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Head of E.A. Dept. for Sec. of State for Colonies.

I am sorry Sir Charles Bowring smould have bothered you with the telegram asking for the Second State's approval now of all the details suggested by a Committee five years ago. My own opinion is that all the detail should be worked out locally. I am sure you don't want to be bothered with it. Wasuggest a cable to Sir C. Bowring on the following lines; -Begins "Approve of recommendations made in your despatch No.128 of 14 July 1914 as general principles for gradual handing over of dimensial control to Mairobi Eunicipal Council, It is probable that more then \$25,000 will now be required as initial loan, which may he art and on system suggested. Workyut all details locally without further reference. Northey concurs.

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7) Carlish Manson 29 Victor 54.6.0 10 Jan 420 2516 Shall following bothers of the telepoon with t The permit shall be writer of the want of the work of Approve of secommendations of in your Despate Miss of July 1914 as boneral brinciples inneed that I for his fisher than the happing and the happing the happing the happing the happing the happing and the happing and the happing and the happing and the happing the happing and the happing the happing that the happing the happing that the happing the happin 77. Carlish Hansions,
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LONDON, S.W.1. 71013/1919

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em directed to transmit to you for perusal and return, the accompanying copy of a telegram received from the Officer Authinistering the Government of the East Africa Protectorate dated the 5th of December together with a copy of the despatch referred to therein and its enclosures.

- 2. I am to remind you that the application of the Municipal Corporations Ordinance of 1909 to Nairobi was approved of by Lord Wilner in a telegram of 20th March 1919.
- I am to suggest that you should call at the Colonial Office at your early convenience to discuss the matter with the Head of the East Africa Department.

Sir.

Your obedient servent.

DWARD NORTHEY, K.C.N.G., C.B.

TELEGRAM from the Officer Administering the Government of the East Africa Protectorate to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Dated 5th December.

(Received Colonial Office 5.58 p.m. 12th December, 1919).

December 5th.

Your telegram 20th March trust (you will) ou will be able to discuss with Northey early my despatch 14th July 1914 and acquaint me with your decimion. matter finally settled impossible to consider Municipal, Taxation which is matter of urgency.

BOURING.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

MATROB IN

RRITISH FAST AFRICA

July 14th, 1914.

Sir.

I have the honour to refer to the sationd paragraph of my Confidential despatch No. 144 of the 31st of October last on the subject of the assessment of Mairobi and to transmit herewith for your consideration a copy of the report of the Committee appointed by me to enquire afresh into the question of the application of the Municipal Corporations Ordinance 1909. I also enclose the terms of reference for your information.

- 2. The constitution of this Committee was so arranged as to ensure collaboration by the principal financial officer of the Protectorate, an official expert in land valuation and assessment, and two of the most experienced unofficial members of the Muricipal Council.
- The report when received was submitted to the Municipal Council for their observations and was adopted by them after discussion and rejection of an amendment which dealt only with the question of elective regresentation. A cupy of the minute of the proceedings is forwarded for your information.
- I have now, with the assistance of my executive Council, subjected the report to careful consideration, and we are agreed in the expression of the following views.
 - We consider that the time has arrived when

OF THE COLOTIES, DOWNING STREET.

when it is desirable to place the Municipal
Council in a position to assume a more complete
control over the affairs of the town than has
been conceded to them in the past, and thus
enable them to relieve the central government of
administration of a purely local nature.

It is therefore deemed advisable to apply the
Ordinance, supplementing it if necessary by
such additional legislation as the Attorney
General may advise.

should not be conceded at present, but that an intimation should be given to the effect that the question will receive further consideration when a sufficient time has elapsed to establish the authority and jurisdiction of the Municipal Council upon the lines indicated in the report.

We endorse the recommendations of the Committee on the following points of principle:-

but with a reduction of the rate of sinking fund to 11 per cent;

(c) the transfer to the Municipal Council of all Grown land within the municipal boundaries after reservation of an area sufficient for future Government requirements;

(d) the temporary retention by the Government of a portion of the area to be transferred equal in value to the amount of the advance as security in respect thereof;

(6) the periodical release of parts of such retained

retained area in blocks, the value of which what be proportionate to the amounts of the instalments repaid by the Municipal Council against the advance;

(f) the surrencer to the Municipal Council of all rants and profits now accruing to the Government in respect of the leased lands within the proposed municipal area.

8. The concessions above recommended will not in the first instance have the affect of making the municipality entirely self supporting, and a certain amount of assistance from the coveryment will still be necessary at the outset, particularly in the matter of the construction and maintenance of reads, streets, and bridges, but it may be anticipated with some confidence that, as the sources of revenue increase and the amounts derivable therefrom expand, the necessity for such continued assistance will gradually disappear.

9. I have not thought it necessary to prolong this despatch by commenting upon all the details of the Committee's proposals, and it may be understood that such recommendations as have not been touched upon are endorsed by my Executive Council and myself. I am deferring all further action pending the receipt of an expression of your views, and I content myself with commending to your favourable consideration the recommendations of the Committee as a first step towards conferring upon the Municipal Council that autonomy and independent responsibility which the growth in the dimensions and importance of the town appears to make it desirable that it should assume.

on Instructions from the Governor.

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