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EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 237

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

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15th March, 1920.

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My Lord,

7/3/19
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Record of SERVICE

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's despatch No.1103 of the 29th October and to enclose the record of service of Mr. F. Loveridge with the East Africa Local Forces. I attach also a copy of a despatch from His Excellency the Acting Governor of Uganda relating to this gentleman's period of engagement with the Uganda Volunteer Reserve.

2. In the circumstances the Staff Captain of the East Africa Expeditionary Force has authorized the following payment to Mr.Loveridge through the Crown Agents for the Colonies:-

From Acting Governor Uganda. No. 1. 20.

(a) War gratuity in respect of period 5th October 1914 to 5th February 1915 (Uganda Volunteer Reserve)

(b) War gratuity in respect of non-commissioned rank service with the East Africa Transport Corps 4th March 1915 to 10th May 1916.

(c) War bonus from 1st October 1917 to 3rd April 1919.

3.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
VISCOUNT MILNER, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c. &c.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

UGANDA PROTECTORATE.

No. 4094.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
UGANDA.

26th January 1920.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch, No.20819/4, of 6th. of January, 1920, and to inform Your Excellency that Mr.F.Loveridge was enlisted in the Uganda Volunteer Reserve on 5th. October, 1914, and proceeded to the Southern Frontier on 13th. October, 1914. His attestation sheet is endorsed, "Discharged", but unfortunately no date is given. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to state to what gratuity he is entitled in respect of his service with this force.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sgd) W. Morris Carter.
ACTING GOVERNOR.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING GOVERNOR,
EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE,
N A I R O B I.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 588.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

March, 1920.

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of two letters from the President of the East Africa British National Congress dated January 21st respectively, the resolutions passed at Congress held in November last enclosing copies of three addresses delivered at the opening of the

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's

humble, obedient servant,

ACTING GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HON. P.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c., &c.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

# EASTERN AFRICA INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

218

[illegible] Standing Committee [illegible]

[illegible] 31 [illegible] Nairobi, [illegible]

Your Excellency, [illegible]

I [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] at Nair's Buildings, 6th Avenue, [illegible] Africa

I on behalf of the Congress take [illegible] November, 1919 of thanking Your Excellency heartily for [illegible] interest in connection with the opening [illegible] unavoidable absence of His Excellency [illegible] Edward Northey, regretted so much [illegible] public.

In requesting to [illegible] the Right Honourable the [illegible] Colonies, my Congress [illegible] particularly to relieve the [illegible] this Country, which, of [illegible] and has been a matter of [illegible] so many loyal Indian subjects of [illegible] this Protectorate, and my Congress is [illegible] that Your Excellency will do your best in helping [illegible] Indian fellow citizens to acquire the equality [illegible] political status in this Country.

It may not be out of place to mention here that on the advice of Politi[illegible] from India and in the hope [illegible] of [illegible]aring

[illegible] Excellency the Acting [illegible]

East Africa Pro[illegible]orate,

[illegible] Nairobi.

RESOLUTIONS adopted at the Second Session of the East African Indian National Congress held on the 15th & 16th November, 1919, at Nair's Building, Nairobi, under the presidentship of Hussenbhai Suliman Varji Esq.

Resolution No.1

"That this Congress, representative of the Indians of British East Africa, Uganda, Zanzibar and ex-German East Africa, places on record its expressing of unswerving loyalty towards His Majesty's throne and person, and its sense of hearty co-operation with the Local Governments of the Eastern Africa Protectorates and Territories".

Proposed by The President and carried unanimously.

Resolution No.2

"That this Congress deplores the practice at present obtaining of imposing restrictions on land sales and mortgages between the European and the British Indian subjects of His Majesty the King Emperor and humbly prays His Majesty's Government to be pleased to instruct the local Governments to remove all such restrictions".

Proposed by Mr. Hashambhai Jamal of Kisumu.

Seconded by Mr. Mulhammadbhai of Kisumu.

Resolution No.3

"That this Congress is of opinion that at least one-third of the seats on the Legislative and Executive Councils of the British East Africa Protectorate be allotted to the Indian Community by election, and that similar provision be made in the case of Zanzibar, Uganda and ex-German East Africa, as soon as Legislative and Executive Councils come into existence in the said Protectorates".

Proposed by Mr. Hassanali Mulla Dewadji of Mombasa.

Seconded by Mr. Yusufalli Kassilji Jeevanji of Zanzibar

Resolution

Community in the East Africa & Uganda Protectorates, and therefore emphatically protests against it and respectfully urges the Government of the E. A. P. not to proceed with it".

Proposed by Mr. M. A. Desai of Nairobi.

Seconded by Mr. Buxi of Mombasa.

Supported by Mr. Mangal Das of Nairobi.

Resolution No.13

"That Congress emphatically and indignantly protests against the expressed opinion of the Convention of Associations that the Immigration of British Indians should be restricted with a view to their ultimate expulsion. This Congress is of the opinion that the presence of the British Indians in East Africa in no way interferes with the desired advancement of the children of the soil, but on the other hand their presence is conducive to their advancement".

Proposed by Mr. M. A. Desai of Nairobi.

Seconded by Mr. P. L. Pandya of Kisumu.

Resolution No.14

"That this Congress appeals to the local Government to requite the services of the Indian soldiers who took part in the local campaign by making them grants of land in the same way as is done in the case of British soldiers of European descent".

Proposed by Mr. G. B. Tadwalker of Nairobi.

Seconded by Mr. Habib Jamal of Daressalaam.

Resolution No.15

That this Congress is of opinion that Indians should be granted plots both residential and business in all townships, on a lease of 99 years, and that such plots should not be merely on an annual tenancy, as the latter hampers and gives no security to the plot holders and retards the development

Resolution No. 19

"That in view of many disabilities [illegible] and hardships continually suffered [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of steamers [illegible]

[illegible] meet the requirements [illegible]

[illegible]

Resolution [illegible]

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[illegible] indians [illegible]

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[illegible] their [illegible] as civil

them the respective privileges for [illegible]

Proposed by Mr. [illegible] of [illegible],

Seconded by Mr. [illegible] of [illegible],

Resolution

Resolution No.22

"That this Congress is of opinion that the Government of East Africa should adopt such measures to secure the question of Exchange and Currency as will be finally decided upon by the Government of India after the report and recommendations of the Committee appointed for that purpose by that Government and now sitting in London".

Proposed by Mr. Savale of Mombasa.

Seconded by Mr. Hassanalli Madatalli of Nairobi.

Resolution No.23

"That this Congress most strongly urges the Government to take immediate steps to remove the humiliating discrimination on the Uganda Railway carriages, waiting rooms, Lake Steamers and Nairobi Rickshaws by which humanity is divided between Europeans and Non-Europeans (although for the purposes of Taxation the Indians are classed with the Europeans) and the Indians are grouped with the Non-Europeans".

Proposed by Mr. Hassanalli Madatalli of Nairobi.

Seconded by Mr. Z. D. Puri for Mr. Dharamsi Khimji of Machakos.

Resolution No.24

"That this Congress respectfully prays the Imperial Government to arrange for an early payment of the value of pre-war and interim German Currency Notes in possession of Indians in East Africa, and various other claims such as debts, loans, requisitions etc., against the German Government and German subjects".

Proposed by Mr. Himmatsinghji Rana of Daressalaam.

Seconded by Mr. M. A. Desai of Nairobi.

Resolution No.25

"That this Congress emphatically protests against the flogging of Indian Prisoners in the name of discipline in local jails, and urges the Government to withdraw the powers

punishment.

supported by

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[illegible] where one 20 [illegible] one of [illegible]

(f) That there should be equal treatment of [illegible] as they pay equal taxes.

(g) That Indians be represented on all bodies. They will be of great help as they will supply first hand information.

(h) That more accommodation be provided for Indians on steamers and Railways in first, second and third classes.

(i) Indian soldiers be encouraged to settle in the country.

(j) Registered medical and legal Practitioners of India be allowed to practise in this country.

Proposed by Dr. Lahana Singh of Kampala.

Seconded by Mr. Asha Ram of Jinja.

Supported by Mr. M. A. Desai, of Nairobi.

Resolution No.31

"That in the humble opinion of this Congress, the claims of Indian shop-keepers of the Kisii District of the Nyanza Province in connection with the loot by the [illegible] tribes of the District in 1914 are payable by the [illegible] Government of East Africa Protectorate and not by the Foreign Claims' Committee inasmuch as the property was looted by the natives of the District themselves, and not by German Troops and therefore this Congress most respectfully prays for an early payment especially in view of the fact that money from the natives of the said District has already been realised".

Proposed by Mr. Mahomedbhoy Kassumbhoy Lakha of Kisumu.

Seconded by Mr. Hassumbhoy Jamal of Kisumu.

Resolution No. 32

"That this Congress does not approve of the present policy of the Zanzibar Government of investing [illegible] revenue with other Governments and is of the opinion that such surplus revenue be utilised in establishing

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Nairobi, this Congress requests
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Mr. J.A.Desai and seconded by Mr. Mangal
of Nairobi and ex-elected Indian Municipal

Resolution

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...M.A.Desai and seconded by Mr. Mangal

...of Nairobi and ex-elected Indian Municipal

Resolution

Congress
be appointed
General Secretary.

Proposed by Mr. G. B. Tadwalker
Seconded by Mr. M. A. Desai of Nai

Resolution No.39

"This Congress firmly resolves that the
moment for sending to England a deputation
of the Indian representatives from East
Zanzibar and ex-German East Africa to
cause personal
of State for the Colonies and
Members of Parliament, and
England".

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Proposed by Mr. M. A. Desai of Nai
Seconded by Mr. G. B. Tadwalker of Nairobi.

Resolution No.41

"That this Congress hereby authorises the President to send copies of the Proceedings to the Governments concerned and to such public bodies and personage as he may deem fit.

of Nairobi
of Nairobi.

[illegible] ...ember 1910.

[illegible] Brother - delegates

[illegible] I thank y[illegible] heart for the [illegible]our which you have done [illegible] electing me as President [illegible] Congress. An honour such as this, is all the more [illegible] to the recipient when he is reminded of the tenure [illegible] which he holds it, viz., the love, the esteem, the confidence [illegible] fellow countrymen. For us Indians the highest earthly [illegible] no matter by whom conferred, pale before a distinction [illegible] bears upon it the stamp of the approbation and the unanimous confidence of the united Indian Community in Eastern Africa. [illegible]er I deserve the honour or not, this I will say, [illegible] have [illegible] sanction by which authority is exercised, here or elsewhere, [illegible] the choice of my countrymen.

[illegible]en I received your mandate, I obeyed it, but not without [illegible]ation. For however partial I might be to my own merits [illegible] is not - I could not shut my eyes to the fact that there [illegible] many distinguished men who by their great public services [illegible] their still nobler self-abnegation in the National cause, [illegible] ly established their claims to the honour of the presidentship [illegible] office. But the choice lay not with me. An expression of [illegible] Community [illegible] when firmly and authoritatively conveyed to me by those [illegible] are entitled to speak in your name and on your behalf is, and has always been, to me a command. I overcame my scruples. I bowed to the national will. I appealed to the sympathies of my friends, and I invoked the blessings of the Almighty Providence to sanctify our work. And here I am today ready to co-operate with you, to bring to a successful issue the labour of the second session of the Eastern Africa Indian National Congress.

3. Brother Delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I am quite sure that even the worst political opponents of Indian sentiments and [illegible]ations in this country cannot doubt the representative character of this session of the Eastern Africa Indian National Congress. The Indian Community of Eastern Africa i.e. British

Second, is to watch the operation of the several administrations as they exist now; to propose from time to time any reforms and changes that may be deemed necessary to be made in the various departments till present system is radically altered, and based upon the just principles which ought to be applicable to the Indian Community in Eastern Africa in future.

12. What position do the Indians hold in the British Empire? Are they British Citizens or not is my first question? I say we are British Citizens and are entitled to claim all British Citizens' rights.

I shall lay before you in the words of the late Dr. Dadabhoy Naoroji (Grand Old Man of India) my reason for claiming that we are British Citizens.

I ha[illegible] THE BIRTHRIGHT.

[illegible] of this birthright was declared on the very first occasion when England obtained the very first territorial and sovereign possession in India. The British statesmen of the [illegible] at once acted upon the fundamental basis of the British Constitution and character that anyone who come, howsoever and whatsoever, under the British Flag, was a free British citizen as if born and living in England".

[illegible] this birthright to be 'free' or to have freedom was our [illegible] from the very beginning of our connection with England when we came under the British Flag.

When Bombay was acquired as the first territorial possession, the Government of the day, in the very first grant of territorial rights to the East Indian Company declare thus:-

(Extract from the grant to the First East India Company of the island of Bombay):

"And it is declared that all persons being His Majesty's subjects inhabiting within the said island, and their children and their posterity born within the limits thereof shall be deemed free denizens and natural subjects as if living and born in England.

"AND FURTHER ALL THE TERMS OF THE FIRST GRANT ARE EXTENDED IN IT TO ALL FUTURE BRITISH TERRITORIAL ACQUISITIONS."

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of the Railway and is n[illegible] of material use for its economic maintenance and working.

As recently a[illegible], Sir James Hayes Sadler, the then Governor of the Protecto[illegible], sent a despatch to the Secretary of State, [illegible]station inter alia [illegible] "the Protectorate has everything to gain from Indian Settlement [illegible]th in the actual development it will itself bring about and [illegible] stimulating effect it will have on production by natives, [illegible] and on the Indians East Africa must mainly depend for th[illegible] and development of its economic resources."

Mr. [illegible] the Secretary [illegible] the Commissioner of Land, reminded [illegible] that the claim of the Indian Community to free and op[illegible] land cannot be [illegible] disregarded seeing that they w[illegible] country long before the European settlers there, tha[illegible] trading wealth of [illegible] the hands of th[illegible] finally that the Indians are the British Subjects.

In a [illegible] Governor on March [illegible] His Lordship said: "[illegible] the grant of land to Indians it is not consonant [illegible] for His Majesty's Government to impose legal restric[illegible] particular section of the Community, but as a matter o[illegible] desirable convenience grants should not be made to Indians i[illegible] ed areas". I venture to submit that questions of princi[illegible] affecting the contentment and well being of Indian subjects o[illegible] Majesty ought not to be subordinated to mere "administrat[illegible] convenience", and that a great mistake was made in reaching a conc[illegible] so opposed to the declared policy of His Majesty's Governme[illegible]. That high authority on African affairs, Sir Harry Johnston, as[illegible]ted, when before the Committee to Sir George Roberton's views, [illegible] it is rather a scandal that 400 European farmers should have t[illegible] power to monopolise the whole of this district of British East Afr[illegible] and exclude Indians from coming and settling there." Sir Harry [illegible] the regulation[illegible] to be "absurd." He thinks that in this area are [illegible]ches not necessarily connected which [illegible] be alloted to whit[illegible]ke if they care to take them up, but [illegible]

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more [illegible] Court [illegible] as they [illegible] hold a brief for [illegible] Truly, it has [illegible] done [illegible] as he who won't see.

I, in the name of this Congress enter a strong protest against the findings of the Commission regarding Indians in this country, especially in view of the absence of any [illegible] and any Indian evidence in the Commission in [illegible] peated requests of the Indian Association, Nairobi [illegible] an Indian member for the same. Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a case of condemning unheard, which is a [illegible] tary principles of British [illegible]. But for [illegible] neglect of Indian public opinion, I am sure [illegible] impossible for the Government to produce such [illegible] as the Report of the British East Africa Economic [illegible] appears that the [illegible] of the Commission are [illegible] the maintenance and extension of anti-Indian [illegible] legislation and administration of these Provinces [illegible] to have most unfortunate effects on the contentment of one-fifth of human race and to act most adversely on the political situation in the Indian Empire.

Now Ladies and Gentlemen, it is admitted on all hands that India has played a most noble part as a member of the British Empire in the world war. In the dark days of [illegible] Germany, after a long preparation for this terrible war, violated the neutrality of Belgium, invaded France, and took the Britons by surprise; when the nearest ports to the capital of British Empire were threatened with capture nothing stood between Germany marching on the port of Calais; but the brave Indian soldiers who were sent to France through the foresight and statesmanship of Lord Hardinge [illegible] were not [illegible] October 19

[illegible] advocated immediate Home Rule for India [illegible] necessary for the existe-

[illegible] Africa's share of war, no less an [illegible] Van Deventer, in a letter to the President of the Indian Association, Nairobi, dated 28th August 1918, [illegible] "the loyal and generous support of the people [illegible] the East African operations, as well as in the main [illegible] will never be forgotten". The local Indians in East Africa voluntarily offered their services for whatever little they could do in their unarmed and undisciplined conditions. Ladies and Gentlemen, in your name I demand that the price of our loyalty to His Majesty's throne and person be at least the unhampered and unrestricted rights of British Citizenship. On the other hand, we see that you are given stone instead [illegible] which will be proved by the following portion of my speech.

INDIAN FRANCHISE QUESTION

Of the anomalies existing in the administration towards Indians the question of franchise beats all. After making many sacrifices in the war, as mentioned above, it was least expected that the door of election shall be barred against Indians in British East Africa. Certainly Indians deserve better consideration. But unfortunately that was not to be. In spite of the promise of Lieutenant Colonel [illegible], Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, that affording representation shall be granted to the Indian in British East Africa, local selfishness and prejudices proved too great. Educated Indians of the highest order, graduates of the English Universities, men of letters and riches, were debarred from giving a vote. To add insult to injury when provisions were made for securing the vote to illiterate Europeans. The educational test was absolutely ignored. [illegible] was the only criterion in the eyes of the legislators of East Africa. The large vested Indian interests, the Indians commercial [illegible] the labour organization, his numerical strength and his [illegible] all thrown to the winds. The [illegible] theory [illegible] taxation without [illegible]

boasted [illegible] European settlers would have been [illegible]
the land, by providing a railway [illegible]
[illegible] maintain of [illegible]

CHAIRMAN OF RECEPTION COMMITTEE'S ADDRESS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR CHARLES C. BOWRING.

Your Excellency, Lady Bowring, Brother Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I, on behalf of the Reception Committee of the second Session of the E. A. Indian National Congress accord you as a Representative of His Majesty the King most cordial and heartiest welcome to this Congress.

I take this opportunity of informing Your Excellency that by accepting our humble invitation you have laid under deep obligation not only the Indian Community of British East Africa but that of Uganda, Zanzibar and [illegible] not forgetting German East Africa.

We want to assure Your Excellency, if any assurance in our part is needed that the deliberations of this Congress will be guided by the same spirit of loyalty to His Majesty the throne and person which has characterised and distinguished the Indians in various theatres of war during the last [illegible] years. [illegible] Jubilee and [illegible] cooperation with the Government will be the watch word of this Congress.

With the termination of this terrible war and with the advent of Peace we hope to acquire our proper status as citizens of the British Empire under the Union Jack. With [illegible] selfish efforts, bear witness and God our head we have nothing to fear but have every reason to have great faith in our Cause.

In conclusion we respectfully beseech Your Excellency to do what lies in your power to improve our position and status as respectable citizens of the British Empire in this Protectorate.

Now Your Excellency I formally request you to declare the second Session of E. A. Indian National Congress open for which we shall be ever obliged to you.

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