

EAST AFR. PROT

6274

0014

18 14

Governor
Balfield

96

1914

January

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY INSTRUCTION

The Board of the P.M.G. and Receiver's Office is
unable to express opinion as to whether wireless
teleg. is to be determined by Government officials
should be relieved as far as possible.

Mr. Bottomley to Mr. Reed

The P.M.G. adopts the suggestion that make a S.P.O.
course of 28 days. This course will be recommended
for a course of 28 days. Preliminary instruction
at one of the Schools of H.M. officials on the supervising
side of the business. He proposes that the course at
a S.P.O. Station should last only 14 days, and
should be regarded as a sort of finishing course preliminary
to the taking of the certificate. Before attending a
S.P.O. Course officers should be required to spend
at least a fortnight at one of the Wireless Schools
These Wireless Schools may be difficult to find, we
cannot collect any particulars and send
all our men to it then providing the School with
instructive material. If we let the men choose their
own School, we shall have to place a limit
on the fee which will be paid. The fees
at the different Schools which were laid on the
case of Dinova 761533 P.A. were in each case

Copy of the case 27.2.14
The copy above sent to Mr. Reed
11/9/14

Next subsequent Paper.
0-89

£10 10 0 for 3 months. The two Schools even
the London Telegraph Training College
and the British School of Telegraphy. The
latter claims to be "Licensed by H.M. Postmaster General
for Wireless Telegraphy."

It might be better to have their own School.
Cost about £3 5 0 a month. But
this cannot be considered when a case arises.
For the present we can send G.P.O. a copy of the
App. with a letter ^{authorizing G.P.O. to pay 26/4/14} saying that in future the Supt
will not ask the P.M.G. to arrange instruction in H.T.
for G.P.O. Officers who have not received the
necessary preliminary instruction at a School of H.T.
and send copy of your letter to Govt for info ^{permitted} ~~to~~
saying that the question of fees will be considered when
a case arises, and suggesting that ~~H.T. 20/10/14~~
The number of candidates recommended for H.T. Courses
should be limited as far as possible.

I think Mr. Gosling is too optimistic in supposing
that after reading a text book an operator will
find a month (a fortnight at a School to
set a certificate & a fortnight with Station for
familiarity purposes) will be sufficient to
qualify himself fully.

? Find out G.P.O. for stations in the names
and their views on the length of time which
the average operator selected for L.A.S. would
take to qualify after preliminary reading, to
attend at a School, or not to give a certificate,
& on the case of preliminary reading which
will be recommended.

WLS 24. 2. 14
at once
N. J. R 24/2/14

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI,

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

January 29th 1914.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 50

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 1077 of the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a Memorandum by the Postmaster General relative to the course of instruction in Wireless Telegraphy to officers of the Protectorate Postal Service.

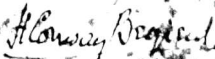
2. I recommend the adoption of the proposals in paragraph 2 of the Memorandum and trust that it will be possible to arrange for their adoption.

3. As regards the payment of the school fees, I am unable to express an opinion as to whether these should be wholly defrayed from Government funds. I think, however, that officers should be relieved as far as possible of expenses in connection with the acquisition of technical knowledge in the study of Wireless telegraphy.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWLING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

File
494

Mr. Gosling
Jan. 22nd

INCLOSURE

Despatch No. 96 of 29 / 1914 689

Registered No. 1021/13.

6274

Postmaster General's Office,
N A I R O B I.

REC

22nd January, 1914.

18 FEB 14

The Honourable
The Chief Secretary
to the Government,
N A I R O B I.

RE INSTRUCTION IN WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY OF OFFICERS
OF E. A. P. POSTAL SERVICE.

Your No. 7660 of 17-1-14.

Now that the examination for certificates of competency for Wireless Telegraph Operators requires a fuller knowledge of the technical (engineering) side of wireless work than was formerly the case it is obvious that something more than a month's stay at a Coast Wireless Station is necessary in order to obtain the qualifications required to pass the examination. Of course, a great deal depends upon previous experience in applied electricity. For example an Officer who had already taken certificates in ordinary technical telegraphy and telephony and who had done a certain amount of practical engineering work could obtain the necessary qualifications on the technical side of wireless telegraphy much more quickly than an Officer who had no engineering qualifications whatsoever. I am afraid that the majority of the people, from East Africa, who have sought to obtain wireless certificates belong to the latter class.

2. I would suggest that, as a general rule, the tuition afforded to Officers of this Department at Post Office Wireless Stations in England should be limited to a period of 14 days and should be regarded merely as a sort of finishing course of practical work preliminary to the taking of the examination for certificate. Before being admitted to this finishing course applicants should be required to attend a suitable Wireless School for at least a fortnight and produce certificates that they have sufficient technical (engineering) knowledge to pass the practical examination in connecting up, altering and tracing and clearing faults in wireless apparatus. The length of time required to be spent in a Wireless School depends, to a very great extent, on the amount of previous reading up of the subject. The school tuition should be mainly, if not entirely, on the engineering side. Officers of this Department who have been recommended for a course of wireless telegraphy are already capable telegraphists.

3. I would not propose any increase in the scale of the allowances nor of the period to which they apply. For a practical telegraphist who has taken the trouble to read up a text book on the subject one month should be a sufficient period. If he has not taken the trouble to read it up he should certainly not receive supplementary allowances on account of his negligence. The question as to whether the school fee should be met by the Government depends, to a very great extent, on the amount of such fees. If they are not of some considerable amount some consideration might be granted.

(Sd/-) J. J. J. J. J.

POSTMASTER GENERAL

27 Feb 1914

Sir,

I refer to your letter N° 6296/11
(4974/12) of the 13th of Dec. 1913. I am etc

DRAFT.

P.C.
P.P.O.

ack recd

I have writ to you for the concern
of the P.M.S. The accom^d copy
a deep with its enclosure

MINUTE

- Mr. Dorman 24.2.14
- Mr. B. H. ...
- Mr. G. Fuller.
- Mr. H. ...
- Mr. J. ...
- Mr. E. ...
- Mr. H. ...

received from the Gov^t of the P.A.
on the subject of the instruction
of Officers of the E.A. Postal
Service in Wireless Telegraphy

ack

I Mr. H. would be glad to
receive the opinions of the P.M.S.

D

The memo enclosed in the Gov^t deep
both generally and, in
particular, with regard to the length
of time which the ^{a telegraph} average operator
of the land lines usually available for
selection for the P.A. Postal Service
would require, after preliminary
reading, to spend at a School of
W. T. in order to gain a
certificate.

10 26 of 29
6914

copy for 2/4 can Dorman's

Mr. H. would also be
glad if the P.M.S. could
suggest what course of pre-
liminary reading should be
recommended to ^{Officials who} candidates
in order to ~~assist~~ ^{prepare to assist} ~~assist~~ ^{assist} them
~~in the subject~~
of the facilities suggested.
O. Am

(Signed) H. J. READ

Under Secret