

1933.

Kenya:

1

No 3262.

Subject CO 533/438

181148/34

181148/34

Subsequent

23022/34

1 A/Govrs. Deputy Wade 4/44 (A.A. Ques) — 14 July 33
Trans. copy of a Bill to provide for licensing of certain
trades professions & occupations & to fix licence fees
payable.

? Await receipt of Ordinance; detailed
information at this stage will suffice no

2. A/Col. Secretary 3 fm (ombuds) — 16 Aug. 33
trans to Treasury. Trans. 6 copies of report of Select Committee on the Bill.

3. A/Governor Moore 5/33 (A.A. Ques) — 14 Sept. 33
Trans. authenticated copy of the Licensing Ordinance & gives
details of estimated revenue from new taxation.

(Original & minutes on 3261/33, copy attached for record.)

4. To O.A.G. 857 — (S/o 32434 on 30/2/33) — 14 Nov. 33
(Answered). (Ours on 3261/33, copy attached)

5. To Treasury — (S/o 3444) — 6/16 — 18 Nov. 33.

6 E.S. Turner (S.O.)

23 Nov. '33

State representations have been received from India regarding clauses of the Licensing Ordinance & requests that a copy of a Bill as introduced & Ordinance as passed, & a memorandum by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce together with a copy of memorandum representing that Ordinance should be amended by substituting schedule of fees for trading licences as contained in the Bill for schedule in Section 7 extracted. State has no reason to reconsider decision, but

as will appear

in the Report

of the Select Committee

on the

Commercial

and Industrial

taxation

in India

the

Report of the

Committee

on the

Commercial

and Industrial

taxation

in India

the

Report of the

Committee

on the

Commercial

and Industrial

taxation

in India

to the Committee

Turner: 4 Dec.

You can reserve for the inevitable
but complain the relevant passage (paras)
(c) of the A/fior. draft (11-11 in 3205).

J.S.

AB Austin
4 Dec.

To S.J. Turner (Governeur) ^{No. 6/12/33}
(as amended on 1st)

8. 4/Governor Moore 652

17 Nov '33

Trans. copy of letter by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce together with copy of memorandum representing that Ordinance should be amended by substituting schedule of fees for trading licences as contained in the Bill for schedule in Section 7 extracted. State has no reason to reconsider decision, but

in addition to the above mentioned in para 3961/xx, paragraphs 9-11; and also as follows therein, paragraph 4.

Briefly the protest is as follows:-

(1) Against the changes in Clause 7.

The Federation contend that the increase in fees involved in the substitution of Section 7(1)(b) and (c), in the Ordinance as passed, for Clause 7(1)(b), (c) and (d) of the draft Bill, materially affect the Indian community and are against the basic and spirit of the recommendations of the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee. It is urged that that Committee gave particular attention to the incidence of taxation which it recommended, and that the commercial representatives of the Committee were of opinion

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opinion that the fees paid by traders for licences could not be passed on to the consumers. If this view is accepted "the burden will be wholly borne by the Indian merchants, and this changes the whole basis and theory of alternative taxation with regard to licences as between both individuals and communities." The view of the official members was that the burden would be passed on in some manner. Even if this view is accepted, the Federation would still insist that the burden should be shared by Indians and by natives who are decently or exactly told that they could bear it fairly well.

They request that the original scale from be referred to.

E. Evaluate the manner in which the changes were made. In the Resolution a "strong protest" is registered against the making of the changes "without giving opportunity to the commercial community to make representations in that behalf." This is modified in the body of the memorandum to a reference to denial of an opportunity to persons affected to present their case in the same manner as before the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee. Breach of faith and partiality are alleged. It is admitted that an open invitation was given to the public to give evidence and make representations before the Select Committee, but "it was never thought that such drastic changes would be suggested." The Federation expected that the Select Committee would

"would, if at all, try to reduce the fees and were therefore not in a position to make any representations. It is alleged that the Select Committee had insufficient time to consider the incidence of the altered fees and that the Bill, with other legislation, was rushed through Council. The protest was telegraphed the day before the Bill was passed but had no effect, while it is alleged that in the debate a contention that the increased fees would bear most harshly on the Indian traders, was not refuted by Government.

F. A minor question of transfer of Licences. The Federation ask that Section 17 of the Ordinance be amended to include the transfer of a licence to different persons and firms as well as to different premises.

To take these points in order:

1. The reasons for the increase in fees under Section 7 are set out in paragraph 10 of Bo.11 on 3261/33. The object was to get additional revenue and to avoid loss of revenue by astute practices on the part of traders. The Governor in Bo.6 does not deal at any length with the protest, but points out that revenue must be obtained, and that in fact this tax, at the date of writing, has brought in less than half the amount anticipated for 1933. A statistical memorandum will be prepared on this Ordinance and as the Govt. of India's letter admits, it is impossible at this stage to say exactly where the incidence will fall.

2. This argument statifies itself and scarcely merits an answer. The Select Committee included Mr. Pandya, Chairman of the Federation.

The sittings of the Select Committee were held in the Supreme Court Buildings as a convenience to the public, who were invited by notice published in the press to give evidence. The Committee heard a number of witnesses but the Indian commercial community did not express any desire to be heard. When amendments to the Licensing Bill were under discussion in the Committee, an Indian member said that he did not wish to oppose the bill. The representative of Commerce and Industry had stated that Indian commercial firms opposed to the amendments proposed to the bill. He desired to give evidence on test at an interim point.

2. The Governor explained that under Section 8(6) that under Section 11 a trade licence can be surrendered and a refund claimed and that under Section 7(4) a licence can be taken out at an interim point in the year at an appropriately reduced fee. The question of amending Section 11 to permit transfer of the licence will be considered at a later date.

3. (1) Despatch to the Governor requesting him to inform the Federation that their protest has been considered by the S.o.f.S. who cannot accept the suggestion that the amendments to Clause 7 of the Bill were made without sufficient consideration or without an opportunity being afforded to commercial interests to make any representations. [In the short time that the Ordinance has been in force no reactions have emerged for further amendment but

but the position is being closely watched and a statistical memorandum will be prepared from which it will be possible to gauge the precise effect of the measure.] An urgent meeting of the Director

Emergency

to Mr. Naikhan [signature]

Opposition

29/11

The attitude of (a) the Govt. of India & (b) the I.O. is getting beyond all bounds. The Kenya Indians send a memorial to the Kenya Govt. in September and a copy of it to India with a request that the Govt. of India will make representations on this behalf if found necessary without waiting to learn the result of the memorial. India proceeds to endorse the attitude of the Indians in Kenya and the I.O. proceeds to "share the views" of India. I wonder what the I.O. & India would say were the S.o.f.S. here to back up the complaint of a deported man in Calcutta.

The fact is that the Indians in Kenya are escaping taxation too lightly and Kenya wants to catch them. Any tax relief which they have to pay can be turned into a genuine aid apparently India will back them.

All the same, the changes in the Bill did not sit much less attractive from the Indian Indians point of view and it was a bit hard to sell it at that price. Still, one allowing for that, the Indians have no right to expect that no bill will be allowed to this detriment when it is before Parliament.

* As proposed

11/12/33

44/12/33

This first is the most attractive
to the Indian population.
India does not stand with
us in this position.

If any time is used this
kind of S. stands away of
the evidence of this position

L.C.S.

30.12.33

Am

11/12/33

Mr. Boyd has sent me
now it is you to take care
to receive his letter and the
estimate of the amount. The S.O.
amount is £.0 8044/33 15000/33.

It is for you to forward.

With

3.1.34

I submit draft for your

signature on
4/1/34

Mr. Macpherson 4/1

Mr. Brewster 61

Mr. J. 4-1

Mr. Parkinson.

Mr. Tomlinson.

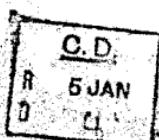
X Sir C. Ballantyne 5.1 f/

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permal. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.



12 January, 1934.

S.Y.P.

Sir,

DRAFT for Consar.INDIANo. 30Governor

*Leave
not
parts.
from 1.0. (presently)
To 1.0. (presently) 10*

Two drafts.FURTHER ACTION.

I have the honor to communicate

the receipt of your despatch

(B) No. 652 of the 17th of December

forwarding copies of

from the Federation of Uganda

Chambers of Commerce and fisheries

of Eastern Africa on the subject

of the Licensing Ordinance, 1933,

and to request you to inform the

(to be signed)
Federation that I have considered

their protest, but that I cannot

accept the suggestion that the

amendments to clause 7 of the Bill,

to which they object, were made

without sufficient consideration

or

or without an opportunity being afforded to commercial interests to make representations on the matter.

2. As regards the minor question of the transfer of licences, the considerations set out in para. 3 of your despatch under acknowledgement should be explained to the Federation.

I have etc.

3. I take this opportunity of asking you info. - copy of copy of all the 10 - 12 questions

REGD. PLYMOUTH

(For the Secretary of State)

C. O.

Mr. Macpherson 4/1
Mr. Preston 4
Mr. S. L. 4/1
Mr. Parkinson.
Mr. Tomlinson.
Sir C. Hollingdale 5/1

10/8

1st January 1933

the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa on the subject of the Kenya Licensing Ordinance, 1933.

Two drafts

FURTHER ACTION.

Copy of same to Kenya (E)

2. Copies of the Federation's letter, and of the memorandum which accompanied it were transmitted by the Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of

State

State, who was unable to accept the suggestion that the amendments to clause 7 of the Bill, to which the Federation object, were made without sufficient consideration, or without an opportunity being afforded to commercial interests to make any representations.

P₃ I am to explain that the sittings of the Select Committee - of which Mr. Pandya, Chairman of the Federation, was a member - which recommended the alterations in question were held in the Supreme Court buildings as a convenience to the public, who were invited by notice to be there to give evidence. The Committee heard a number of witnesses but the Indian Commercial community did not express a desire to be heard.

* When amendments to the Licensing Bill were under discussion by the

Committee

C. O.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Parkinson.

Mr. Tomlinson.

Sir C. G. Smith

Mr. Pandya

Committee, an Indian member, asked for permission to go out and discuss with the Indian Chamber of Commerce, and it is reported that he stated that

FURTHER ACTION.

it imposes by the Ordinance. The position is, however, being closely watched and a statistical memorandum will be prepared from which it should be possible to gauge the precise effect of the measure.

4. As regards the minor point

raised

raised in the final paragraph of the
Federation's memorandum, the Governor
of Kenya has stated that consideration
will be given at some convenient time
to the question of amending the Ordinance
so as to permit of the transfer of a
trade licence from one person to
another. It should be explained,
however, that the Ordinance already
contains provisions for a refund ex-
murrender of a licence, and for a
to be taken out at an interim point in a
year at a proportionately reduced fee.

5. I am to take this opportunity of
forwarding, for the information of
Sir Samuel Hoare, copies of correspondence
with the Governor of Kenya regarding a
letter from the E.A. Indian National
~~demands for a bill framed as a result of~~
Congress relating to the alternative
revenue proposals.

I am etc.

(Signed) J. E. W. FLOOD

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Federation's memorandum, the Governor
of Kenya has stated that consideration
will be given at some convenient time
to the question of amending the ~~Ordinance~~
so as to permit of the transfer of a
trade licence from one person to another.
It should be emphasised
however, that the Ordinance already
contains provisions for a refund of
surrender of a licence, and for a licence
to be taken out at an interim point in a
year at a proportionately reduced fee.

6. I am to take this opportunity of
forwarding, for the information of
Sir Samuel Hoare, copies of correspondence
with the Governor of Kenya regarding a
letter from the F.A. Indian National
~~Committee for the sole purpose of~~
Congress relating to the alternative
revenue proposals.

I am etc.

(Signed) J. E. W. FLOOD

Any further communication on this subject should
be addressed to—
The Under Secretary of State for India,
Economic and ^{Departmental} Overseas
and the following reference quoted—
S & O. 8044/33.



INDIA OFFICE

WHITEHALL,

LONDON, S.W. 1.

18th December 1935.

To—
WILLIAMSON, G. E. M. Esq.
Telegrams—
Williamson, London.

Sir,

C. O. REGY

With reference to your letter of 1st January

No. 4011/7/35, regarding the proposed measures of
taxation in Kenya, I am directed by the Government of India

for India in Council to enclose copy of letter

from Government of India, 6th November, 1935, with enclosures.

Protest made by the Federation of East African Federated

Commerce and Industry of Kenya against certain provisions

in the new Ordinance.

That a copy of their Memorandum was sent to

Colonial Secretary at Nairobi.

Sir Samuel Hoare shares the views of the Government of India on the matter, and I am to express the hope that Sir R. Juniper Minister will consider sympathetically the representations of the Federation in consultation with the Governor.

Yours, etc.,

Your obedient servant,

A. D. / P.

Original sent
By Air Mail.

No.F.207/33-L.& O.

Government of India.

Department of Education, Health and Manas.

New Delhi, the 6th November, 1933.

Pyrm

To the Federation

Eastern Africa dated the 27th September, 1933.

It will be observed that the Federation have taken strong exception to clauses (b) and (c) of Section 7 of the Licensing Ordinance, 1933, on the following grounds:-

- (i) That the license fees for wholesale and retail traders have been enhanced by Rs.100/- and Rs.150/- respectively and that the reduced rates proposed for subsidiary places of business by the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee have disappeared altogether;
- (ii) That the proviso to clause (c) restricts the value of goods on hand to Rs.150/- and that this restriction takes away a very material concession which, under the draft Bill, it was proposed to grant to retail traders.

2. In the opinion of the Government of India the proposed enhancements, which are high, will fall mainly upon the members of the Indian community, if the considered opinion of the commercial representatives of the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee that the sum derived from trades license cannot be passed on to the consumer proves to be correct. This will have the effect of increasing the rates of the community in the sacrifice which the majority are being called upon to make in favour of the rates of the Kikuyu. The Government of India would like to advise the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the alternative rates proposed by the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee are discriminatory and unfair. The Government of India would like to request the Government of Kenya to restore the original rates proposed by the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee. The Secretary of State for the Colonies should be asked to consider the matter sympathetically. From first it appears to the Government of India that the rates proposed originally by the Alternative Proposals Committee should be restored as forming an integral part of the alternative measure, which, in his dispatch No. 307 dated 7th June, 1933, to the Governor of Kenya, the Secretary of State for the Colonies wished to be given a full and fair trial.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Bd. G. S. Dajpati,

Secretary,

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Copy of a letter dated the 27th September, 1933, from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry of Eastern Africa.

SUBJECT :- Trade Licenses in Kenya Colony.

I am directed by my committee to send you herewith the following

1. Copy of the Memorandum submitted by this Federation to the Government of Kenya on increase of trade license fees.
2. Copy of letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary, Nairobi.

My committee hopes that the Government of India would make necessary representations on behalf of this Federation if found necessary.

~~Copy of a letter dated the 27th September, 1933, from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry of Eastern Africa to the Colonial Secretary, Nairobi.~~

SUBJECT:- An Ordinance to provide for the payment of Trade Fees and certain Miscellaneous Duties.

I am directed by my committee to send you a copy of the Memorandum to the Colonial Secretary, Nairobi, with reference to increase of fees for trade licenses.

My committee hopes that the right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies will receive favourable consideration and the amount charged for trade licenses will be altered to original proposals as requested therein. However if it is decided that the Ordinance should not be amended at present as desired by my committee, I have been asked by my committee to request you to forward the representations of my committee to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies in London.

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly communicate to me the decision of the Government in due course.

ANSWER:- Two copies of Memorandum.

M E M O R A N D U M .

on

An Ordinance to provide for licensing of certain trades, professions and occupations and to fix licence fees payable.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa considers the question of increase in fees for trade licences of vital importance to the Indian Commercial community in this country. The Federation therefore begs to submit the following view points on the increased licence fees recommended by the Select Committee and approved and passed by the Legislative Council of Kenya.

A special meeting of the Working Committee of the Federation was held at Mombasa on the 10th September 1933 solely for the purpose of considering this question when the following resolution was passed unanimously :

Resolution

"It is the unanimous opinion of this committee that the (A) of subsection No. 1. of section 21 of the draft Bill to provide for Licensing of Certain trades, professions and occupations in the Colony and in the Protectorate of Kenya, be amended so as to provide for the payment of a sum of Rs. 1/- per annum for each trade or profession mentioned in the said section and that the same be fixed against the fees and rates of the various trades and professions by the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee."

This committee registers its strong protest against the aforesaid changes without giving opportunity to the commercial community to make representations in their behalf.

That it be an instruction to the Working Committee to make necessary representations to the Government of Kenya and to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view to have the amended clauses altered to original proposals as proposed in the Draft Bill."

The personnel of the committee which examined the alternative revenue proposals included representatives of commerce. The Government of Kenya according to one of the terms of reference required the committee to examine and report on "The resultant incidence of taxation proposed as between both individuals and communities." This was one of the most important issues in discussions of various taxation proposals and the schedule of fees agreed to by the committee was very carefully and particularly

As regards (b) in the schedule appearing in the addendum to the Report of the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee no figure as to number of the traders who would take out licences has been given. But in explanation thereof the commercial representatives of the committee pointed out that, "All persons who carry on wholesale trade in Kenya also engage in overseas trade and would consequently pay a licence fee of £ 30/- and further that the great majority of substantial traders in Kenya are wholesale traders."

Some of the members of the Committee suggested that it would be a useful estimate to calculate the number of traders trading in Kenya as prepared in the Survey of Trade and Commerce in 1950 which have increased to a figure of about 1,100, or thereabouts, £ 1,100, or thereabouts.

Under the proposed new system

Licences

£ 300/-

presently no fees are payable by a wholesale trader having a subsidiary place of business, whereas under the proposed new system he will have to pay a uniform fee of Shs.300/- for the principal as well as each subsidiary place of business. Similarly a Retail Trader (including importation) having principal as well as subsidiary places of business was to pay Shs.50/- only for each subsidiary place whereas under the increased fees he will be called upon to pay Shs.450/- for the principal as well as each subsidiary place of business.

Under the Draft Bill a wholesale trader (without importation or exportation) having subsidiary places of business had the advantage of paying a reduced fee in respect of branches. The Ordinance as now enacted requires every wholesale trader to pay an uniform fee of Shs.300/- for the principal as well as each subsidiary place of business. Similarly a Retail Trader (including importation) having principal as well as subsidiary places of business was to pay Shs.50/- only for each subsidiary place whereas under the increased fees he will be called upon to pay Shs.450/- for the principal as well as each subsidiary place of business.

The figure of increased amount payable by taking away of

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the above concessions which mainly affect the Indian Traders cannot be definitely estimated but it would no doubt be quite considerable.

It is well known that of the Retail Traders Indians constitute a majority and the increased fees would bear most heavily on them, particularly when they are already bearing the main weight of taxation. In the debate in the Legislative Council on this bill a point was made that the Government had not consulted the Indian Traders in framing this bill and that the burden on the Indian traders would be very heavy. The Government did not refuse to do so but said that the Indian Traders were not consulted by the Government because the Indian Traders did not desire to do so. The Indian Traders did not desire to do so because they did not want to pay extra amount of tax.

The Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee had very carefully considered the matter and arrived at unanimous conclusion that the Indian Traders should not bear the extra burden of this bill. That was the main reason why the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee did not propose any alternative without giving due consideration to the Indian Traders who were affected thereby. The Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee, before the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee, constitutes a definite branch of faith and there is no reply to the charge that the Government in this case did not keep a balanced mind to act impartially for the interests of different communities and that the Indian commercial community was singled out for shouldering the extra burden of this tax.

It would not be out of place to mention that Alternative Revenue Proposals represented as a whole the taxation in place of income tax, and the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee had, no doubt, before their mind the burden which a particular community would bear under the income tax. That ratio which was to a certain extent well-balanced in the Alternative Committee proposals who most deliberately,

definitely and rudely disturbed by the amendments of the Select Committee.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee examined the proposals carefully and devoted several days for their consideration whereas the Select Committee hurriedly finished the whole evidence and examination within two days.

The Select Committee, however, did not consider the recommendations made by the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee, but it was never thought that such drastic changes, as have been made, would ever be suggested, much less would be entertained by the Government and embodied in the Bill. The Federation took it, and rightly too, that as the Bill under consideration was apparently meant to extend the provisions of the Traders Licensing Ordinance 1919 for the purpose of obtaining additional revenue to tide over the period of budget deficit and as the main proposals were agreed upon according to the Draft Bill, the Select Committee would, if at all, try to reduce the fees where possible, but in no case increase the fees, after the unanimous recommendations of the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee. The Federation was therefore

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not in a position to make any representations on proposed changes to the Select Committee.

The Legislative Council assembled in the first week of August 1933 and a dozen bills were introduced, reported upon by the Select Committee and rushed through all their stages by the 12th August 1933. The Federation through its representative at Nairobi was informed on the 11th August 1933 that the Select Committee proposed the changes incorporated in the Ordinance as it now stands. On the 12th August the Honourable the Colonial Secretary was informed by telegram that this Federation was strongly opposed to the proposed changes, that these changes would affect adversely the Indian commercial community and that they would be given opportunity to make representations. The protest conveyed by telegram did not have any effect on the course of legislation.

According to the argument advanced by the representatives on the Alternative Taxation Committee the trade licences tax could not be imposed on the consumers. The Government officials, however, differed from that view. They stated "They believe that with existing condition of intensive competition under which merchants are conducting business at a very low margin of profit (and many even at a loss), it is quite impossible for them to bear the whole burden proposed. Though the precise means may not be discernible, some part, if not the major portion of the burden, they believe must be passed on to the consumers."

If the official view is acceptable to the Government, it must not be forgotten that the majority of consumers of the retail merchants on whom the burden has been increased are Indians and Natives and most of the wares sold by these retailers are for small shop-keepers for Native requirements. Therefore even according to the opinion of the

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Government officials on the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee the burden to a certain extent is bound to be passed on to the Natives and Indians and these are so heavily taxed already that they could not afford to bear any extra burden. If this view is not accepted then as the Federation submits the burden will be wholly borne by the Indian merchants and this changes the whole basis and fabric of the Federation's position in regard to incidence as between

"...the Government of India and the State Government the Government of India can only fix the general license fees and alter the same only by an Order in Council."

The Federation would like to draw your attention to the proposed change in regard to transfers of professional licences. It is proposed that professional licences shall not be issued to persons who are not qualified and competent to practise their profession but in the case of pharmacists it is proposed that the section No. 12

"...A trading licence may be endorsement of a person and payment of a fee of five shillings be granted to different persons."

It does not provide for a transfer of a license to a different person or firm. In this connection Section 6 of the Traders' Licensing Ordinance 1919 provided that :-

"Section 6. The Licensing Officer on cause shown:-

(1) Allow a licence to be transferred from any one person to any other person;

provided that any such transfer shall not involve a change of store and shall be subject to any law governing the trade carried on at such store;

(2) Allow a trading licensee to have his licence transferred so as to apply to a different store from that in respect of which it was originally proposed."

It is hoped that Section No. 12 would be so amended as to include the transfer of licence to different persons and firms as well.

COPY.

THE FEDERATION OF INDIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY OF EASTERN AFRICA.

Working Committee's Office,
Salim Road,
P. O. Box 155,

MOMBASA 27th September, 1909.

To.

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
P. O. Box 155,
MOMBASA.

As originally intended

enclosed two copies of our Memorandum
pertaining to the proposed

Memorandum will receive your kind attention
of fact for this memorandum will be submitted
as requested previously. I have to inform you that
Ordinance should not be promulgated at present as my
Committee, I have been asked by my Committee to request you to
forward the representations of my Committee to the Right
Honourable, the Secretary of State for the Colonies in London.

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly communicate
to me the decision of the Government in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J.D. MASTER.

Enccl:

Secretary.

Two copies of Memorandum.

COPY.

B

and the matter is referred to the Select Committee on Trade Licences, Licences and Permits in view of the increase fees payable.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa considers the question of increase in fees for trade licences of vital importance to the Indian Commercial community in this country. The Federation therefore begs to submit the following viewpoints on the increased licence fees recommended by the Select Committee and approved and passed by the Legislative Council of Kenya.

A special meeting of the Working Committee of the Federation was held at Nairobi on the 10th September 1953 solely for the purpose of considering this question when the following resolution was passed unanimously :-

Resolution

"It is the considered opinion of this committee that the changes made in licence fees appearing in clauses (B) (c) and (d) of subsection No. 1 of Section No. 7 of the Draft Bills to provide for licensing of Certain trades, professions and occupations in the Colony, and to fix licence fees payable upon increase the wholesale trader's licence not involving importation or exportation from Shs. 20/- to Shs. 100/- and retail trader's licence from Shs. 50/- to Shs. 100/- and taking away of other concessions materially affect the Indian commercial community and are against the whole basis on which the minimum recommendations of the Alternative Committee Proposals militate.

This Committee requests the Government to take into due consideration the views of the Indian community in this Colony and to consider the same before finalizing the new fees.

This Committee also wishes to point out that the main objection against the proposed fees is that they are discriminatory and unfair to the Indian community in Kenya and in the Federal Republic of India. The charges will affect the hard working Indian traders and business men who have been operating in this Colony for many years.

This Committee also submits that since the alternative committee proposals recommended fees were not agreed to by the Government of Kenya it is felt that the terms of reference given to this committee is erroneous and report to "The recommend fee to India as proposed by the individual Indian communities". This was one of the most important reasons in discontinuation of work in this initial proposal and the second reason was fees agreed to by the committee was very unrefined and arbitrary and later on a different view.

Therefore we request the Alternative Committee to re-examine the question of increasing the fees.

- 2 -

"It is the considered opinion of the unofficial representatives of the committee that the sum derived from traders' licences must necessarily cannot be passed on to the consumer. It is contended that this fee could only be placed in the general charges account of business taxation, and that the burden of this tax would be borne equitably by the non-native trading and professional communities".

The above opinion was based on and applied to the licence fees approved by the committee and appearing in the Draft Bill. For ready reference clauses (b) (c) and (d) of the Draft Bill and clauses (b) and (c) as amended by the Select Committee and passed by the Legislative Council to which the Federation takes strong exceptions are given below :-

Clauses as appearing in the Draft Bill:

- (b) A licence to carry on the business of a wholesale trader not including importation or exportation from or to places beyond the Colony:-
For the principal or only place of business or where the business is not carried on at any defined premises..... 100
For each subsidiary place of business.... 100
- (c) A licence to carry on the business of a retail trader but including importation from places beyond the Colony:-
For the principal or only place of business or where the business is not carried on at any defined premises..... 300
For each subsidiary place of business.... 300
- (d) A licence to carry on the business of a retail trader not including importation from places beyond the Colony, for each place of business..... 30

Clauses as amended and passed by the Legislative Council.

- (b) A licence to carry on the business of a wholesale trader not including importation or exportation from or to places beyond the Colony:-
For each place of business or where the business is not carried on at any defined premises. 500.
- (c) A licence to carry on the business of a Retail Trader :-
For each place of business of where the business is not carried on at any defined premises..... 400.

PROVIDED that where the value of the goods on hand for the year preceding the date of taking the licence has not exceeded at any place of business £100 at any one time the fee shall be :----- 50.

- 5 -

As regards (c) in the statement quoted in the Addendum to the Report of the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee no figure as to the number of persons who would take out licences has been given. In explanation thereof the commercial representative of the committee pointed out that, "All persons who carry on wholesale trade in Kenya also engage in overseas trade and would consequently pay a licence fee of £50; and further that the great majority of substantial traders in Kenya are wholesale traders". Some of the members of the committee considered that it would be a juster estimate to put number of the traders under (b) at 100. As proposed in the Draft Bill from 100 licences the revenue would have amounted to £1,000, but under the increased fees it would be £1,100, an increase of £100.

Under (d) the Indian Traders would have paid £100 extra under the proposed fees they will pay £100 extra.

Under (e) the Indian Traders will pay a return of £100 extra. Mr. G. D. T. Miller in his speech in the Legislative Council on 12th January 1929 said that he did not consider that the Indian Traders would in any case be affected by the proposed increase in the value of the fees. The Indian Traders are subject to the same restrictions as the other traders in Kenya, and probably will not be affected by the proposed increase in fees.

Under (f) the Indian Traders will pay £100 extra. The Indian Traders are subject to the same restrictions as the other traders in Kenya, and probably will not be affected by the proposed increase in fees.

The figures of increased amount payable by taking away all the above subdivisions which mainly affect the Indian Traders cannot be definitely estimated but it would no doubt be quite considerable.

It is wellknown that of the retail Traders Indians constitute a majority, and the increased fees would bear most harshly on them, particularly when they are already heavily burdened by other taxation. In the debate in the Legislative Council on this bill a point was made that the increased fees would bear most harshly on the Indian Traders. That contention was not refuted by the Government. But it is now clear from the details of extra amounts payable by the Indian Traders as shown above.

The Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee had very carefully considered the proposals and arrived at unanimous conclusions particularly on the trade licences bill. These were approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The amendments to the agreed schedule without giving an opportunity, to those who were to be affected thereby, to present their case in the same manner as before the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee, constitutes a definite breach of faith and there is no reply to the charge that the Government in this case did not keep a balanced mind to act impartially for the interests of different communities and that the Indian commercial community was singled out for shouldering the extra burden of this tax.

It would not be out of place to mention that Alternative Revenue Proposals represented as a whole the situation in plain black and white. The Alternative Revenue Proposals which had no truck before their introduction in the Lok Sabha, constituted a heavy burden on the Indian commercial community. It was agreed to by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha that the bill should be introduced in the Lok Sabha and the Lok Sabha should be given an opportunity to consider the bill and make representations to the Select Committee. The Select Committee had never thought that such drastic changes, as have been made, would ever be suggested, much less would be entertained by the Government and embodied in the Bill. The Federation took it, and rightly too, that as the Bill under consideration was apparently meant to extend the provisions of the Traders Licensing Ordinance 1919 for the purpose of obtaining additional revenue to tide over the period of budget deficit and as the main proposals were agreed upon according to the Draft Bill, the Select Committee would, if at all, try to reduce the fees where possible, but in no case increase the fees, after the unanimous recommendations of the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee. The Federation was therefore not in a position to make any representations on proposed changes to the Select Committee.

- 5 -

The Legislative Council assembled in the first week of August 1953 and a dozen bills were introduced, reported upon by the Select Committee and rushed through all their stages by the 12th August, 1953. The Federation through its representative at Nairobi was informed on the 11th August 1953 that the Select Committee proposed the changes incorporated in the Ordinance as it now stands. On the same day the Honourable the Colonial Secretary was informed by telegram that this Federation was strongly opposed to the proposed changes, that these changes would materially affect the Indian commercial community and that they should be given opportunity to make representations but this protest conveyed by telegram did not have effect on the course of legislation.

According to the argument of the Commercial Representatives on the Native Affairs proposals Committee the trade licence fees proposed on 28/8/53, differed from that of 1952 in that they believe that with existing conditions of competition under which merchants were operating a very low margin of profit could only be made. It is quite impossible for these men to proceed through the present system of prohibitory taxes part of which they believe must be passed on to the consumer.

If the official view is accepted by the Government, it must not be forgotten that of consumers of the articles which have been increased are those who buy the wares sold by these merchants and keepers for Native requirements. This according to the opinion of the original Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee to a certain extent is true in the case of Natives and Indians and therefore it is equally true already that they could not afford to bear such a burden. If this view is not accepted then as the Federation submits the burden will be wholly borne by the Indian merchants and thus changes the whole basis and fabric of Alternative taxation in regard to incidence as between individuals and communities.

The Federation therefore requests the Government of Kenya to reduce the increased licence fees and alter the schedule of fees to original proposals.

Another point to which the Federation would like to draw the attention of the Government is in regard to transfer of licences. It is recognised that professional licences cannot be transferred to persons who are not qualified and entitled to practise a particular profession but in the case of merchants and traders it should not be so. Section No. 12 of the New Ordinance runs as follows :-

"Section 12. A trading licence may by endorsement of a licensing officer and on payment of a fee of five shillings be transferred to different premises".

It does not provide for a transfer of a licence to a different person or firm. In this connection Section 6 of the Traders' Licensing Ordinance 1919 provided that :-

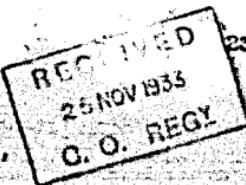
so that the licence holder may have the right to transfer his

allow a licensee to transfer his licence to another person or firm.

(2) That the such transfer shall not involve a change of store and shall be subject to any law governing the trade carried on at such store;

(3) Allow a trading licensee to have his licence transferred so as to apply to a different store from that in respect of which it was originally proposed".

It is hoped that Section 16(1) would be amended as to include the transfer of licence to persons and firms as well.



23rd November 1933.

Dear Preston,

We have received a letter from the Government of India on the subject of representations made by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry of East Africa regarding Clauses (b) and (c) of Section 7 (about fees for trading licences) of the Kenya Licensing Ordinance 1933.

Will you kindly let me know what the Federation say if it appears that the Bill introduced in the Legislative Council was referred to a Select Committee which made certain modifications in these clauses.

It will help us to understand the case properly if we can have a copy of (1) the Bill as introduced, (2) the Ordinance as passed and (3) the Proceedings in the Legislative Council and the Report of the Select Committee - or at least such parts of these Proceedings and Report as relate to clauses (b) and (c) of Section 7.

Can

Kenya

Downing Street.

November, 1913.

KENYA.

No. 807

To acknowledge the receipt
of your letter dated the 11th of September
and to request you to furnish me with information concerning the
provision for the examination of his
qualifications for practice
which has been organized
in accordance with the
provisions of the
Licensing Ordinance.
I will be pleased to fix the
date of my visit to Kenya
and to inform you
when I shall be in a position
to exercise his
right of inspection or request of any of these
documents.

2. I take this opportunity to forward to you
of correspondence with the British Dental Association
with regard to the fees payable by dentists under the
Licensing Ordinance. I shall be glad to receive
your observations on this matter in due course.

3. I observe from the proceedings of the
last Governors' Conference, which are now before me,

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING

that

THE GOVERNMENT OF
KENYA.

that it was agreed that a Tax on Imported Packages
Ordinance shall come into force in Uganda and the
Tanganyika Territory as well as in Kenya with
effect from the 1st of December next.

4. I concur in the opinion expressed in
paragraph 14 of your despatch that, in view of the
difficulty of the critical estimate of revenue to be
derived from the proposed

tax, it would be unwise to proceed with the
introduction of the tax until the financial
position of the Colony has been more fully
assessed.

5. I hope you will accept and at this reply
be being forwarded to the India Commissioners of His
Majesty's Treasury for their information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Sgd.) P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

AIR MAIL.

KENYA.

NO. 1287

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI,

KENYA,

14th September, 1938.

Sir,

(1) An increase in the Capital of the Bank of Kenya.

(2)

(3) An increase in the Capital of the East African Development Board.

(4)

(5) An increase in the Capital of the East African Railways and Harbours Board.

(6)

(7) An increase in the Capital of the East African Postal Services Board.

(8)

(9) An increase in the Capital of the East African Air Transport Board.

(10)

(11) An increase in the Capital of the East African Agricultural Marketing Board.

(12)

(13) An increase in the Capital of the East African Geodesy and Survey Board.

(14)

(15) An increase in the Capital of the East African Fisheries Board.

(16)

(17) An increase in the Capital of the East African Game Reserve Board.

(18)

(19) An increase in the Capital of the East African Veterinary Research Board.

(20)

(21) An increase in the Capital of the East African Technical Services Board.

(22)

(23) An increase in the Capital of the East African Technical Services Board.

(24)

(25) An increase in the Capital of the East African Technical Services Board.

(26)

(27) An increase in the Capital of the East African Technical Services Board.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MAJOR SIR PHILIP GUNNIFEE-LISTER, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., M.R.A.
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE DOMINIONS.

You were supplied with copies of the separate bills which were prepared for introduction into the Legislative Council and embodied (1) to (4) and (5) of the above proposals.

In regard to (5) you were informed, in my despatch No. 423 of the 8th July last, that it was intended to introduce the new taxation of Companies by ~~amendment~~ to be proposed by the Select Committee which already had the Companies Bill under consideration. In deference to the views of the Government of Mysore State, however, it was now decided to impose the increased taxation on the capital of new Companies, or increases in the registered capital of existing Companies, by ~~amendment~~ which will be made to the Stamp Committee. By this ~~amendment~~ amendment of the Companies Bill would be one of the means of meeting the alternative revenue proposals. I shall report to the Government ~~amendment~~ of the Bill to avoid the Stamp Committee at a later stage.

4. The five Bills dealing with the alternative revenue proposals were duly referred, after the second reading in the Legislative Council, to a Select Committee composed of four official and four European Elected Members with one Indian Elected Member and the Member representing Native Interests, under the chairmanship of the Attorney General.

The sittings of the Select Committee were held in the Supreme Court buildings as a convenience to the public, who were invited by

⑤ A Select Committee. The Select Committee considered verbal and written evidence of a number of witnesses and in its report recommended a number of amendments of the Bill. The main amendments proposed are set out in the Attorney General's Legal Report on the Bill.

The Report of the Select Committee was adopted by Council with certain minor amendments and the Bill was presented to the House of Commons on the 13th

January 1964. In presenting the Bill to the House of Commons, the Minister of Finance said that it had been referred to the Select Committee for consideration by the Select Committee it was felt that there was undue discrimination between males and females in the incidence of the tax, whereas males with taxable incomes of less than £100 per annum would have had to pay the minimum tax, females with taxable incomes of less than £15 per month would have been unaffected by the measure. It

was therefore considered equitable to reduce the minimum limit of taxable income above which females would be required to pay the tax to £120 per annum. I concurred in this view.

(b) You will observe that as a result of your telegram No.163 of the 1st August, the scale of taxable incomes was recommended by the Select Committee for reduction from £5,000 by stages of £1,000 to £10,000. This recommendation has not been adopted by the Government.

Respectfully yours

Subhash Chandra

Secretary
Government of India
Department of Finance
New Delhi
15th September 1947

Ref. No. 163
Sir, I am enclosing a copy of the Bill which would implement the recommendations of the Select Committee because (i.e., if any), residents in the Colony enjoy incomes in excess of that figure.

(c) I understand that in recommending that the tax should be payable during this year in one sum on the 5th November, instead of in two instalments due on the 20th of September and the 30th November respectively, the Select Committee was actuated by two motives:-

(1)

- (i) To avoid the necessity for the more complicated and costly machinery for collection which would be required if the tax was payable in instalments and
(ii) to avoid undue interference with the Christmas trade.

I am informed that these amendments had the approval of the commercial community.

7. It was stated in the "Objects and Reasons" at the end of the original Bill that the estimated gross yield of the Graduated Non-Native Poll Tax in a full year amounted to Rs. 1,70,000. The reduction of the tax payable by males whose taxable income does not exceed Rs. 100 from Rs. 4/- to Rs. 3/- necessitates a reduction in the estimated gross yield of the tax. On the other hand the reduction of the minimum of taxable income above which females will be required to pay from Rs. 6/- to Rs. 2/-; the extension of the range of taxable incomes from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000; and the exclusion from the Second Schedule of all deductions on account of contributions under the 'Widows' and 'Orphans' Pension Ordinance, or the State Railways Provident Fund, all tend to increase the estimated yield of the tax. You will appreciate that in the absence of reliable data as to the numbers and incomes of those who will come within the purview of the measure it is difficult to estimate closely what the yield may be. In the light of the factors set out above the Treasurer has estimated that the

gross

gross yield of the tax will amount in a full year to £66,000 and that for 1937 the amount of additional revenue due, over and above that received under the old Non-Native Poll Tax Ordinance, should be in the neighbourhood of £30,000.

An Extension of the System of Trades Licences.

8. The Trades Licensing Bill which was drafted to incorporate the proposals of the Alternative Proposals Committee was forwarded to you under cover of Mr. Wade's despatch No. 441 of the 14th July, 1933. The Bill was read a second time and referred to a Select Committee on the 4th August. The constitution of the Select Committee on each of the alternative revenue measures was the same. The report of the Select Committee was adopted with certain minor amendments on the 12th August and its recommendations are embodied in the Licensing Ordinance, 1933 to which I commented in the name and on behalf of His Majesty on the 6th September, 1933. I enclose two authenticated copies of the Ordinance, together with the Attorney General's Legal Report on the Bill.

9. You will observe that the main amendments recommended by the Select Committee are noted in the Legal Report of the Attorney General. I desire to amplify his remarks on the amendment of Clause 7 of the Bill in regard to the fees payable by wholesalers (not importing or exporting) and retailers.

Clauses 7(1)(b), 7(1)(c) and 7(1)(d).
of the original Bill provided as follows:-

"7(1)(b). A licence to carry on the business of Wholesale trader not including importation or exportation from or to places outside the Colony.

Fee.

For the principal or only place of business or where the business is not carried on at any defined premises.

Rs.200/-

For each subsidiary place of business.

Rs.100/-

7(1)(c). A licence to carry on the business of a retail trader not including importation from places beyond the Colony.

For the principal or only place of business or where the business is not carried on at any defined premises.

For each subsidiary place of business.

Rs.100/-

7(1)(d). A licence to carry on the business of a retail trader not including importation from places beyond the Colony for each place of business.

Rs. 50/-

10. The majority of the Select Committee on the Bill recommended the amendment of Clause 7 sub-clause (1) in such a manner as
- (a) to increase the fee payable by wholesalers (not importing or exporting) from Shs.200/- to Shs.300/- the latter fee being payable on each place of business;
 - (b) to increase the fee payable by a retail trader from Shs.300/- to Shs.450/-, the latter fee to be payable in respect of each place of business. A provision was added to the effect that the fee payable should be Shs.30/- for small businesses with a stock not exceeding £150.

The other member of the Select Committee disagreed himself from those recommendations and suggested that such increased fees would have mainly on a number of Indian Merchants and traders.

The reasons for the Select Committee recommending those alterations in the original Bill were as follows:-

The fee of Shs.200/- for the principal place of business and Shs.100/- for each branch of a wholesale firm not importing or exporting was so low, being actually less than the fee of Shs.300/- payable under the Traders Licensing Ordinance that it was felt both by commercial witnesses representing the Nairobi Chamber of Commerce, and by the Commissioner of Customs, that there was a risk that importing and exporting would be balked

through

of the fees referred to above have been made by representatives of the Indian commercial community.

These representations will be carefully considered and I shall, if necessary, address you further on the subject at a later date.

A copy of my despatch from the Addendum
to the Report of the Native Affairs Committee
on the Native Poll Tax Bill was sent to you by air-mail
on the 10th July, 1933. The motion
for the second reading was carried on the 4th
August and the Bill referred to the same
Select Committee as the Non-Native Poll Tax
Bill. At that time it had been ascertained
that neither the Governments of Uganda nor
Tanganyika Territory proposed to introduce
similar legislation. In addition it had been
necessary

No. 430 of the 19th August, and particularly the considerable yield from the additional duties on certain classes of imports which were imposed by the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1933, (vide my despatch No. 409 of the 3rd July, 1933).

Should it be your wish, however, that a Tax on Passengers should be proceeded with on the principle that it is one of the "alternatives"

(a) It is proposed to file the Bill referred to the same Select Committee as that appointed to consider the Non-Native Poll Tax Bill. The amendments recommended by the Select Committee whose report was adopted on the 12th August, are enumerated in the Attorney General's Legal Report on the Bill of which I enclose copies together with two authenticated copies

of the Tax on Imported Packges Ordinance to which I assented, in the name of His Majesty, on the 25th August, 1933. I do not wish to amplify the remarks contained in the Legal Report.

16. You will observe that the Ordinance contains a suspending clause which will enable simultaneous action to be taken in the Tigray-Habesha territories, or in the territories of the Dergyeha Tribes.

Similarly, the
Amendment to the
Regulation of the
Collection of the
Implications of the
Ordinance will be discussed at the forthcoming
Governors' Conference.

An Increased Tax on the Registration
of Companies.
An Increased Tax on Bills and
Provisionary Notes.

17. I have informed you earlier in this despatch of the decision to impose the required taxation on the Share Capital of new, and

increased

increases in the Share Capital of existing Companies by means of an amendment of the Stamp Ordinance. I now enclose two authenticated copies of the Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance 1933 to which I assented in the name of and on behalf of His Majesty on the 25th August, 1933, together with copies of the Attorney General's Legal Report on the Bill.

The Bill, as drafted, was forwarded to you under cover of Mr. Wade's despatch of the 14th July. After the consideration of the Bill on the 4th August it was referred to the same Select Committee as had been appointed to consider the Executive Council Bill allowing that under section 12 of which was inserted on the 1st August, 1933, the Select Committee a duty at the rate of £1 on the registration or on an increase in the share capital of a Company already registered No. 423 of the 5th July, 1927, that I had communicated to the Executive Council that the imposition of new, and increases in the Share Capital of existing Companies should be at the rate of one half per cent unless the Governments of Uganda and Tanganyika Territory were agreeable to the imposition of similar taxation at the rate of one per cent. In view of the facts that the Government of Tanganyika Territory was prepared to impose a tax at the rate of £5, and that the imposition of tax at that rate was

under

under consideration by the Government of Uganda, I decided that it was desirable that the new taxation should be at the rate of one half per cent in this Colony.

18. The original estimate of the yield of the Taxation on the Registration of Companies at the rate of 1% as prepared by the Committee on the Alternative Revenue Proposals was £11,000 in a full year, while the increased stamp duties were estimated by the Committee to yield £7,000 in a full year.

With regard to the Revenue from Companies the Auditor General estimates a tax at the rate of 1% would amount to £10,000 in a normal year, but adds that this has been a conservative estimate. The recommendation of one half per cent is based on no legislation being taken now and that it is naturally offend the present and future revenue accruing from this source in 1938. He considers that it would be unwise to rely on substantial revenue from this tax before 1938 until 1938 or later.

With regard to the revenue from Stamp Duties on Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes you will observe from previous correspondence that whereas the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee initially estimated a yield of £7,000, a later estimate, prepared departmentally, indicated a yield in a full year of £1,000. This lower estimate rests on the assumption that the

result

result of the new taxation will probably be to increase the number of 60 day bills, for which no increase in Stamp Duty is proposed. The Treasurer is of the opinion that it is reasonable to suppose that some such tendency will manifest itself when the new legislation takes effect and that for present purposes it would be preferable to accept the departmental estimate anticipating a yield in a full year of not more than £1,000.

19. As regards the additional revenue likely to accrue from these measures it will be remembered that the Alternative Revenue Proposals Committee estimated a total additional revenue of £111,000 in a full year from the imposition of taxes and licences recommended by it for further consideration. The Committee estimated that additional revenue of £101,000 would accrue from those of its suggestions which have now become law; this estimate excludes the proposed Land Tax. It will be seen, however, from preceding paragraphs that the Committee's original suggestions have not been retained in detail in the consequent legislation and that revised estimates of resultant additional revenue have therefore had to be prepared. On the assumption that the Tax on Imported Packages Ordinance will be duly brought into force by Proclamation, it is now anticipated that in a full year additional revenue to the amount of £90,000 will accrue to the Colony, made up as

follows:-

(2) follows:-

	£
Non-Native Poll Tax Ordinance	31,000.
Licensing Ordinance.	33,000.
Tax on Imported Packages Ordinance.	10,000.
Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance:-	
(a) Registration of Companies.....	£5,000.

With regard to the additional staff required to collect the above revenues with the exception of the Graduated Non-Native Poll Tax. The Treasurer is of the opinion, however, that additional staff will be essential to the collection of the Graduated Non-Native Poll Tax. With this end in view I have in mind the formation of a Central Revenue Office as a branch of the Treasury, which would absorb the branch which in 1932 started collating information for a

revenue registry and would specialise in recording information from the whole Colony relating to Non-Native Poll Tax, collect the tax in Nairobi and vicinity and gradually assume responsibility for the collection of other taxes not levied in Nairobi and possibly other towns in the Colony of East Central Africa.

It will be forwarded in the usual manner under separate cover.

I have etc,

(sgd) H.M.Moore.

ACTION GOVERNOR.

No. XLI.

1933



An Ordinance to Provide for the Licensing of Certain

Trades, Professions and Occupations within the
Colony and to Fix the Licence Fees Payable

An Ordinance to Provide for the Licensing of Certain
Trades, Professions and Occupations within the
Colony and to Fix the Licence Fees Payable

"banker" means any company, person or body of persons, British or foreign, whether incorporated or not, and whether registered in the Colony or not, engaged in the business of banking in the Colony who shall be declared by the Governor in Council by notice to be a banker for the purposes of this Ordinance but shall not include any such business firm issuing letters of credit.

"Exchange banker" means a person who carries on a business of exchange in the Colony but shall not include:

(a) a person who carries on a business of exchange in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Exchange Control Act, 1947 (Central Government Act No. 2 of 1947), incorporated or otherwise, in India or abroad, or a person who carries on a business of exchange in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Foreign Exchange Control Act, 1950 (Central Government Act No. 13 of 1950);

(b) a person who carries on a business of exchange in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Banking Ordinance referred to in section 11 of the Indian Banking Act, 1949 (Central Government Act No. 10 of 1949);

(c) a person who carries on a business of exchange in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Shipping Ordinance referred to in section 11 of the Indian Shipping Ordinance or the Indian Merchant Shipping Ordinance or quantity control or carriage tax and tonnage tax ordinances in respect of which a license for a vessel under the Ordinance but shall not authorize the carrying on of any business or profession for which any license or permit is required by any other ordinance;

(d) any person contravenes the provisions of this Ordinance shall be liable for a first offence to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds and in default of payment to imprisonment for any term not exceeding one month and for a second or subsequent offence to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty pounds and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

No. XLII

Licensing
6

1933

Rs.

Provided that where the value of the goods
on hand for the year preceding the date
of taking out the licence has not ex-
ceeded at any place of business £150 at
any one time the fee shall be

- (a) A licence to carry on the business of a principal
For the principal or carry place of business
For each branch
- (b) A licence to carry on the business of a principal
subject or agency (including branches)
- (c) A licence to carry on the business of a self-
employed agent or self-employed by that
individual carrying on such business whether
alone or in partnership, and a holding
or managing or as the director of a company
- (d) A licence to carry on the business of a
factory
- (e) A licence to carry on the business of a
factory, shipping, shipping, shipping
agent or managing agent or
agent or managing agent or
agent by such person or persons as
representative of another
through a local office, factory, shop
or building
- (f) A distributing agent, representative or
agent managing

The maximum of holding of life insurance
between providers in respect of life
insurance contracts entered into and in
force in a place outside the Colony and
whilst by the nature of the contract it is
convenient for the company or under-
writer to continue to receive until such
united capture, becomes void or other-
wise determined shall not for the pur-
poses of this section be deemed to be
carrying on the business of insurance.

220

(3) The Governor may renew the rights or part of any
fee paid under this rule made on the grounds of the practice
of the person holding the same for:

B. In respect of the year 1933 the following payments
shall be substituted for those of sub-sections (3) and (4)

Trading license and professional license shall be
paid by the 1st week before the 1st day of October,
1933, and shall stand for the 1st day of January
1934, and shall be payable for every month
or part of the month for which the fee specified in sub-sections (3)
and (4) applies.

The sum specified in the trading license is Rs. 10/-
per month or part of month for each member
of the firm or partnership or for him as manager of a firm
or partnership or for him as sole trader or trader
in his own name provided that at the time of
application for the license he must be a member
of the Royal College of Physicians of London or the Faculty
of Physicians and Surgeons of the Royal College of Physicians.

The sum specified in the professional license
is Rs. 10/- per month or part of month for each
member of the firm or partnership or for him as manager of a firm
or partnership or for him as sole trader or trader
in his own name.

The sum specified in the trading license is a sum
not exceeding Rs. 10/- per month or part of month
for each member of the firm or partnership.

The sum specified in the trading or a professional
license may be paid by the owner, manager or controller
representative of the business or by the person proposing to
practice the profession. Provided that a trading license and
be issued without written application if the applicant applies
in person for the same of the trading license and the business
undertaking submitted that the applicant has sufficient know-
ledge of the English language to enable it to apply in writing.

11. When a license is surrendered when

if the licensee has no right or duty to fail, the
sum of the fee paid shall be returned to the licensee
if the licensee has less than one and one-half
months in the case of any of the fee paid shall be
returned to the licensee.

No. XLI

Revised
No. V of 1923.
The Revised Edition, as amended by the Traders Licensing
Amendment Ordinance, 1932, is hereby repealed.

SCHEDULE**COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF KENYA.****The Licensing Ordinance, 1923.****Application for a Trading Licence.**

1. Name of applicant
 2. Name of the business
 3. Name of the business
 4. Is the business a branch of another business in the Colony?
 5. What is the nature of the business?
 6. Does the business include wholesale trading?
 7. Is the business that of retail trading only?
 8. What is the estimated importation from or exportation
 to foreign countries?
 9. Application for a trading licence for the business described

Examination of applicants.

- The licensing authority shall give the applicant
 such information and assistance which may reasonably be
 required for the examination of the form.

COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF KENYA.**The Licensing Ordinance, 1923.****Trading Licence.**

1. License is hereby granted to
 to carry on the business of
 in the premises situated at
 being the name of premises for which a fee of Shillings One
 has been paid
 2. This license expires on the 31st day of September, 19

Licensing Authority

3. The authority may cancel or withdraw the license
 if it appears to the authority that the holder is guilty of any
 offence against the ordinance.

REPO RT

C.V.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ARE
TO CONSIDER AND REPORT UPON THE PROVISIONS OF
BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING OF CERTAIN
TRADES, PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS WITHIN
THE COLONY AND TO FIX THE LICENSE FEES
PAYABLE.

Your Excellency,

We, the Members of the Select Committee of Legislative Council appointed by Your Excellency, have the honor to report that we have considered the provisions of a Bill to provide for the licensing of certain trades, professions and occupations within the Colony and to fix the license fees payable, and recommend that the Bill be adopted in the following respects:

- (1) That slight amendment be made in the definition of the following existing offices the definition of "businessman" -
 "businessman" means a practitioner who is resident in the Colony;
- (b) by deleting the definitions of "commercial traveller", "professor" and "native authority" and substituting therefor the following:-

"Commercial traveller" means a person who travels in the Colony elicited order for goods on behalf of another person, but does not include a person employed as a traveller by a person or firm licensed under this Ordinance;

"Professor" means the profession of an advocate, accountant, architect, auditor, venturer, engineer, geologist, managing agent, quantity surveyor, secretary, surveyor, veterinary surgeon and visiting agent;

(4) That clause 5 be amended by substituting the word "to" for the word "of" in the second line of sub-clause (6).

(5) That clause 6 be amended

(a) by deleting all words after "dairyman" in paragraph (a) of sub-clause (1) and substituting therefor the following:-

"For each place where the business is carried on at any defined premises....300"

(6) That clause 7, sub-clause (1) be amended

(a) by deleting all the words after "Colony" in paragraph (b) and substituting therefor the following:-

"For each place of business or where the business is not carried on at any defined premises....300"

(b) by deleting all the words after the word "tracer" in the second line of paragraph (c) and substituting therefor the following:-

"For each place of business or where
the business is not carried on at any
defined premises..... 450

Provided that where the value of goods
on hand for the year preceding the date of
taking out the licence has not exceeded at
any place of business £150 at any one time

the sum shall be £100.

The receiving up, collecting of life
assurance renewal premiums in respect of
life assurance contracts entered into
and in force in a place outside the Colony
and which by the nature of the contract
it is obligatory on the company or under
writers to continue to receive until
such contract expires, becomes void or
otherwise determines, shall not for the
purposes of this section be deemed to be
carrying on the business of insurance.

Fire or other perils written in conjunction with fire.

200

Larine (including transit insurance of any kind other than personal baggage insurance)

100

Accident (including burglary, personal baggage, personal accident and sickness, employers' liability and third party risks, guarantee, live stock, motor and plant glass)

Insurance business generally

10. That Clause 11 be amended by substituting the word "ord" for the word "nor" in sub-cl. 18c.
 11. That Clause 12 be amended by substituting the words "a licensing officer" for the words "the person who issued the licence".
 12. That Clause 16 be amended by substituting "one month" for the word "ten days".
 13. That the Schedule be amended by inserting the words "alone/in partnership" in the form of Application for Professional Licences, and the line beginning "at" in the form of Professional Licence.

So it is that I would like to be
Your Excellency's obedient servant etc
J. T. A. MELCHIONI (CHARLES)
M. BRUNTON
D. VALSH
R. K. MELLON
H. J. SCHWARTZ
H. Y. JACO
J. J. KIRKWOOD
J. J. H. LEAP
JOSEPH L. BLACK
GEORGE BURNS

11th August, 1938.

AIR MAIL

KENYA

No. 441.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI
KENYA

RECEIVED
24 JULY 1933
D. O. REGI

14 July, 1933.

Sir,

No. 21
With reference to your despatch No. 598 of the
7th June, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a Bill
to provide for the licensing of Certain Trades, Professions
and Occupations within the Colony and to fix the licence
fees therefor.

The Bill follows generally the terms of the
Proposed Committee and of the
Bill introduced by Mr. G. B. K. M.C., M.P.
in the Legislative Council
on 17th June, 1933.

ANTHONY CUNLIFFE-LISTER.
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWING STREET,
LONDON...S.W.1.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MAJOR GEN. PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., M.P.
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWING STREET,
LONDON...S.W.1.

July 11, 1930

2

A Bill to Provide for the Licensing of Certain
Trades, Professions and Occupations within
the Colony and to fix the Licence Fees
Payable.

of 11 ELIZABETH II
An Act with due alterations
and corrections.

Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Colony of
Ceylon on the 11th day of June, 1930, and it is hereby
enacted by the said Assembly that it is expedient to make
provision for the licensing of certain trades, professions
and occupations within the Colony, and for fixing the fees
payable therefor.

"banker" means any company, person or body of persons, British or foreign, whether incorporated or not, and whether registered in the Colony or not, engaged in the business of banking in the Colony but shall not include an exchange banker or a business firm issuing letters of credit;

"exchange banker" means a person who carries on for profit the business of operating in foreign currency outside the Colony but shall not include money changer;

"manufacturer" means a person manufacturing any articles, the gross receipts derived from the manufacture of which during the twelve months immediately preceding the date upon which the liability begins of the business exceed five hundred pounds;

President of
Executive
Committee
and
Chairman

4. No person shall practice any profession unless he holds a licence issued by the Ordinance referred to as a professional body or the like body or firm authorizing him to do so.
5. No person shall practice any profession of the
kind mentioned in section 4 above without first obtaining
from the appropriate professional body or firm a certificate
of qualification to do so.

6. Where no such certificate is issued, the appropriate
body or firm may make such rules and regulations
as it sees fit.

7. Nothing in this ordinance shall be deemed
to affect the rules of any trade union that forbids
the practice of any profession which it deems qualified
by law to practice.

8. Subject to the provisions of the two preceding sections,
no person shall not be allowed to practice a pro-
fession except by reason of having a name for the practice
of such profession.

9. No person other than a person employed in the ser-
vices of Government or of the Landports and Harbour Ad-
ministration shall practice as a lawyer, whether in respect of a
cause or not, unless he is duly licensed under this Ordinance.

10. A person who is licensed to practice as a
lawyer shall not practice as a lawyer and
advice such people on the right of action against
any other person.

11. No person shall have power to sue another unless
he holds a licence issued by the Executive Com-
mittee or the appropriate professional body or firm
for the time being constituted by the said body or firm.

12. No person shall have a license to sue another
unless he holds a certificate of qualification issued by the
appropriate professional body or firm.

13. No person shall be allowed to practice as a
lawyer unless he holds a certificate of qualification issued by the
appropriate professional body or firm.

14. A lawyer shall not charge his client for any services
rendered which are not done in accordance with the
terms of his contract and provided that a separate sum
not less than Rs. 10/- each month or longer than one
month be taken out for each month if longer than one
month is rendered or paid monthly. If of this amount
employed as counsellor or part-time.

15. Every person required by this section to be provided
with a lawyer's licence shall carry the same with him and
shall produce the same on demand of any district or police
officer or constable authority.

16. Every person required by this section to be provided
with a lawyer's licence shall carry the same with him and
shall produce the same on demand of any district or police
officer or constable authority.

The government of India Act, 1935, section 144
any commercial traveller

or any person holding only goods to sell or which
he brings under this Ordinance or requires for the
use thereof in a state.

any person engaged in business or trade

any person engaged in agriculture

any person engaged in commerce

any person engaged in manufacture

any person engaged in mining

any person engaged in quarrying

any person engaged in horticulture

any person engaged in floriculture

any person engaged in apiculture

any person engaged in bee-keeping

any person engaged in animal husbandry

any person engaged in agriculture

any person engaged in horticulture

any person engaged in floriculture

any person engaged in apiculture

any person engaged in bee-keeping

any person engaged in animal husbandry

any person engaged in agriculture

any person engaged in horticulture

any person engaged in floriculture

any person engaged in apiculture

any person engaged in bee-keeping

any person engaged in animal husbandry

- (i) itinerant barbers
 - (ii) tailors, not using their own cloth
 - (iii) artisans, shoemakers, blacksmiths and tinsmiths not having working premises at their residence
 - (iv) schoolmasters and managers of schools
- (c) The Governor may, from time to time, by order exempt a business or profession of any nature from the operation of this Ordinance either generally or in any area if, in his opinion, such exemption is desirable in the interests of the community, or, by reason of the business being liable to another fee, such exemption is equitable.

7. (1) The fee for carrying on a business shall be

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July 11, 1933.

	Sh.
(m) A licence to carry on the business of a temperance hotel or lodging-house (with establishments providing sleeping accommodation for six or more guests)	100
	300
(n) A licence to carry on the business of an assayer	600
(o) A licence to carry on the business of an exchange-banker	100
(p) A licence to carry on any other business	100
(q) A licence to practise as an advocate	100
(r) for each individual practising in partnership with another person or persons, or employed by another person at a salary or otherwise in the profession	100

(6) The Governor may from time to time by order authorize the issue of all or any trading licences in any area specified in the order at fees lower than those prescribed by or under this section where, in his opinion, by reason of circumstances affecting that particular area a reduction of all or any of such fees is expedient.

8. In respect of the year 1933 the following provisions shall apply in substitution for those of sub-sections (3) and (4) of section 7:

(a) Trading licences and professional licences shall be taken out on or before the first day of September, 1933, and shall expire on the 31st day of December, 1933, and there shall be payable for each such licence one-half of the fee specified in sub-section (1).

Special provisions
for year 1933

July 11, 1983

11, 1983.

9. The proprietor may not appoint any other person or a managing authority over any district or districts of the premises and such person shall not be such district or districts of the premises as to be liable to any fine or other punishment under this section.

10.

Every application for a trading or a professional license shall be signed by the owner, manager or authorized representative of the business or by the person proposing to practice the profession. Provided that a trading license may be issued without written application if the same is held in perfect order and is issued in accordance with the provisions of the L.

11. Every application for a professional license shall be signed by the owner, manager or authorized representative of the business or by the person proposing to practice the profession. Provided that a trading license may be issued without written application if the same is held in perfect order and is issued in accordance with the provisions of the L.

July 11

11, 1935

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

What is the exact nature of the business?
 A. Is the business mainly mercantile trade?
 B. Is the business that of retail trading only?
 C. Does the business include importation from or exportation
 D. Is there any foreign exchange involved?
 E. Apply for a trading license for the business described
 above.

Note.—The licensing authority shall give the applicant
 all information or documents which they respectfully request
 required for the registration of this firm.

TAXES AND TRADING FEES

Signature of Applicant

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that I am the
 sole owner of the business described above and that
 I have no interest in any other business or firm
 in this country or abroad.

Signature of Applicant

NAME OF THE BUSINESS
 OR TRADE
 FOR WHICH LICENSE
 IS APPLIED

TRADE
 NAME
 ADDRESS
 TEL. NO.
 DATE
 TEL. NO.
 DATE

COLONIAL AND PROTECTORATE OF BURMA
THE INDEPENDENCE, 1933
HISTORIC SOURCE

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that I am the
 sole owner of the business described above and that
 I have no interest in any other business or firm
 in this country or abroad.

TRADE
 NAME
 ADDRESS
 TEL. NO.
 DATE

TRADE NAME

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that I am the
 sole owner of the business described above and that
 I have no interest in any other business or firm
 in this country or abroad.

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that I am the
 sole owner of the business described above and that
 I have no interest in any other business or firm
 in this country or abroad.

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that I am the
 sole owner of the business described above and that
 I have no interest in any other business or firm
 in this country or abroad.