



TELEPHONE  
DITWICH.

Aug 19<sup>th</sup>

TELFORANS,  
FERNHILL-HEATH.

HINDIP HALL,  
WORCESTER.

P. Lord Hindlip has frequently asked me questions. No answer is better than a reference. His notes will be useful for the future.

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1250

I enclose my notes for the amalgamation of Uganda + B.E.A.

I have not had time to go into them again quite as fully as I should have liked.

I sail for Canada on Aug 21<sup>st</sup> but shall be back on Oct 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> all going well.

Yours very truly  
Hindlip.

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DITWICH.

Aug 19<sup>th</sup>

TELEGRAMS,  
FERNSHILL-HEATH.

HINDLIP HALL,  
WORCESTER.

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Dear Mr. Hindlip

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PROPOSAL FOR THE  
AMALGAMATION OF UGANDA AND BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

In my opinion to ensure the successful working of a scheme for amalgamation it would be absolutely essential for the Governor and the Lieut. Governor of British East Africa, to be men of practical experience of Colonial life as opposed to Indian experience. This I regard as a *Sine qua Non*.

More white men could be employed on the railway and in subordinate positions at present filled by Goanese and Indians. I think much greater efficiency would be secured at a slightly increased cost and relaxation could be made in the numbers of returns forms etc., inseparable from Indian Methods.

The Taxation of the Natives appears to stand revision.

At present the Hut Tax makes no discrimination between rich natives and poor natives or a district where wages are high and a district where wages are low.

It does not induce natives to work or hardly at all. It induces overworking and unhealthiness and an evasion of any taxation. Natives probably evade Hut tax entirely.

The only reason I have heard for hut tax being preferred to poll tax is, that "nuts are easier to count than heads". I don't quite think this is really true. I would prefer a Poll tax or a tax on the herds, say a small tax on cattle and sheep. Any native proving that he had worked for 12 months to be exempt.

for 6 months less tax than the whole.

for 3 months and so on, or some similar scale.

Chiefs should be recognized and made more or less responsible for law and order in their districts and maintain of reserves etc. Employers should be allowed to and empowered to give passes to their employees anyhow for a short time. More confidence should be placed in Settlers, it should be remembered that there are several colonists who have held responsible positions in England and elsewhere, and it is most galling to them to be treated as irresponsible and untrustworthy persons, especially in many cases by men who have formerly had no responsibility or experience. These proposals are only tentative and need much elaboration; they are put forward in an entirely spirit. I recognise that there is much to be said for and against amalgamation, and unless good men are appointed the Colonists will be worse off, if possible, than now. I am chiefly influenced by the fact that with Amalgamation a Salary of £5000 per annum could be offered. For this sum an experienced Colonial administrator could be appointed. At present it seems to me that only 2 classes of men will accept the Post: 1st. Those who are expecting something better after and who are not likely to stay long. 2nd: Those who wish to fill up time before retiring under a pension.

- 1 Governor. Head Quarters Nairobi. £5000?
- 2 Lieut Governors. one B.E.A. one Uganda. £2000?

This would mean 3 Officials instead of 4 as at present and a the saving of a house.

During the absence of the Governor his duties would be carried on by a Lieut Gov., and during the absence of a Lieut Gov., or while he was doing duty for the Governor his duty would if necessary be carried out by the Senior Officer of the Administration probably the Treasurer or Chief Justice, as in other Colonies.

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Treasury Department.

- 1 Treasurer
- 2 Inspectors of Revenue 1 for B.E.A., 1 for Uganda.

Colonists to have some small voice in expenditure.

I think this would probably result in economy.

Regarding the erection of new stations.

These at first should be of the most temporary character till the site has been proved suitable. Much money has been wasted in this respect in the past. Vide Baringo and the troop lines at Maseras in 1904 or 1905.

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Judicial.

Owing to Zanzibar this presents some difficulty and I do not feel disposed to offer any suggestion beyond that Nairobi would appear to be the most central for a High Court or Court of Appeal. The Indian Penal Code, I consider out of place. But I understand a new Code is being drawn up.

I venture to think English or Roman Dutch Law is applicable to both White Settlers and Natives with local regulations for the latter in certain cases. Indians or Asiatics should have to conform to the country to which they emigrate. There is no system, to my knowledge of interpreters, any native almost can be an interpreter, so I believe. Courts should have proper white interpreters as (I think) in Natal.

Posts and Telegraphs.

These are already amalgamated.

Railways and Steamboats.

These should be under a Board of Management with a General Manager and Traffic Manager. The Unofficial Element should I think be represented.

The present system appears to be too rigid and inflexible. A Board would represent all interests and I think would give greater satisfaction to all concerned. Treasury would have to be represented. One man management is unsatisfactory, and railway lines controlled thousands of miles away are, without a local advisory board, often very unsuccessful, vide the Grand Trunk of Canada. Unless new engines and rolling stock have been provided since 1906, the line is badly in want of such especially engines, and the line cannot be worked economically with inferior and out of date engines.

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#### Police.

The Police is apparently thoroughly unsatisfactory and is in need of reorganization.

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#### Troops.

I would prefer to see a really good force of Constabulary in place of the King's African Rifles and the Police. I think this would be a more economical and more efficient force, and instead of a half disciplined Police a disciplined Constabulary substituted under experienced officers. I do not see the use of Troops as Troops only. This force could be under 1 Colonel or General Officer, I do not suggest a rank, and 2 subordinates, one for Uganda and one for S.E.A. There are many objections to this proposal I know, but having



regard to local conditions I am of opinion that the change would result in efficiency and economy.

No doubt along the Abyssinian Frontier a small force of troops might be necessary, and also possibly at Kismayu, and in this connection I have always held that the Abyssinian Frontier should be settled as soon as possible and occupied in some way or another, and I do not think that in reality that an occupation of this Frontier would be so costly or I should rather say so unremunerative, as is I believe commonly supposed. Trouble in Abyssinia is as far as I can see the only case where troops as troops are likely to be necessary, and holding this view I do not see the use of a large body of soldiers being kept at Nairobi or elsewhere along the line of railway. I do not see that there are any tribes in the Colony which in the event of a rising, could not be adequately dealt with by a force of Constabulary, assisted if necessary by a body of settlers. No doubt it would be necessary to have a small efficient force in Nairobi, capable of being hurried up to any disturbed centre, but I should imagine that this could be easily done by a police force, and the Constabulary could take it in turns to be at Head Quarters in Nairobi or on detached police duty. I can certainly understand arguments in favour of retaining troops as troops, but I cannot think of any arguments over retaining the present system of police, and in considering the two together, I have come to the conclusion after having thought the matter over since my conversation with Mr Antrobus that having regard to the conditions of objections in the Colony that an efficient force of Constabulary would be of more service

than the present system of troops and police. I am quite prepared however, to admit that from Kismayu to the point of Lake Rudolf here the Abyssinian Frontier joins that of the Colony a force of troops may be necessary. I may mention that although it is probable that the King's African Rifles get a better class of men than the Police, that the Soudanese, I believe they are old Mutineers from Uganda, seemed to me when I have seen them on two or three occasions chiefly at Eldama Ravine, to be a very good and eminently suitable type of policeman.

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Native Affairs.

I don't think amalgamation will be possible here as conditions in Uganda and British East Africa are so different, and there will have to be two distinct departments. Colonists of standing should assist. They could be given magisterial powers. Those eligible for seats on the Legislative Council are surely qualified to be local magistrates. I do not mean that they should be given judicial powers, except possibly power to deal with very minor offences and possibly not then. I think they should have executive powers as opposed to judicial. They should be allowed to give passes to natives the same as Officials.

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Labour.

I do not think that Officials should be Recruiting Officers. There should be Colonists licensed for this purpose.

Officials have no stake in the country, licensed Colonists would have a double interest. They would have the interests of the country at heart and also their license. I think this is so in other Colonies.

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Agriculture.

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Conditions in Uganda and parts of S.N.A. are similar. Some amalgamation appears possible here with a view to both economy and efficiency.

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Land Department.

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I understand matters are here satisfactory.

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Survey and Forests.

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These surely could be amalgamated.

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Health etc.

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Could be amalgamated.

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The Pass System was asked for, or at any rate as far as I was concerned it was asked for, to prevent cattle stealing and also as a check on natives wandering about the country armed with spears, bows and arrows etc., over whom there was no control or supervision. As an instance of the necessity for this during my last stay in the country there were continual attempts made by armed natives at night to steal my cattle and also my neighbours'. After making several complaints I was requested by the Sub-Commissioner at Naivasha to hand over to the police any natives found on my land who could give no satisfactory account of themselves. (These are not the exact words) A day or two after I received this letter I was riding from Njoro to Nakuru when I met two or three Masai fully armed who were working for nobody and were not looking for work, knowing that there was at the time an official with some police at Njoro, I wired to him from Nakuru, as I considered in accordance with the request of the Sub-Commissioner, to arrest these men. But he told me afterwards that he had no power to do so, and there was certainly a great necessity in my opinion for some kind of Pass System. But apparently the Pass System which was introduced has gone to the other extreme, and now apparently any unfortunate boy in charge of his master's cattle on the road or going to take a letter is liable to be arrested and put into gaol. I understand at the present only officials and one or two native chiefs are allowed to give passes, and I will show that this is absolutely unworkable, and to have great interference with the liberty of the subject both of the Employee and of the Employer. For instance, at my main station to Njoro it is quite conceivable, unless things are very different to what they were two years ago,

that the men requiring a pass would have to go 50 miles to get one although my station is practically on the railway.

It seems that the Pass System in force at present is causing hardship and discontent, and I hope I have shown that while some system is absolutely essential that the present system is wrong. I think the simplest way to rectify matters would be to allow any White Employer to give his men passes, at any rate to enable them to reach their destination, or the first official on the road to their destination, without having to travel miles out of their way or to run the risk of being imprisoned the first time they met a policeman.

If any Settlers were to be given the executive powers of a Magistrate I would suggest that one of the first of the powers to be conferred on them would be the power to give passes the same as an official. I think that this would be a good thing, both from the point of view of the White Settler, and from the Native's, that if this system were commenced and carried out, that in a short time it would be found that by extending it money would be saved to the administration.

I may mention in this connection that there always appears to me to be <sup>a</sup> the feeling in the country which is in direct opposition to English sentiment. In England we always consider a man a respectable person till he is proved to be otherwise, in East Africa there is I fear a tendency the other way.