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MEMORANDUM for -

The Secretary,
Prime Minister's Department.

In reply to your minute of the 16th
February forwarding correspondence received from Mr. E.C.
BATSON, who desires compensation for loss of edfects caused
by the torpedoing of the s.s. "Arabia", I have to inform you
this Department does not accept any responsibility in connection with the loss of tools or effects of Munition Workers not
under agreement with the Commonwealth, and as Mt. Batson
proceeded under private contract, this Department is unable
to take further action in the matter beyond suggesting that
he continue his negotiations for a settlement of his claim
with the British Government.

FED 28 1920

SECRETARY.

Australasian Society of Engineers



Federal Council:

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O. BRYANT N.S.W. TRADES HALL, SYDNEY Phone 10848.

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Halle supplied

Sydney.

Beauch

14th. October 1922.

To the Hon, the Minister for Defence, DEFENCE

Melbourne.

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Dear Sir,

I have been instructed to place before you the case of Mr. E. C. Batson of 12 Claredon St. Armadale, Victoria, and ask that you assist us in getting compensation for this man and his family, through loosing the whole of his belongings whilst assisting the Empire during the time of the War.

Mr. Batson left Sydney in the "Arabia" on 30th September 1916, and was torpedoed on the 6th. November, loosing all that he possessed including money, and when he arrived in England he had to go into hospital for some time, and has in fact never recovered from his misfortune up to this date.

He has made repeated efforts to the Home Government, and the amount that he is asking for is a little over £300. I have visited him in his home at Armadale, and can assure you that this is a most deserving case. His wife has been in Hospital for some time, and has 5 little children, and spart from the justice of his claim for compensation (which is a strong one) it is necessary that immediate assistance be given to mim, not as a matter of charity, but as a matter right.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter he received through Sir Howard Kingsley Wood, and if you can assist us in the direction indecated it would be confering a great service on one so much in need, and who answered the call of his Country.

Faithfully yours.

C. A. Records
Registered ... aac

Secretary.

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