

EAST AFR. PROT

39856

808
Morning 1/2

1917

15th June

PENSION FOR MR FREEDORN

As E.A.M.P. is regarded as Common Organisation enquires if pension should not be charged to G.C. account.

Last previous Paper.

W/O
39861

The Butler.

This is a clear case, & in fact it might - before this paper'd came up - in the LfG. on 39861 as to the new pension.

I recently circulated a separate list of what the Govt regards as Common organizations & we may hope to avoid cases of the kind in future. I am a little unhappy that we have had no more than two years of the kind (This & the case of Mr. Galt's pension - Gov/45030/16).

Mr. Galt's pension

I do not see why the local people should not put their claims right without reference to us and in the hope which I entertain I wish that they should do so.

What Conf 23 Aug 17

If subsequent Paper.

45646

456 21.8.17

808

To 190257, Sat.



Sr

20 August 1957

o.d.g.
Sat
no 632

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 334 of the 15 of June, and to ^{request} inform you that, Mr Cooveri Mokasha may be info that I have received his application, but that I am not prepared to agree to his situation in the Govt service being made unreasonable.

77 Aug.

Pattonville 17.8.57 f

I agree in Mr proposal to take up the question of his retirement and

WALTER H. TAYLOR

Mr. Downing.

Instructions complied with. Mr. Cooverjen tried to argue as to why he should not be recommended for promotion, but I stopped him. Your minute was read out to him and he was asked if he thoroughly understood the position and he answered in the affirmative.

I warned him that, if he again wrote to you in similar terms, he might receive a more disagreeable reply.

RM/- HENRY P. MURPHY.
April 1 1910.

Treasury,

Calcutta.

30th March 1910.

Mr. Lepie,

With reference to the attached letter from Mr. Cooverjee, I wish you to send for that Officer, and address him in the presence of the chief clerk, the cashier, and the head of his section (Mr. Rodrigues).

Please recall to him the circumstances of his first appointment in the Treasury. He was taken on at a far greater age than is usual in the Government service at the special request of Mr. Pestonjee the then head clerk.

In agreeing to give him the appointment in the Treasury I was greatly influenced by Mr. Pestonjee's petition - for I cannot describe it as a recommendation. Mr. Pestonjee represented that Mr. Cooverjee was in very distressed circumstances and would willingly accept any post under Government.

Since then Mr. Cooverjee's pay has been gradually increased until he is drawing Rs.90/-, and will draw Rs.95/- next month i.e. in two days time.

I have no wish to hurt Mr. Cooverjee's feelings but, as he persists in complaining about his position, I wish him to understand once and for all that I consider him to be very well paid, and that I cannot conscientiously recommend him for promotion to any other Department.

Nor do I see my way to promote him out of his grade in the Treasury.

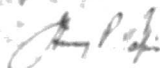
Unless his increments are at any time withheld he will in due course arrive at a salary of Rs.120/- per month, and he is also drawing a house allowance.

Please make my views perfectly clear to him, and inform him that if he is not satisfied with his position, and considers that he can better himself out of the service it is open to him to resign his appointment.

SD/- C. C. MURPHY

Treasury.

7. If retired now Mr. Gaverji might be allowed a gratuity of about £27 under the regulations, and I propose that he be retired.



TRANSMITTED.

vacant, the Treasurer informed Mr. Pestonji that Mr. Cooverji might have it on a salary of Rs. 85 a month (444 a year), but must understand that he could not look for promotion. This offer was accepted.

4. Mr. Cooverji was given routine work of a simple nature, and, as he performed it satisfactorily, he received increments from time to time until his salary reached Rs. 90 a month (492 a year), to which was added a house allowance of Rs. 20 a month (116 a year) in 1909. With the introduction of the Terms of Service for the Non-European staff in that year Mr. Cooverji became automatically a 4th grade clerk, and his normal increments have now brought his salary to the maximum of the grade, Rs. 120 a month (496 a year), which, together with his house allowance, is a considerably larger sum than he had ever any reason to expect.

5. Mr. Cooverji's work consists of posting the analysis of the Sub-Accountants' accounts into the Abstract Book, and he does it generally with care and accuracy. But it is purely mechanical, and he is not fitted by training, experience or ability for any more responsible work. His age and his state of health are also bars to his promotion. I do not think that he knows his own age. According to his Memorial he should now be 59, but according to a statement in another document he should now be 63, while in appearance he is about 70. His health is not good, and he is frequently off duty.

6. I attach a copy of a minute written by a former Treasurer after Mr. Cooverji had made persistent efforts to obtain promotion. Mr. Cooverji renewed his efforts when Mr. Galloway was Treasurer but received a similar reply.

THE TREASURY,

Nairobi, 23d June 1917.

L.S. No. 290/291.

152

The Hon^{ble} Sir
The Ag. Chief Secretary,
Nairobi.

MR. CHEVERJI B. MAMMALA.

Reference - Your file No. S. 12266.

I must express my regret for the delay in dealing with Mr. Cheverji's memorial to the Secretary of State. I wished to speak to Mr. Cheverji before making any comments on the petition, but as he has been off duty during the greater part of the period since I returned from leave last January, the matter got overlooked.

2. In an interview with Mr. Cheverji I pointed out to him that the memorial was inaccurate and misleading, and that no good purpose would be served by sending it on. I recalled ^{to him} the circumstances of his first appointment and the many occasions upon which he had been informed in the most explicit manner by three successive Treasurers that he could look for no promotion beyond the 4th grade. He finished a long, irrelevant and incoherent reply by saying that he left the matter in my hands.

3. In the year 1908 the late Mr. Pantonji Mehta, the Finance head clerk in the Treasury, begged of the then Treasurer to find employment for Mr. Cheverji, a fellow Finance, who, he explained, had come to East Africa in very poor circumstances and would be thankful for any work which could be given to him. A junior post being vacant

raised to Rs. 1200/-.

I most respectfully submit that to survive in this Post-graduate month the reward of a pension. From the foregoing you will see that I have worked long hours and have never spared myself in the public service, and that I never knew until 1910 that there was question as to my being granted a pension. Always I had before me the thought that if I was spared to complete my course, I should be enabled in my old age to retire on pension and this thought has upheld me throughout.

Now I cannot contemplate an old age. I am 59 years of age of continued hard work which will be my lot if my request is not acceded to.

If you cannot recommend that my application for an advance to pensionable grade should be granted, I beg that you will recommend me for a good gratuity.

I lay the above before you in the trust and hope that having regard to the facts of my case and my advanced age you will favourably consider this my application.

I am,

Your humble and obedient servant..

Govindji Hanjirji Varkhade
Chief Clerk
Secretary

To,
 His Majesty's Principal,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Whitehall,

London S.W.

Journal and make up an Abstract thereof and file the same in the Abstract books. I frequently had to sit up till 2 in the morning to post the accounts into the Abstract books and I used to have to work on Saturdays and Sundays and even on my holidays.

For 5 years there was no book-keeper in the Banking Section so I and Mr. Meneses, the present Assistant Book-keeper, had to carry out the work of the Banking Section.

Often I was too tired to remain at the Treasury when at Mombasa and I had to take the work home and on such occasions, having no oil in my lamp, I had to go to a shop to borrow a lamp to do my work by.

When in 1904 the roof of the old Treasury at Mombasa leaked and the rain came through, the accounts were removed to another building and for more than eight months I was continually getting wet in bringing the records to the Examiners when they wished to inspect them. When the New Treasury was built, it was I who spent all my days and nights arranging the books and accounts.

This Memorandum is in terms similar to one forwarded by me to His Excellency the Governor on the 17th October 1916. In reply to this Memorandum, I was informed that His Excellency did not see his way to accord promotion and on my requiring further as to whether I would be granted a gratuity I was told that on retirement my case would be governed by the rules in force with regard to the non-European Clerical Staff.

Now, Sir, having worked so hard and conscientiously for so many years, I am still refused promotion to a pensionable grade though I am now and have since April 1915 been in receipt of a salary (Rs. 120/00) ^{12/00} only Rs. 5/- less than the minimum which entitles me to a pension.

I shall have completed 16 years service in January next and would thus be entitled to a pension if my salary were

of the Abstract books which were to be sent to England, for Audit. This was in addition to my other work. In December 1903 Mr. Dias went on leave to India and on the recommendation of Mr. Porter, the Assistant Treasurer and of Mr. Menezes, now Assistant Deputy-Comptroller, I was offered Mr. Dias' work of working the Abstract Books. This work I undertook at a salary of Rs. 75/- a Rs. 20/- increase, though Mr. Dias had been receiving Rs. 130/- a month for the work.

From that time upto now I have been doing the same work, keeping the Abstract books but, though I have held my present position for nearly 13 years and have seen almost 15 years' service, my salary has never been increased beyond Rs. 120/- per month.

In 1908, after having completed 7 years' service, I applied for promotion to a pensionable grade i.e. a salary of not less than Rs. 125/- per month and repeated my application in 1909 and 1910. On my applying in 1910 the Hon. Mr. Bowring passed a minute that when I was engaged he had told Mr. Pestonji, the Head Clerk in the Treasury, that I was an old man and must not expect a pension. I was never told this when Mr. Bowring engaged me nor was it a term of my engagement and the first I heard of it was when Mr. Bowring's minute was passed. I had always expected that I would receive a pension if I worked for the necessary period and attained to the pensionable grade. In consequence of Mr. Bowring's minute my application was refused. It was again refused when I applied in 1914 and in October 1916.

I have always worked hard and conscientiously and had the interest of the Department at heart and I beg to give you a short account of the work I have done and the time I have given in the public service.

When the Prothetorate accounts used to go to London for Audit I used to compile the accounts in the Abstract books and, after closing the books, prepare the schedule of the

Sir,

I beg most humbly and respectfully to lay the following facts before you for the favourable consideration of my case.

I am Chief Clerk of the Booking Section in the Treasury of the East Africa Protectorate at a salary of Rs. 130/- per month and my object in addressing you is that in consideration of my long and faithful service I be put upon a salary which will entitle me to a pension upon retirement.

I came to this Protectorate in January 1903, after having served for 6 years as a store clerk on the North Western Railway of India. When I left India I was in receipt of a salary of Rs. 75/- per month and I was 44 years of age, and the reason I left India was that my wife died and I determined to start in a new country.

I was engaged by the Hon. Mr. Bowring, who was then Treasurer, and appointed to the Examiners' Section in the Treasury. The following month the present Cashier, Mr. Adaji, fell ill and was given a year's leave and I was called upon to do a great deal of extra work in addition to my own. During the whole of that year I worked from 7.0'clock in the morning to 6.0'clock in the evening, and, after closing the Treasury, I used to sit up and prepare the coverings of the cash vouchers upto 1 or 2.0'clock in the morning. I also had to make up the Ten years record of the accounts and write out copies of the letters of the correspondence Department. For this extra work I did not receive any additional salary..

In March 1903, S.P.D'Souza, who had been engaged on the Abstract books at Bombay, was transferred and on Mr. Dias taking over this work, I assisted him in making up the Abstracts

3. I am well acquainted with Mr. Moxam and his work and I regret that I am unable to recommend consideration of his application. I propose on receipt of your reply to deal with the question of his retirement.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



ACTING GOVERNOR.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE
No. 334

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI.
EAST AFRICA

June 15th, 1919.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 289 of the 16th of April and to transmit herewith for your consideration the original of the application addressed to you by Messrs. Stevens, Kendall, and Archer on behalf of Mr. George J. McKenna, clerk in the Treasury, a copy of which was enclosed in that despatch.

I must express my regret for the delay in forwarding this application. It was forwarded to the Treasurer on the 3rd of January for his comment, and I enclose a copy thereof, the first paragraph of which explains the circumstances in which the matter was overlooked.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
WALTER LONG, F.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.