LATION

C.0.

AKER, H.

26th August, 1925.

DESIGN OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.
SELECTION OF AN ARCHITECT.

BELEVITOR OF AN ARCHITECT.

Has been requested by Colonial Secretary to communicate with C.O. regarding Requests interview before the 29th inst.

(EARLIER CORRES. ATTACHED.)

Previous Paper

U.S. of S.

My Stracke

MINUTES

I explained to Mr. Baker yesterday by telephone that we had had no telegram from Kenya and in the meantime the matter could not be dealt with on an official basis but that if he camed to come round I should of course be happy to see him.

He came this morning and I am afraid the impression I made on him will prove to be bad.

The matter was not carried any further except that I understood (a) that he was going away for three weeks (b) that letters would be forwarded to him; and (c) he regarded it as important that Mr. Hoogterp's visit should be arranged as soon as possible.

A reference to the Crown Agents

Led him to eay that he did not understand their position and would object to dealing with them.

I made some explanation of the Crown Agents' position in such matters; but it was clear that he expects, (following his dealings with the India Office) to deal atther with the Permanent Under Secretary or the Colonial Government direct. It assemed unwise to press the point but Mr. Baker was clearly dissatisfied also at the below at I anticipate he will report unfavourably so Sir E. Fray from whom we shall possibly hear. I

ed. The Lake ! ? Tel. to Kenyajas in draftwherewith.

nighhanded.

nust say I think Mr. Eaker was unreasonable and somewhat

ITD.) H.T.A.

27/8/25.

39048

ia Varion Strong Kranffidirik, essenya, 6 i Marken, Victoria 2004.

6th August, 1925.

The Secretary, Solonial Office,

Dear Sir M

of Kenya saying that he has asked you to communicate with me and resting that I should myself communicate direct with the olonial Office.

A suggestion was made in our correspondence that I should elect an architect to go out to Kenya early this Aufumn, and as an leavingfor my holiday on Saturday it might be as well if you would arrange an interview as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully.

Herber Baker

Mr. Strang Car Cal Sit. J. Shuckburgh, Sir Q. Davis. in G. Grindle. Sir J. Masterion Smill Mr. Ormsby-Gor DRAFT. with of to your letter of the as A.R. A fanget and your interior of Ki Sept, Sam & t infor In that a begin has been bet t The O.A.G. of Kenje Shop asky him 5 lelepape his reconsideras es som es porile, and which him that is new It beligne sed for have round front Al leas, you are expectly it an end date author to proceed in the amount contaght of with colder for the with Solt of Kenze or creater

multo and La 25 ang by tel 25 ang Juthe DRAFT. Tel: sus: Gavemor, & buildings Baker has Nairobi rothin recipt of letyrain MINUTE. In Colonial Leveling and Mr. ANACle # 1975-Mr. Strackey 28 ch ma Pleas the property was the rean wendations Sir C. Davis. is son is possible_ Sir G. Grindle. 2dfo.

I stack on to E/3 goursfas Ind RE.

Deer Sir Edward Origg.

I am returning herewith the dorrespondence between the Government of Kenya and Mr. Herbert
Baker, which you sent Mr. Amery on the 7th August. I enclose
a copy of a telegram which has been sent to Mairobi in
accordance with your request.

We have had two espies of the correspondence made, and I enclose one copy with this letter which you may wish to keep, as the originals are to be returned to Mr.Baker. The other copy we should like, if you have no objection, to place on record in the Department. I see, however, that in your letter to Mr.Amery you say "I enclose for your private eye", so you may prefer that it should not go on official record. Perhaps you would be good enough to let me know.

Yours sincerely,

h Merackey . Draft Elegran herewith ? I See shares read a Chy to Tis I Engg & relien the torres as he ranesto. But, if her is no obrechan, Cotes show he made theft & to War Change being bed so) + he paper escalies in record with the minutes or til \$ (8/1s ? do proceed. I venture 5 draws

that the assent. That about to the profession succept M. Beker ason to with fix belying in the vest designs for Delhi wings stip I to a still and with and with and half attended in Keys, silving a surface play The large views which he belong takes full gress ton of the

impolance with Engine St- The act to of a change of less may ste I think it does no have to reward that the Emoyean population is less than that of Broadfairs, + that in direction sport the are a bad third to regarde a Tangargike entity in got of the harrier the textured my to t was the character preceded the establishment of Britis Chan -I quite agree. Think there is a lendency on the past of these cornected with Keya to love il serse of proportion. as I have visid before Ithink to proposalo extravegar but Ideal know that we can do mare the what he bottomby resulvealy done in pourting appeared to be E. forg. I have appeared tologra. 8 th to gener.

Home 18/8/20 struction 18/8 (See mai to tale) Ormaby-Gore 15 8 15 RAFT. Val Lo ang: venor, Following two Frigg rirobi begins I understand town Kerbert Baker he can bisit Kenya for math or unweeks immediately before Christmas o It Failing that he all not be free till autimn following a no menuto not at arees I strongly advise by securing

Tiget immediately an leans Topace his letter 18 h = 0 I also recommend love abbanking strong text for are Cas in accordance with troposal in that letter o there careful Carsulfatian and blanning now well be justified by economies an shole bilding scheme @ verter of Male ready to carcar

Show here here we were to

See my remarks

0 200 17 18 13.825 PAL in to objection in hunge to be me my ne is sylvete and am in hiting on fort hand breaks is they in h & go from his your to y winner, he fin that we key to lear it in fort get flem any atthe & 9-3 he had 12 815

47, Waterloo Place.

th August 1925.

My dear Leo.

I enclose for your private eye some correspondence which has passed between the Government of Kenya and Herbert Baker regarding building plans in Wairobi. As you will see, the Government are groping for advice before putting anything up to the Legislative Oduncil and the Colonial Office.

My own feeling is that the first essential step is to get a comprehensive scheme from a really authoritative source. That means (a) the best architect available to propose rough sketches of the buildings required and a general lay-out; (b) a skilled subordinate who can work out cost of material, labour, etc., by detailed enquiry on the spot. In other words, paker and hoogterp.

when these are secured, it will be possible to decide at what rate, if at all, the Colony can carry out the scheme. The European School is an surgent necessity, and must be built anyhow. (I am inclined to suggest the White Colony's financing that by a special rate). Government buildings are also greatly needed, for the present tin

there must, I thank, depend on what can be secured by the disposal of the existing sites - a question which merges into the further problem of the town-planning of Nairobi and the substitution of some decent Indian quarter for the present insanitary bazaar. All this must take time to work out.

The first step, however, is to get a sound and authoritative plan, based on expert estimates. Baker's visit would, I calculate, cost about £400 (or £525, if no plans are ultimately proceeded with). Hoogterp would cost about £2000 for one year. I think this expenditure reasonable and advisable, in order that an authoritative plan and expert estimates may be secured. I therefore would like to send a telegram out in the following terms:

"I understand from derbert Baker he can visit Kenya for month or six weeks immediately before Christmas stop failing that he will not be free till autumn following stop I strongly advise your securing visit immediately on terms proposed his letter June 18 stop I also recommend your appointing Hoogterp for one year in accordance with proposal in that letter stop believe careful consultation and planning now will be justified by economies on whole building scheme stop [Secretary of State read, to concur.] Uring."

As the Rovernment's letter to Baker is only tentative and no official proposals have yet reached you, you may prefer to cancel the last sentence. But Baker is rather anxious for definite instructions, and some indication that you would approve his visit would no doubt hasten a decision. The wheels otherwise are apt to revolve at glacier speed.

May I have the correspondence back. Baker requires it.

Yours aver

Tome

Co onial Office.

Downing Street.

The Stranding my por Littings The teknow brought as a fift. wind of 8/8 and transfor and fact Sic. English Gue before witing total of I total him that I was afried of francoing [Chestor Butter Preising consince sa storte Account as the it has to a There before they a constrained and the proper al as lasting as high last a feet better distry y " airen ; new " and works Experies to the Stand 1 mg 1 mg 2 mg 2 Company in the Com-May any pulling and Server 12 co, sold and 6 office the May bus decrease politica when the frem to the J. W. 's come

I agree that the reference to the Secretary of State being ready to concur should remain in the telegram as the wise the Officer.

Secretary of State being ready to concur should remain in the telegram as biharwise the Officer Administering the Government will not be able to do as Sir E. Grigg suggests. I presume it is a matter which we must they a to bis 1. A.G. and Sir E. Grigg, but I must confess the proposal appear to me somewhat extravegant ones and I do not think one can do note than that Mr. Bottomrey has already tone in speaking to Sir E. Grigs.

18th

H.B. 15. I entirely age 20 Baker is a conference arothetest

10 17 8 35

Dear Mir

I have now had time to consider your letter of the 27th april 1925, #0.8.19039/16/10/2, and I must first, if I may, extrans my appreciation of the wise and far sighted proposals of the Government as expressed in the first clause.

I am glad to read that the Government Offices, the more important buildings, are to be on a commanding site, so that the architect will have an opportunity of advising a comprehensive scheme for the buildings and their surroundings; which may be worthy of the future greatness of the capital.

Es to the principal point of your letter in Clause
2. there seems three possible courses for you to follow:-

Course I. To choose and send out an architect who could be trusted to take full responsibility to produce designs and create a style worthy of your ideals, either without any assistance, or with the assistance only of a single visit and very general advice from a consulting architect.

Course 2. To choose and send out an architect less fally proved and experienced in all sides of his profession over whom a consulting architect would have to exert fuller powers with more frequent and direct meetings and intercourse between each other. The consulting architect would probably in this case have to give direct assistance in aketch designs, but the architect would work out and be responsible for in kenya the contract and working drawings.

Course 2. This would follow the first stage of Course 2. but the duties of the architect would st first primarily to collect information, requirements of the cite, materials etc., and make very rough auttain plans only. The

ting Colonial Secretary The Secretarian; Estreta sected pleas for the initial design and the preliminary souther transfer would be that worked out up to a certain would be that worked out up to a certain would the Private of included, in London, with the help for some of the time of included. At some ported during this the architect would return to Kenya, and after discussing the plans with the Government and obtaining its approval, he would correct if pecessary the Contract Drawings and work out and complete the final working drawings and specifications. The architect should submit all drawings of more vital architectural importance to the Principal architect at home or during the occasional visits of the Principal Architect or his representative to Kenya.

I think Course I. would be desirable in many ways, but there would be a real difficulty in finding a suitable architect with the special experience which is required. I have one in my mind, Mr. Gordon Leith, of Johannesburg, but I am doubtful whether he would come away with his family from a rising practice and promising career in South Africa.

In Course 3, if I were to be the Principal Architect the work would have the benefit of the help of the heads of my experienced staff who have been working from the beginning on the plane of Delhi and are now engaged on the Bank of England.

If this course were adopted however, I do not think it would be wise in the interest of the future architecture of East Africa or of the officiency of its Public Warks. Department for all the details and warking drawings to be made in London as has been found necessary for the work in Delhi owing to the peculiar conditions in India. Indeed, I fully reacgnize the importance of as such of the work as possible being done under the influence and inspiration of men and things on the spot, What I have rather in my mind is the callaboration of all my staff whem I have kept together on the big Government and other work which I have been doing for

the last eighteen years, but to off leed and trust the man on the spet as far and as soon as possible, and to an increasing beaut.

Thave swe men in my mind here, gouth africans also, whom with different qualifications might undertake this work as grohitects under Courses 2 and 3 for a limited number of years as might be arranged. I do not think the one year as muggested by you would be sufficient.

As far as supplying one or more permanent efficiels as junior architects working under the supervision of the architect and the Government Department, I should be able to recommend one or two suitable men as soon as they can be reseased from my work at Delhi, or my staff here. Or possibly I could make a whole from those men who have been working for the War Graves Commission in France.

The procedure of this Commission supplies parallels which may be of interest to you. There are Principal architects in London and a staff of Junior architects at the Headquarters of the War Graves Commission in France. For the smaller works the designs of the Juniors are submitted for the approval of the Principal architects; and for the more important works the designs and contract drawings up to a certain stage are made by the Principal Architect and these are adapted to the suggestions of the, local engineer and quantity surveyor and made into working drawings by the Junior architects in France.

I thought it best to put down these general opinions as I have thought them out, but if I am to make a definite proposal to you it would be thist. That I should send out Mr.

J.L. Reegterp, who is that completing his work as my chief secretariat on Delhi work in control of all the irawings for the Secretariat and Legislative Buildings, to collect all information and prepare the way for the adoption by your Government of either the End or 3rd Course of processure which I have engaged to above. July will be in a latter possible to decide on

has been sometime in the country. You will understand from further chalifications of Mr. Moogterp, which I attach that I consider he is exceptionally competent for the appointment, except that his sepecity for designing on his own initiative has not yet been proved. But in this respect the as I affect the case he is familiar with my work in Seath Africa and hes worked on my buildings at Delhi from the symming. I can therefore recommend him whole-heartedly for the appointment with the provise that I should have to some degrees yet to be decided upon, to sentral the architectural elements of the design if I am to be held in any way responsible for their success.

I should like to add in connection with my reference to the members of my staff here who would be able to help me and act perhaps in my absence, that there is Mr.A.T.Scott from whom Mr. Hoogterp took over control on the Delhi work and who is now showing exceptional skill in charge of the plans for the new Bank of England; and Mr. C.D.St.Leger, who is incontrol of all my other Englaith work and who came with me from South Africa and who knows the character and spirit of my work there as well as anyone.

With regard to myself all I can say is that if we can agree to any proposal, I feel rather tempted to pay you a visit on my way to India this winter arriving early in December and leaving about the middle of Jammary, but it is rather difficult for me to see so far sheet. The Directors of the Mank of England have suggested that I pay a visit to America in the Autumn and that may make an last England visit difficult, but I appreciate the great importance of the work and have a strong desire to over if your devermant with me to do so.

Pigesolal

Pinemetal Side.

The financial side of the problem is much more difficulty I think I need not go very deeply into it at this stage; indeed to in law le to do so until the Bentes of procedure is settled, all we need settle first of all is the remineration given to Mr. Roogterp for ayear a visit if you hould accept his appointment. I cannot fix a figure as I cannot may what the dost of living would be, but Ithink the hasis of his payment should be that his fees should opver all his travelling and out of pocket expenses; a sum sufficient to keep his family at home which he estimates at £12.10s a week. (his present salary with me being 215. a week); an amount to cover his liming expenses, fairly liberally estimated so that he should not be hampered in his energies; and in addition sufficient to enable him to be in a position, without undue economy, to save a sum of from £500 to £1000, as you may be inclined to agree to. In considering this amount you must hear in mind that he is a man who works with great energy and will put in considerable overtime: also that he will mobably be making aketch plans which, if charged for at the usual percentage rate, might much exceed the more liberal sum which I have suggested. White I think he ought to be guaranteed some such payment for a year's work, it is possible that you would enter into a fresh agreement with him before the end of the first year in which you would either thee to a fixed selery, or if he worked as I have outlined in Course 3 s frank appp some percentage basis.

I think my fees for a visit might be just the sent as those paid by the deveragent of India for my visits to both. That is, I receive a first since attending and palling fare to and from both; plus all rail and transit expenses furigency visit in India; a subsistence allowance of thirty untilings and a feerof five guiness a day for such day of my thesence from home, and a further five guiness a day for each day of my stay in India. The first daily fee of 15.50. was held to be compensation for less of time, and the Ind. 5.50

institute is the tofinity designs estructed to me night not influes. It is believe to convert the little outside such approximations, is not result for which the should be seen in the seen of results about the seen of the bundless gainers.

Tours faithfully.

Explainment is Bouth african bern, and served in my effice in Personal Text two years. He same to Rugland with me when I left bouth africa in the Autumn of 1918 he found throughout the war with some distinction as Flight Commander in the Reyal Air Force:

Since the war he has worked continuously in my office in Lendon and for the last two years has taken complete control of the drawings of my three large buildings at Delhi, the two blocks of the Secretariat and the Legislative Buildings. In this rather exceptional feet he has shown marked energy and ability in organisation and ingenuity, is structural design and planning. For the last two months he has been studying architecture in Italy.

It is impossible to speak with certainty of his artistic gifts in design but it is difficult to feel this assurance of any assistance until he has proved himself in individual practice. He has however such quick receptibility that I feel confident that acting under good advisors he will quickly attain artistic competence.

I should add this quation, that he suffered from airman's nerves after the war, and though he has completely recovered he has that highly strung nature that goes with great nervous energy and is therefore in some danger of everyorking himself. He is in very good health at present and I think his kind of work with one voyages and not too long periods of effice were will be certain to keep him in the best of health. Seing bern in the francously the climate of Sairebi should suit him.

912 June, 1926

Harris Town

Dear Sir,

Further to your letter of the FTM April, 1938
No.S.19089/16/10/8, I have been earefully considering my
reply and find that rather more thought and enquiry must
be given to it before I can give you my opinion, therefore I must defer sending you my answer until next mail.

Yours faithfully,

Dear Sir

Tour letter of the 27th april has reached me today master to acknowledge it and to thing you for the rary interesting and attractive proposal which it contains. So that my work at Delhi is drawing to a close it is possible for me to consider this proposal and I believe I shall be able to help you, but it is a difficult problem and requires a good deal of thought and I must content myself with this bare acknowledgement and my thanks by this mail.

May I add that the omen seems propitious in that en the morning which I receive your letter I see the announcement of the appointment of my friend Sir Edward Grigg as your ter Governor, and I know the great interest he takes in architecture.

Yours faithfully,

lonial Secretary, The Secretariet, Mairchi.

Henor.

039/16/10/1.

27th. April. 1985 .

Sir.

has now under consideration proposals for the erection of important public buildings in the Colony, a list of which is annexed given in the order in which they will probably be undertaken. As you are of course aware Kenya is a young Colony and has at present very few public buildings of any dimensions or architectural merit. It is considered that before embarking on any building scheme of magnitude this dovernment should endeavour to obtain advice in regard to a design and style of architecture which will be most suitable for conditions in East africa. It is believed that the present is an opportunity to give consideration to the pessibility of adopting an East African style which can be followed generally in the future in erecting buildings as they become necessary throughout the Golony.

2. This Government feels sure that there is no Architect of wider experience or more competent to advise them in this matter than yourself. But it is realised that the calls on your time made by the great public works on which you are at present engaged would not permit of your doing perhaps more than to assist this Government as to the first steps it should ake by yourself selecting, if possible, for this Colony an Architect, preferably one who had been one of your stakents or had worked under you during recent years, who would some to

this .

BT MAXIN, MBQ. A.R.A.,

14. MATOS STREET.

WESTMINSTER, LONDON.S.W.

this country for a period of may one year and advise, after the of liver good time and requirements, on the design this would be followed in the creation of these buildings.

Severement will be very glad of your advice, firstly

whether it would be possible to procure such an efficer as suggested and if so, on what salary and conditions.

He will, of course, be provided with passages and free
housing accommodation or allowance in lieu thereof.

Secondly - whether in your opinion the time suggested would
allow of an architect so appointed being the to set forth in
his drawings the general principles of the most suitable
architecture and design for various structures in such a
manner that full working drawings vould be subsequently
prepared by another officer who would be employed as Jovernment architect to carry out these designs. There is no
architect in the employment of Government at the present,
though it is proposed to employ one after the services of an
expert adviser as suggested in this letter have been accurred.

3. It will be seen that the sums provided for the new buildings are not very considerable but at the same time this should allow of buildings being erected which would be able to show some degree of originality in architectural style and at the same time meet the needs of the country.

This Colony's financial resources are restricted and there is no likelihood that any larger sums than those estimated sum be provided. It must also be realised that there is no high degree of competency among local artisens.

- 4. It will probably be advisable for the architect selected to engage his own draughtamen before proceeding to the Colon, and tath be and his assistant will be regarded as temporarily attached to the Public works Department for the period of their service in this Colony.
- 5. It is hoped that you will be prepared to give us your early advice in this matter and if possible will be able to advise the appointment of a suitable architect for the period supposses.

- 6. This deverment is, of source, prepared to you push for an you amentable it responsible to energy in the circumstances for the time and trouble so are saking you to take in this matter.
- 7. It will, of course, he of very g reat assistance to his Colony should you yourself be in a position to visit lengs on route to India or elsewhere for a short period and give us your further personal advice. Should there be any chance of such an arrangement being feasible this Government will be glad to be informed of the terms upon which you would be able to make the visit which it is of course understood would be quite apart from the employment of a special architect as suggested and who appears to be necessary in any event.
- 6. It must be clearly understood that Government cannot conclude any agreement with any architect or provide the requisite salaries and provision for his visit without the approval of the Secretary of State and the Legislative Council of this Colony. This Government feels, however, that if you are able to advise us in this matter it will be possible to put before the Secretary of State and the Colony's Legislative Council proposals in the best interests of the Colony and which are likely to receive their acceptance.

I have the honour &c.

(8gd).G.A.S.NORTHGOTE.

acting Colonial Secretary.

There exists white was an area.

1. MED PAR BOY'S SCHOOL:

A gemplete design for a shoot to accommendate ultimately \$20 beariers and 120 day scholars. The first perties to be erested should provide becommendation for 40 teariers and 20 per scholars and 1t is antidipated that such accommendation on be provided for \$80,000 in the following form:

- A. Mein Building consisting of :-
 - (a) Administration Block, Entrance Hall and Library.
 - (b) Assembly Hall.
 - (c) Class Room Block consisting of 4 class rooms, layatery Mick, clask rooms and connecting corridors.
 - (d) Science Block.
- B. One Boarding House for 40 boarders.
- C. Outbuildings consisting of:-
 - (a) Sanatorium.
 - (b) Laundry
 - (c) Hedmaster's House.
 - (d) Hatiye staff quarters, kitchen sto.,
- D. Water Supply, drains, electric light etc.,
- E. Laying out grounds.
- F. Furniture for all buildings.

E. SUPREME COURT MAIRORI

in Mairobi, the capital of Entry. Pive courts and positive, together with Poisses Characters, Litters and the courts are positive, together with Poisses Characters, Litters and the court departments to such a building. At imaging other court departments is maggested, the fracts to ing facility of the capital court facility the approximate cost has been estimated at \$80,000.

or other terms of the fallow

of all the Government Office, the sile proposed to the state of the st

A. HATEYS HOSPITAL BAIRONS

inclusing administration block, ten ward blocks and the named appartonances. The next may possibly appreximate \$60,000 to \$70,000.

5. CEPTRAL GAOL:

A complete new prison for Matives and Europeans.
The cost may approximate 270,000.

6. CUSTOMS HOUSE, KILINDINI (MOMBASA);

A building combining fustoms Offices and Railway Offices to be erected adjoining the new wharf at Kilindini. The cost may approximate £100,000

14, Beston Street, Westminster, 6th, August, 1985.

Mr. dear Grigg,

As promised last night I ambending you the Sairebi correspondence. These are my only copies so I shall be glad there them back as soon as you have read them.

The financial arrangements are always difficult, but very secondary for me to missing the Christmas Holidays and risking neglecting the Rhode Buildings for so long.

(Sgd). HERBERT BAKER.