officer possessing the qualifications referred to informande thekouses BAST AFR PROT 16422 2 M Bonar Law fears There has there is no admirathy Coal for Kailway Conveyance for Solage Bay to Momban proped of the temp proster 1916 meet formander Whitehouse's Sends lake from B. 8. ap. Corpin requestry facilities for 5061. Repaired. Admy is willing to provide transport in the wishes, but a copy of his letter understanding that daving in freight with account to first & Last previous Paper hat to private contractor. Inquires requirements to be thomas claim for the service the be made. Also with whom the with he sent to the for of the defailed arrangements the la made Tw. Read. ? Telegraph to Go. G. R. following effect as U. R. over for coal from BEA Copte Deligon Bay admin of prepared to provide transport two bely, 5,000 toes cach private range on com feyes and Docume to Good Talquet Whe do. To you the america - Selepith present stock of cool and worthy The state of the s Sind coly of all the form wany the the claim about the sent to be for home for the first Clark water of the contraction of were had a list to get M817149 that the s. A. of planets could will

· 17/6 MUNICH H. J.R. 6/IX/16 atom Pro 7:4 be any further communicate on the subject, please quote to the subject, please quote to the subject to the subj

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Admiratey 5 April , 191 6. 16422

Sir,

With reference to the enclosed copy of a semi-official letter to Lord Herschell from the Fritish East Africa Corporation Limited, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that provided an assurance can be given that if the Admiralty supplies requisitioned tonnage for the conveyance of coal from Delegoa Bay to Mombasa, the saving in the freight will accrue to the Colonial Government and not to a private contractor, My Lords will be prepared to cause arrangements to be made to place at the disposal of the East African Government Railway Authorities one of the Transports now on the East Coast of Africa for the purpose.

I am to enquire what stock of coal is at present available for the Railway, and what are the monthly requirements and against whom the claim for the service should eventually be preferred.

I am to add that subject to the assurance asked for above being given, it is proposed that a Transport of about 5000 tons capacity should be allocated to make two trips - this will apparently meet all requirements.

My Lerds would be glad to know with whom the detailed arrangements in regard to the actual steamers can be made.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

he Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Colonial Office Marinfer

16422

British Fast Africa Corporation 6:AFRIG

96, Gresham House,

London. March 29th 1916.

My dear Herschell,

It would be very good of you, and of much assistance to the East African Government Railway Authorities, as well as to my Corporation, if you could kindly put this present letter into the right channel. The subject, as you will see, is rather outside the ordinary commercial run of things.

The Uganda Government Railway, Mombasa to Lake Victoria, is being run for the East African military authorities by its own pre-war Staff. The B.P.A. Corporation used to supply the Uganda Railway before the war with many thousands of tons of South African coal, and special arrangements were made by us with the London Representatives of the Transvaal Coal Owners Association to ensure the supply of the kind wanted, viz. Witbank Colliery coal of the South African Government Railway specification.

The Uganda Covernment Railway authorities have been lately asking our Mombassa Office to quote the prices and to say what arrangements we could make for regular monthly deliveries of this Withank Ocal. We came up against the practical impossibility of getting monthly tomage to carry the coal from Delagos Bay (the shipping port) to Mombass. On reporting this by cable through dur sombass Office, the latter wires up again but in a different form, stating the total need for the railway as 10,000 tone and abandoning the regular monthly delivery idea, but leaving it to us to get an office for the railway on almost any basis of delivery even up to 10,000 tone in a single carm.

Olearly the need is imperative, and needless to say every possible way of meeting it has been gone into by the Transval Ocal Owners Association representatives and curselves, but without success. The T.C.O. people suggest to us to ask the aid of the Admiralty Director of Transports. I don't happen to know anyone in that Department. If therefore occurs to me to trouble you, as I am now doing in the hope of saving time in getting this letter on to a clear course with the least delay. The coal can be ready at Delagoa Bay at very short notice, the only point is whether a boat can be available, at what date, what capacity and on what terms.

With kind regards, Yours sincerely, (Sgd)

Lieut. The Lord Herschell, R.N.R.
Admiralty, S.W.

P.S. I would of course be glad to keep any appointment the Director of Transports Department might care to propose for me to come down and see them.

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