects or on the
inspection.

and in appropriating them in this way, Government may rest assured that it is advancing the cause of technical and industrial education. This ^{is} also the opinion of the Committee on the future management, etc. of the Museum, Council, a Library, and Technical Institute, two of the members of which were also members of the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute. I make bold to say that the expansion of the Museum under the present able Superintendent will do more to promote the interests of technical education than an attempt to hold classes for instruction as proposed by the Council. The Council may have a room for its library ~~and~~ which to hold its meetings, and the theatre may be used for any course of lectures which the Council may inaugurate. The small theatre in the old Museum building

Museum. It would, in my opinion, be a grave blunder to allow a second museum to be established in the same compound, the new one to arrogate to itself the title of "technical". The present museum is overcrowded, and unless space can be set apart for certain sections of it in the Institute building, Government will have to sanction large additions to the old building. Failing both these, Government will have to face the inevitable conclusion that the usefulness of the Museum must for the future be curtailed. I cannot understand why there should be a moment's hesitation in appropriating the space down-stairs and up-stairs in the Institute building for the extension of the existing Museum. The rooms, ill-adapted for teaching purposes, are admirably adapted for museum purposes, and

Museum in Madras. To say nothing of the small museums attached to the Christian College, the Presidency College, the Medical College, the College of Engineering and Agriculture, and the School of Arts — museums which are all more or less technical in their character — I would ask the Council whether it altogether forgot the existence of the splendid Museum in the Pantheon Road, or if it had this Museum in mind, whether it means to deny to it the epithet "technical."

There are sections of this Museum which are in the strict sense technical, as technical as any museum which the Council could establish. If the Council were to establish a Museum of its own it could not fail to overlap with certain sections of the present

Museum.

museums in the tropical & up-country
museums have not hitherto been a success,
and I doubt whether the Council would
be able to infuse vitality into those which
now exist in a moribund condition, —
much less to establish new ones. But this by
the way. What I wish to invite attention
to, in connection with the ~~present~~ ^{present} part
of the Council's proposals, is the repetition
by the Council of the same mistake as I
have adverted to in the early part of this
letter — namely the assumption that a
beginning has to be made in the establish-
ment of a technical museum. Just as it
expects Government to take for granted
that there has been up till now no such
thing as technical instruction, so it
expects it to be taken for granted that there
is at present no such thing as a technical

Museum.

cost. The Council recognizes the necessity of making efforts for the improvement of the condition of Eurasian women and Muhammadans of both sexes. With regard to Eurasian women the Council wishes to arrange for instruction in laundry-work, cooking, domestic economy, dress-making and needle-work. It would also arrange to teach Muhammadan women needle-work, ~~embroidery~~ ~~the use of the~~ sewing machine. I agree with the Council in recognizing the importance of these things; but if the teaching of these subjects is to be successful it is useless to attempt it in the palatial building on the Pantheon Road. Such instruction must be brought nearer to the homes of the people who are to benefit by it.

Three of the rooms up stairs the Council proposes to occupy as a museum and the fourth as a library. The Council attaches considerable importance to the museum which would, it is expected, become the parent of similar

museums.

Seldom be attended by a larger number than could be accommodated in the two front benches. The Council need not object to the theatre being retained by Government for other purposes as well, seeing that the room could not be continuously used (could in fact be rarely ~~be used~~) for any of the objects the Council has in view, and the maintenance of it in a state of good repair and in a clean condition would absorb a not

inconsiderable part of the funds at the disposal of the Council. As for the other rooms downstairs which it is proposed to

utilize as class-rooms, I have usually to

say that they are well adapted for purposes of

instruction, and some of them could be

adapted to the teaching of such a subject

as rhetorical chemistry without considerable

structural changes. Carried out at a small

cost.

of the city removed alike from the great centres of the population and from the seats of such industries as quarters can be got of.

The Council proposes to hold evening classes as well; but I venture to predict that evening classes will not be well attended, if held in a place so far removed from the haunts of the industrial population as the Institute building is. Equally clear it is to my mind, that the building, admirable as it is for other purposes, is badly planned for purposes of instruction.

The theatre is much too large for the small audiences or classes which the Institute could bring together. Even a highly popular course of lectures would fail to bring together a sufficient number to fill the theatre, and any course of lectures on a strictly technical subject would

fully absorbed by the salaries of the Curator of the Museum and the clerical and other staff. Who then is to pay for the teachers which the Council proposes to employ? If it is intended that Government is to pay the salaries of all the teachers employed by the Institute, it will introduce this novel feature into the administration, namely, that the teachers are to be paid by Government, but their work is to be directed and supervised by an independent body.

5. As for the building in Ruthean Road, I am not in possession of the views entertained by Government when it was first proposed to erect it. One thing, however, is clear, namely, that the situation is badly chosen, if it was intended to carry on consecutive and systematic instruction in the building. It lies on the outskirts

is of opinion that its proper functions to
Supervise, direct and Advise, but that for
some time to come it can hardly avoid
engaging to some extent directly in the duties
of instruction. It was this latter consideration
that led the Council to suggest to Government
that it should take charge of the School of Arts
in view of converting it into an efficient and
powerful industrial School. In my letter No.
194, dated 28th January 1895, dealing with the
reorganization of the School of Arts. I have
stated my views on this proposal and would
only add here that, since Government is to
assume burdened with the ^{entire} financial
responsibility for the up keep of the School, it
is highly expedient that the Council should
put Government in possession of the specific
resources it proposes to take ^{in order to} effect this
transformation of the School of Arts. The
Council intends that its income will be

fully

scruple to lend a hand in maintaining that
huge imposture which pretends to be genuine
technical and industrial training?

3. In what I have said above there is nothing
new to Government or to anyone who has really
taken the trouble to follow the course of education in
Madras since 1886. I think I have said enough
to lead Government to pause before it admits,
as the Council of the Victoria Technical Insti-
tute in a high a priori way assumes that it
must, "that Government has not yet broken
ground" in the direction of technical and
industrial training. And I will venture now
to add by way of conclusion or moral to this
part of my letter, that the operations of the Victoria
Technical Institute are doomed to failure
unless the Council makes itself fully acquain-
ted with what has already been done, recognizes
the efforts of the past in a generous spirit, and
sets itself to build upon the foundations already
laid.

4. The Council of the Victoria Technical Institute

one who takes the trouble to look through those
list, will see that it contains the names of
gentlemen acknowledged to be experts in
those departments of Science and Art in which
they examine. Are we, on the authority of
the Council of the Victoria Technical Insti-
tute, to believe that gentlemen of their
standing are either so ignorant that they mistake
for technical education something which is
not technical education, or so insincere that
year after year they go through the process of pre-
tending to conduct Technical examinations,
assuming all the time that technical education
does not exist in this Presidency? Again, what
are we to say of the Managers and Teachers of
the Technical and Industrial Schools and
Colleges which prepare candidates for these
examinations? Are they also so ignorant
that they do not know that there is no such
thing as technical education in this
Presidency, or so insincere that they do not

Scr. p. 10

teaching and examining under the Technical
Notification since 1886. These gentlemen, some
of whom had served on the original Committee,
brought to bear on the Syllabuses the knowledge
they had gained in the actual working of the
Scheme during five or six years. It is not for
me to assert that the Scheme was improved;
but improvement on the lines suggested by
past experience was what the Committee
aimed at and what it firmly believed it
had in some measure accomplished.
Was this Committee also labouring under
a delusion? Most of the members of it are
still happily amongst us, and you will
doubtless be surprised to learn that most
had no relation at all to technical education
and did not even break ground in that
direction. Further, the names of the examiners
who conduct the examinations under the
Technical Notification are published twice
a year in the Foot St. George Gazette. Any

one

to assist Government in its earnest endeavours
to promote industrial and technical education?

He was to be asked to take for granted that, in
working this scheme from 1886 to 1892, and in
believing that they were doing something to
promote industrial and technical training
and through it to advance the material well-
being of the country, the Government and Educa-
tional Department and the heads of technical
and industrial institutions were labouring
under a delusion, what they did not being
technical and industrial education at all?

Again to show that Government and
those responsible for and engaged in technical
education were alive to the need for keeping
abreast with the times and that they were
aware that there was no finality in the
educational work of this kind, I may allude
to the thorough revision to which the tech-
nical scheme was subjected in 1892-93. A
strong Committee was then formed consisting
largely of gentlemen who had been engaged in

working

schools and classes where such did not previously
exist. (See para 2.22 of the Report on Public Instruction
for the year 1886-87.) I make bold to say that
never before in this Presidency had there been
called together such an able and influential
body of experts, official and non-official, as were
brought together to assist Mr. Grigg in drawing
up the Technical Scheme. This Committee, which
began its sittings in September 1885, carefully
considered every detail of every syllabus, its
report being submitted to Government in
February 1886 (See G.O. dated 31 March 1886 No. 98
Educational). We are to be asked to take
for granted, on the mere ipse dixit of the
Council of the Victoria Technical Institute,
that this large and representative body of experts
knew nothing of technical education - that the
experience they had acquired in the lecture-
room, in the laboratory, in the work-shop,
in the factory, and in the field did not
stand them in good stead when they met.

important step in the direction of promoting
other than purely literary education (See G.O.
dated 3rd June 1885 - 19377.) We are now to
believe, on the authority of the Council of the
Victoria Technical Institute, that both Mr Grigg
and the Government of the day were under a
complete delusion? Then came the Technical
Education Committee appointed by Government.
(Vide G.O. of 11 September 1885
N^o 540 Ed. also by G.O. of
31 March 1886 N^o 198 Ed.)
in 1885 on Mr Grigg's recommendation to draw
up courses of instruction and standards of exa-
mination in Scientific and Technical Subjects.
It is, I know, the fashion to speak of the Technical
Scheme of 1886 as a Scheme of Examination solely.
But this opinion is due to the fact being overlooked
that the Syllabuses drawn up proposed to lay
down courses of instruction as well as standards
of examination, and that the promulgation
of the notification was accompanied by the
strengthening and enlargement of existing
institutions on the Scientific, Technical,
and Industrial Sides, and by the opening of

Schools.

made to substantiate it. The Government, the
Educational Department and the several managers
of private institutions have in recent years been
under the impression that something was being
done to promote technical education, and the
annual reports on public instruction have described
the work ~~being~~ done year by year. It seems to me to be
incumbent on the Council to show that Govern-
ment, the Educational Department and managers
of technical and industrial schools have been
living during these years in a sort of paradise;
that the impression that something was
being done in the matter of technical education
was a mere fantasy of the public; and that the
paragraphs devoted to this subject year by year
in the report on public instruction were nothing
more than the airy ^{imaging} of successive
Directors of Public Instruction. In 1884 Mr Grigg
at the request of Government sketched the
outlines of a Scheme of Scientific and Technical
education. This outline was followed by a detailed
Scheme, and in approving of it Government
plainly believed that it was taking an

important

made to substantiate it. The Government, the Educational Department and the several managers of private institutions have in recent years been under the impression that something was being done to promote technical education, and the annual reports on public instruction have described the work ~~being~~ done year by year. It seems to me to be incumbent on the Council to show that Government, the Educational Department, and managers of technical and industrial schools have been living during these years in a sort of paradise; that the impression that something was being done in the matter of technical education was a mere fantasy of the paper; and that the paragraphs devoted to this subject year by year in the report on public instruction were nothing more than the airy imagery of successive directors of Public Instruction. In 1884 Sir Grigg, at the request of Government, sketched the outlines of a scheme of scientific and technical education. This outline was followed by a detailed scheme, and in approving of it Government certainly believed that it was taking an important

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras, *23rd April 1895.*

No. 4833

From

THE HONORABLE MR. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc.,

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras,

To

THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

FORT ST. GEORGE.

SIR,

*I have the honour to submit the following
remarks with reference to endorsement No. 634,
dated 22nd March 1895.*

*2. I must begin by entering my most emphatic
protest against the assumption with which the
Council of the Victoria Technical Institute set out,
that ^{the} Government of Madras has not yet broken ground
in the direction of Technical Education. Not the
smallest attempt is made to prove a statement
which, to any one having merely an ordinary acquaint-
ance with the progress of Education in this Presidency,
must appear astounding. And yet such a statement
surely requires that some attempt at least should be*

made.

R. No. 4301/5

[G
9]
2,000-23-1-95.

CURRENT No.

DEPARTMENT.

and No. 634

Referred, through the
Educational Dept., for the
remarks of the Director
of Public Instruction.

From

The President of the Council
of the Victoria Technical
Institute



W. H. H. H. H.

Chief Secretary

No. 12

Dated 25. 2. 95

Received 27/2

Enclosures 2 + 2 plans:

3013
14.3.95

John St. George
22nd March 1895

SUBJECT.

my proposals re: the
options of the Bonnemare
Library Buildings reg^d by
a Council + the use which
each room would be put
and pointing out the
places on which technical
education could be efficiently
carried on in this country.

Forwarded.

W. H. H. H. H.
23.3
By Under Secretary.

made to D. J. J.
letter No. 4532/95

713
23/95

intervention of government for the fulfilment of the
part of the State of a great duty.

17. If the government should be pleased to approve
of the views now laid before it, legislation, somewhat
on the lines adopted in Great Britain, will, no doubt,
be essentially unavoidable. But it does not appear to
the Council that it is immediately essential. In
addition to the usual allotment for the School of Arts,
a grant of Rs 20,000 towards the furnishing and
equipment of the library and museum, the payment
of stipends to pupils and salaries to teachers, and
for grants in aid, would probably suffice to make a
commencement of real work in 1895-96. Detailed
estimates would be submitted for sanction from
time to time.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

C. S. Roberts

President,

Victoria Technical Institute

15. Finally, the Council regards the present condition of agricultural education with grave concern. It has to do with far the greatest industry in the country, and not until farm schools, museums, and local exhibitions, have thoroughly impregnated the ryot with enlightened methods and the freshest scientific knowledge, communicated in a manner in which he will be able to assimilate and utilize them, can this branch of technical education be considered to have been placed on a basis befitting an industry on which the finances of the country are, so far as Madras is concerned, unfortunately, increasingly dependent.

16. In the above compressed resumé, the Council has endeavoured to sketch a programme of the possibilities of Technical Education during the next few years. It feels that in doing so, it has provided a syllabus for Imperial work, and that, for a financially weak private body to attempt independent action, would be merely to court certain failure, and the discredit of a great and much needed educational and economic advance. The Council has endeavoured to confine itself to strictly practical lines and wants. If its scheme be considered ambitious, it can only see in such an opinion, an overwhelming argument in favour of the direct

12. The history of the original firm of Dechaump & Co. exemplifies the aptitude of local workmen in the construction of high class furniture for which there is a steady demand, not only within the Presidency, but also from far beyond its borders. It is a severe commentary on the existing want of systematic training, that this industry is now extinct.

13. The persons in immediate charge of the industrial concerns alluded to above, belong to the very class which produces similar articles in England, and one of the first fruits of extended instruction in such crafts would be the stoppage of the vast drain on the resources of India, caused by the source of supply being at present confined to the Store Department of the India Office, or private importation from Europe.

14. The same advantage would follow from obtaining these services of experts from Great Britain, in order to put capitalists and employers of labour in the way of understanding the proper methods of ^{tanning} ~~tanning~~ and preparing hides to be worked up into boots, shoes, bags, and portmanteaus, harness and saddlery. At present, there is a vast export of hides from Madras, which return loaded with the wages and profits of highly paid foreigners for working them up. The same remark applies to the export of wool and of cotton, while the knowledge of the chemistry of the dye stuffs, and the making of good paper remains locked up in the same quarter.

9. In all attempts to map out the work of a Technical Institute, the distinction between industrial training or the teaching of handicrafts, and the higher or scientific instruction of the employers, and managers of labour, must not be lost sight of. The education of the two classes referred to may, doubtless, often overlap, & the more frequently it does so, the greater the success of the system will be. There is, besides, the provision of trained teachers, the importation of experts from England, and resort to the skilled English knowledge available in Madras — all of these ought to be provided, or induced to enlist themselves in the service of Technical Education.

10. First, as regards the quasi literary species of it, the Trustees of Pachaiyappa's College have opened very successful evening classes, and the Council understands that there is a considerable demand for instruction in Surveying, Shorthand, Typewriting, Commercial Correspondence, Commercial Geography, and Bookkeeping, to which Printing and Lithography may be added. This enterprise ought to be fostered.

11. Then, as to pure handicrafts, the Railway workshops for Smith's work and carpentry, Messrs P. Orr & Sons, for metal work and the manufacture of scientific instruments, Messrs Moses & Co. for boots and shoes and harness, Messrs Simpson & Co. for Carriages building, and the school of Arts for carpentry, wood carving, tile making, pottery and metal work, might be aailed off as industrial schools for the training of stipendiary and other students.

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mooted for amalgamating the Anjuman Shifid with the reformed Madrasah Azam, if Government eventually carries out the proposed reforms in the latter institution. The Council anticipates being enabled, if the proposed amalgamation takes place, to take an active part in assisting the good work which the Anjuman has commenced in fostering industrial knowledge among Mahomedans. The condition of the female portion of that community is, likewise, most distressing, and systematic efforts ought to be made in order to teach these women needlework, embroidery which will sell, and the use of the sewing-machine.

7. These may be in comparison with more ambitious departments of Technical Education, be considered humble walks of duty, but they are recognised as responsibilities in Great Britain, and the Council proposes that they be likewise accepted as such in Madras.

8. It may be anticipated that the establishment of a Technical Museum in Madras will lead to the formation of similar Museums in the provinces. One of the most useful and gratifying duties of the former would be, to assist in the furnishing forth of the latter. For this purpose, it would be necessary to maintain spare specimens of many of the exhibits for distribution to local museums. In this view, the space reserved for the Museum ought to be liberal, and that provided seems to be none too large.

The salaries of the curator, and the clerical and other staff, will fully absorb the available income of the Institute, which is at present about Rs 4,500.

5. While, however, holding the opinion that, in theory, the proper functions of the Institute would not, under normal conditions, permit it usefully to engage directly in the duties of instruction, the Council does not conceal from itself that, for sometimes to come, it can hardly avoid some work of this kind. It was this consideration, which prompted it to suggest to Government that it should take charge of the Government School of Arts, in view to converting it into an efficient and powerful Industrial School. It is more than possible, also, that it may be found advisable to impart instruction in subjects such as technical chemistry, drawing, design, in evening classes.

To this purpose the three class-rooms & lecture Hall downstairs will be devoted, & it is proposed also to open their use to private persons licensed by the Council to ^{give} ~~to~~ ^{teach} ~~lectures~~ from time to time.

6. In this connection, the Council recognizes the necessity for making efforts for the improvement of the depressed condition of Eurasian women, and of the Mahomedan community of both sexes. It seems desirable to arrange for the instruction of the former in laundry work, cooking, domestic economy, dressmaking, and needle work, so as to afford them the means of earning an honest and self-respectful livelihood. A project has also been

not pretend to take any long views on an Indian subject of such importance and complexity, or to forestall developments which it would be hard to predict. But it is not impossible to lay down the proper sphere of duty belonging to the Council of the V. I. I. for the present, and in the immediate future. This present opportunity may, it is submitted, be not inappropriately taken by Government; of advertising the Council, & through it the public, in respect of the attitude towards Technical Education, which Government proposes to assume in the Madras Presidency.

*
Copy enclosed

3. The object of, and necessity for, Technical Education, the field of its operations, the duties of Government & of Local Bodies in respect of it, and the manner in which funds are raised and administered have, in so far as Great Britain, especially, is concerned, been fully discussed in a speech delivered by the President in Pachaiyappa's Hall, which has since been printed in pamphlet form* by the Trustees of that Institution. The Council therefore, in order to avoid repetition, proposes to assume it as common ground that Technical Education is so much the special care of civilized governments as the literary education of the people. It will likewise, the Council supposes, be admitted that Government has not yet broken ground in this direction in Madras.

4. The real question, which the completion of the Victoria Technical Institute buildings in the Pantheon Road has brought into prominence, is, in what manner it may appear desirable for Government to commence to discharge its responsibilities in this all important matter. Incidentally, the decision

No 12

Victoria Technical Institute

Madras

February 25th 1895.

From:

The Hon^{ble} Mr C. S. Crook

President of The Council

Victoria Technical Institute

To

The Hon^{ble} Mr J. F. Price C. S. I.

Chief Secretary to Government

Madras.

Sir,

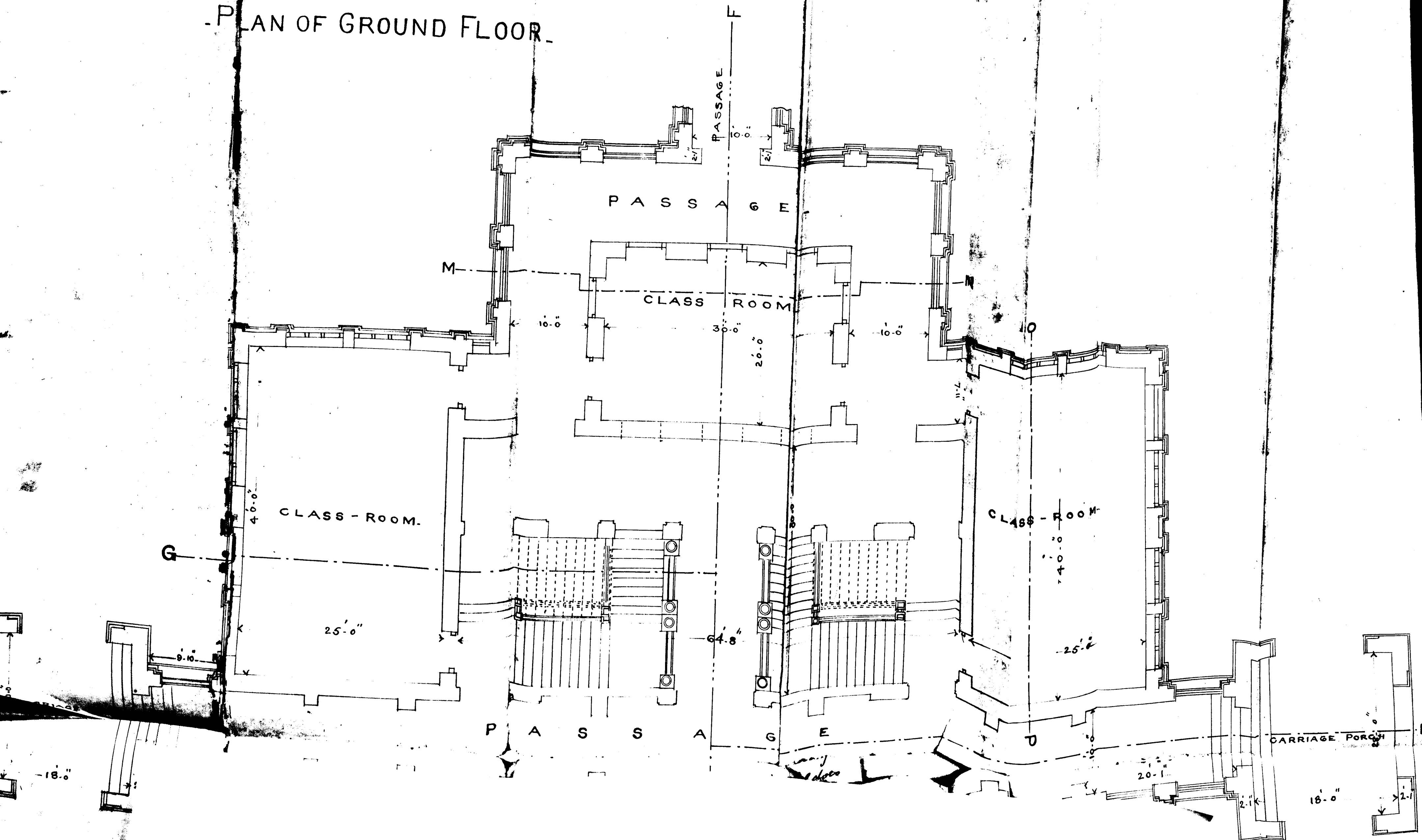
As desired by Government in its Order of 22nd December 1894, No. 975, Public, I have the honour to lay before it two tracings of the rooms in the Victoria Technical Institute. The entries inserted into show at a glance the uses to which the Council would put the accommodation provided. Briefly stated, the upper floor is reserved for the Museum and Library, the rooms in the Lower are allotted for meeting, office, record, visitors room, while three class rooms & the lecture hall absorb the space down stairs.

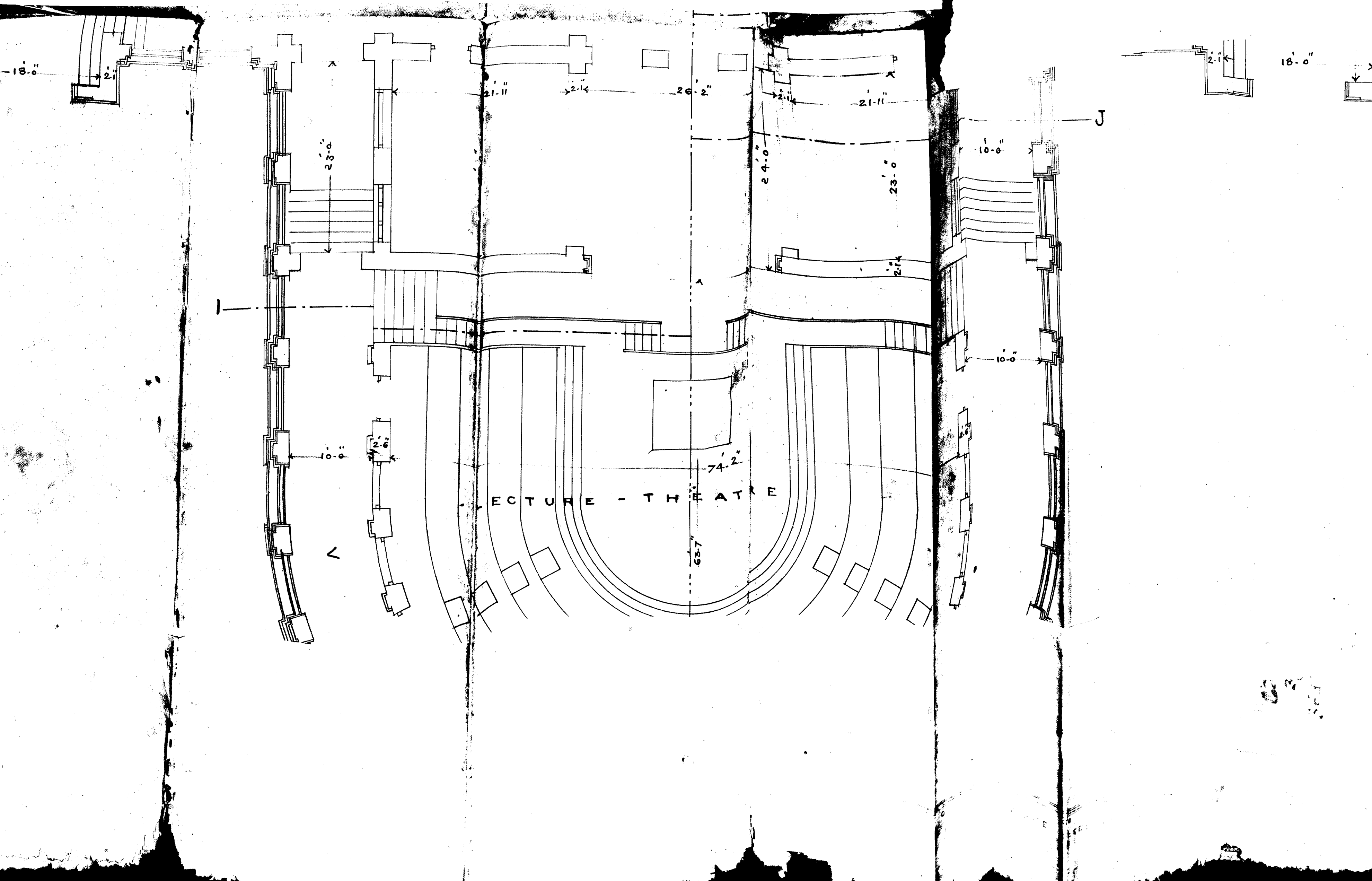
2. The principle on which the Council has made the above allocation of the space available in the new buildings of the Technical Institute in the Pantheon Rd, involves some consideration of the solution of the Technical Education problem in the Madras Presidency and it likewise requires that some clear understanding with Government should be arrived at. The Council does ;

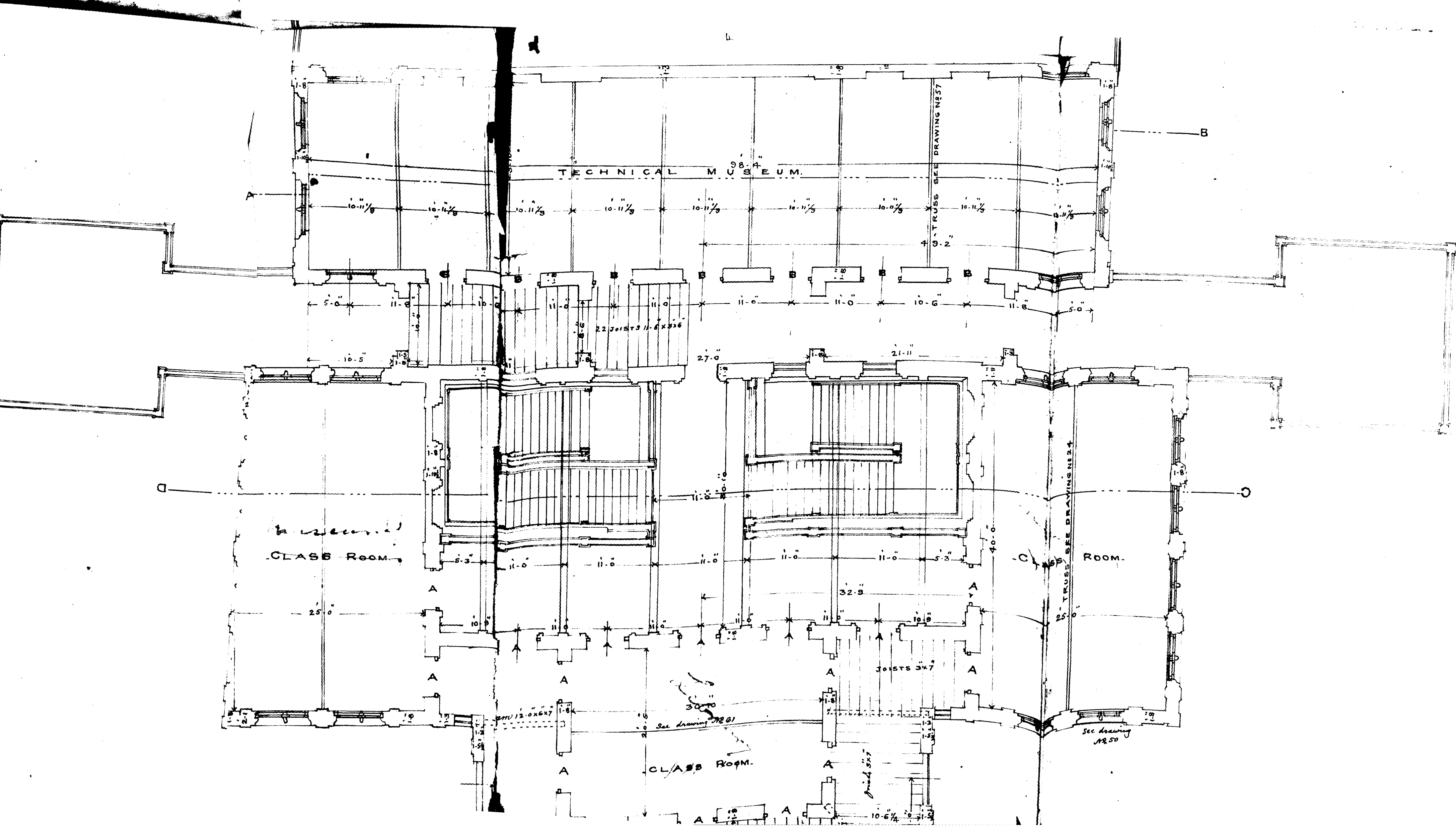
on

VICTORIA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR.







TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

VICTORIA PLAN OF UPPER FLOOR

P

