

DOMESTIC.

EAST AFR. PROT.

No. 26775

26775

RECORDED
23 JUL 08

Name of Individual

Whitehouse
under B

1908

2 July

of previous Paper

26721

1/1886

(Subject.)

Lake Survey

States his case for considⁿ.

Read (Minutes.)

Mr. Ellis

I can find nothing new in this letter justifying a claim from Commr. Whitehouse. Para. 3 is disposed of by minutes on 24619/1905. Commr. Whitehouse's leave, ^{in 1905} was governed by rules in force in that year, & the letters which he encloses, relating to leave in 1903, have no bearing on the case.

As to para. 4, this was disposed of in the letter to him on 30509/1907.

Finally, he puts forward a claim, based on his alleged unfair treatment, his failure to get the C.M.F., & the C.O. appreciation of his

RECORDED
23 JUL 08

1/20205

Services, to a bonus of one years salary,
such as (he states) was given to the
Asst. Sec. Supt. of Marine.

The case is set out in our Solts
memo with 12496 + there is no ^{need} reason
to waste it again.

I think that the grounds of his
claim are incapable of estimation
in terms of money, + that there is
no cause thereon for ~~increasing~~ adding
to the remuneration already granted
to him.

I point out that the questions of
his leave + passage in 1905 have
already been fully discussed, + that the
letters which he forwards, relating to
his leave in 1903, have no bearing on
the matter: + say that the other
grounds for concern, which he puts
forward were given due weight in
estimating the remuneration paid to him
for his work in this country: + close
the correspondence. HRC 25/8

I agree there must be an end to
this. HRC 25/8

I am sorry to trouble you with
this, but the papers have
already been ~~sent~~ some time owing
to the pressure of work in the Dept.
I am afraid that the

It hit to proceed as proposed. The whole
affair has been most unfortunate, but I think
that we have gone as far as we can to
meet Comdr W. W. J. P. 35

25/8

Yes. I am sorry for him; for he
has done good work, and a man
with a grievance is generally to be
pitied. But unfortunately the at-
titude which he has taken up
makes it practically impossible
to do anything for him. Reply
as proposed: but add with
regard to the Comd. that, although
it had been proposed to submit
his ^{name} had not been ^{and} ~~submitted~~ ^{did not} ~~submit~~
particular in doing so find himself
able to submit it when the time
for making a submission came.

Wt. Aug 28.

Sept 30. 8

Com Secy
Comd. Area

This is an unhappy business.
Reply as proposed, but do not
say anything about the Comd., as
it should not be entirely correct
to say it was, + it was
earned as earned and it
was some W's private letter - in which
there was some provocation - and
which was cancelled

4.1X

3. a.

357A
8 St. James Square,
S.W.

22nd July 1908

My Lord,

Referring to your Lordship's request in a letter addressed to me by the Under Secretary of State dated 30th June 1908, concerning my work in British & German East Africa: I have forwarded a reply to the Under Secretary of State No. 1. a. 22nd July 1908, giving the information required which, as an officer of long service, I trust may receive your Lordship's personal attention.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

W. Whitton

Commander, R.N.

To
The Earl of Crewe K.G.
Colonial Secretary;

la.

14 Enclosures

8 St. James' Square,
S.W.

26775

22nd July 1908.

23 JUL 08

358

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 30th June 1908, 21188/1908.

In reply to its para. 2. -- I beg to draw attention to the fact that my agreement with the Foreign Office, dated 9th September 1902, was signed under the old rules of the Uganda Railway and that no notice of any change affecting its conditions was ever given me.

I beg to enclose copies of letters ¹⁵⁹⁶ 17L, 124a, and 156b, which show clearly what I was entitled to on sick leave, and now beg to be informed why the Colonial Office broke my agreement with the Foreign Office by deducting my passage money from my salary in 1905, and only paying me half salary during my absence from Africa.

I also enclose copy of Mr. Antrobus' letter 24619/1905 of 21st July 1905, giving me my passage back to Africa, and state most decidedly, that had I known this letter would not be held to, I would have declined to return to Africa on the same conditions viz., under Mr. H.A.F. Currie's direction.

I also enclose copy of Mr. Antrobus' letter 19056/1905 of 20th June 1905 in which he called on me to complete the survey of the whole Victoria Nyanza, at the rate of about ten pence per square mile, an enormous task for one man, my work all laying in the sleeping sickness zone, from the greater part of which it has now been found necessary to remove its native inhabitants.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

I also enclose report of the medical board on my eyesight under which I was ordered home for special treatment for cataract, and of Mr. Charles Higgins' certificate up-setting it.

I also enclose copy of the Colonial Office Minutes on Mr. H.A.F. Currie's confidential attack on me dated 8th May 1908 and beg to be informed why, if officially reported sick, Mr. Antrobus called on me as he did in his letter 1905e/1905 to return to the most unhealthy part of East Africa and perform an impossible task, after I had been registered as an unsatisfactory officer who could be got rid of.

I again beg to point out that I was entitled to full pay leave under my agreement, and that in 1905 I had worked the requisite time for it, having left and returned with Dr. A.D. Milne who was on full pay leave, and that I fully expected after the reception I got in Mr. Antrobus' No. 1905e/1905 I should be placed on full pay leave when the certificate of cataract was upset, Mr. Currie's confidential statements about my health being untrue.

3. I also beg to forward copy of a demi-official letter from Mr. H.A.F. Currie to me dated 9th March 1904 in which he states that there will be ~~no~~ difficulty in explaining the delays in providing an efficient driver for the motor boat, the principal cause of the friction between us, a difficulty he avoided by not mentioning the subject at all in his confidential letters. Delivery of the motor boat was delayed while the first driver was under instruction, for nine months, while after my return from England a more competent man was instructed in a fortnight, who drove the "white elephant" in a more or less satisfactory manner, enabling me

to finish the mapping of the lake coast line in eight months, instead of the twenty I would probably have taken in the whale boats only.

I also enclose copy of a demi-official letter from Mr. H.A.F. Currie to me dated 31st August 1904 in which he states very plainly the good terms on which I was with Mr. C.S. Hunter, that officer being the only assistant I ever had.

I also enclose copies of Mr. H.A.F. Currie's confidential letters of 8th May 1905 sent to me in February 1907.

3. In reply to para 3.

I beg to state that when the confidential correspondence was sent to me I wrote to Mr. H.J. Read informing him that I was rather surprised by all I read in it. Mr. H.J. Read at once wrote back that it ought never to have been sent to me. Three months later, May 1907, before going abroad, I had an interview with him and he then informed me that after I had worked at the Colonial Office it was seen that there was something wrong, and that the Office now knew I was not as represented by Mr. H.A.F. Currie. He assured me that the Colonial Office greatly appreciated my work, [told me it had been arranged that I should be given a C.M.G.] in recognition of it, and that the recommendation had been made. All I received was Mr. Antrobus' 1757/1907 copy enclosed. I at once declined to accept ~~the~~ of my full salary. That amount was again sent me, and again returned.

On my return to England on 5th January last, Mr. H.J. Read C.M.G. wrote twice to me asking me to interview him, which I declined to do.

In February 1908, I interviewed Mr. Antrobus as described in my letters to him 26th February 1908 and 1st April 1908. Mr. Antrobus refused to discuss Mr. H.A.F. Currie's treatment.

* I have no recollection of the one of my signatures on the papers which I thought that he had submitted to C.M.G. H.J. Read

9-10-10
1100
12496

of me, but sanctioned my full pay for the period I worked at the Colonial Office. He then very plainly told me that I was to be given a C.M.G. in recognition of my work. He also explained that many such claims had to be satisfied, and the occasions on which they could be, were very limited, but that now mine was arranged, and that I was not to say anything about it. Why it should be kept so secret when I had already been told just the same thing the year before, I do not quite understand, but as in 1907, I heard no more on the subject. If Mr. Antrobus means that these recognitions of good service are only given on certain dates, I beg to quote the case of Colonel Delme Radcliffe who received a C.M.G. for Boundary Survey work in East Africa. I think it rather strange that I should be told by Colonial Office officials two years running when official friction was being discussed, that I was to get such recognition, when none of any sort whatever has ever been sent to me.

As the Earl of Crewe requests me to state my claims for additional remuneration, I beg to point out that I have experienced heavy loss by having to pay my passages, losing stores at Muanza as already stated, and having to sell other things at ridiculous prices that I got out from England thinking that I would remain at least one year longer in Africa in accordance with what I had been told by Mr. H.A.F. Currie that the survey would go on.

I have suffered the greatest worry and vexation from Mr. H.A.F. Currie's inexcusable conduct and the acceptance by the Colonial Office of his confidential statements, until I was better known and had by accident been shown them.

As the Assistant Loco. Superintendent Marine was given a bonus of one year's salary, £800, as well as a permanent appointment for 2 years shipbuilding work, I think, considering

the work I have done since 1897, the way I was forced to leave it, and that by Mr. H.A.F. Currie's actions I was compelled to carry it out in small boats, instead of the steamer Sir M. Ommaney and Mr. H.J. Read both agreed in 1905 that I should have, thus risking the loss of my whole party, while Mr. H.J. Read states that the Colonial Office owes me a great deal, the Earl of Crewe might now compensate me for what has occurred by giving me the bonus of one year's salary that other officers received in addition to permanent appointments, who were not called on to work as I was, outside the limits of British territory, and there left without the help asked for.

I conclude that the Earl of Crewe considers my work to have been satisfactory, its difference with other surveys results being practically nil, while I have been verbally informed in the Colonial Office that it was much approved of.

I have the honour to request that this letter with its enclosures may be laid before the Earl of Crewe for his Lordship's personal consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

B. Whittemore

Commander R.N.

* I take it that this is an allusion to a minute of mine on one of the papers which were sent to him by mistake

H. J. R.

UGANDA RAILWAY

C. O.
26775

Recd
Per: 23 JUL 08

No. 1590/17L.

From

The Manager

To

The Chief Accountant,
Uganda Railway,
NAIROBI.

Dated NAIROBI 2nd April 1903.

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Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I have sanctioned four months' leave on medical certificate to Commander Whitehouse R.N. from the 1st instant and I request you will take his passage by the Austrian Lloyds s.s. "Cleopatra." He will take his leave under the old leave rules.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.)

F. RAWSON,

Manager,

Uganda Railway.

1597/17L B/ 2.4.03.

Copy forwarded to Commander B. Whitehouse R.N.
information.

(Sd.)

F. RAWSON,

Manager,

Uganda Railway.

80 JUL 23 1908

UGANDA RAILWAY

1908 JUL 23

The Manager

Uganda Railway
Kampala

Dated Kampala 23rd July 1908

I have the honor to inform you that I have
mentioned your name in my letter to
Commander Whitehouse R.N. from the 1st instant and I
trust you will take his passage by the American Lines
He will take his leave under the old
rules.

I have the honor to be

Yours obedient servant,
R. RAWSON
Manager,
Uganda Railway.

RECEIVED 23.7.08

Copy forwarded to Commander Whitehouse R.N.

R. RAWSON
Manager,
Uganda Railway.

2

Forwarded to Commander Whitehouse for information
and in reply to his letter of the 19th inst.
23rd July 1908.

C.O.
26775

23 JUL 08

UGANDA RAILWAY,
Foreign Office,

383

23rd July 1908.

1908

Gentlemen,
Commander Whitehouse of the Lake Survey, who is
present in this country on sick leave, asks that he
be allowed to draw his leave allowance for the period
from April to 15th July 1908.

The Uganda Railway rules provide that an officer
on sick leave "will receive an allowance of six tenths
of his full salary."

I enclose Commander Whitehouse's last Pay
Certificate and have to ask that you will be good enough
to send him a cheque for the amount due to him.

His address is:-

Sports Club,
St. James' Square, S.W.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.)

F.L. O'CALLAGHAN.

Brown Agents for the Colonies.

28775
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forwarded to Commander Whitehouse for information
and in reply to his letter of the 12th inst.
23rd July 1903.

UGANDA RAILWAY

Foreign Office,

23rd July 1903.

Commander Whitehouse of the Lake George, who is
present in this country on sick leave, asks that he
be allowed to draw his leave allowance for the period
of 28th July to 1st August 1903.
The Uganda Railway Rules provide that an officer
on sick leave "will receive an allowance of six-twelfths
of his full salary."
I enclose Commander Whitehouse's last pay
certificate and have to ask that you will be good enough
to pay him a cheque for the amount due to him.

St. James, Square, S.W.
I am,

Yours obedient servant,
F. B. O'CALLAGHAN.

Crown Agents for the Colonies

UGANDA RAILWAY.

26775
23 JUL 08

Foreign Office,

6th August 1903.

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No. 156b.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 6th July I have to
inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies have
been instructed to engage a first-class passage for you
by the Austrian-Lloyd steamer leaving Trieste on the
25th inst.

I enclose for your information a copy of Sir Patrick
Manson's medical report and would draw your attention to
his remark regarding the use of quinine.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Sgd.] F. B. O'CALLAGHAN

Commander Whitehouse, R.N.

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2775

ADMIRALTY

80 JUL 25

London Office

188

1001 August 1905

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26775
REC'D
23 JUL 08

Downing Street,
21 July 1905.

24619/1905.

365

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 15th of July,
I am directed by Mr. Secretary Lyttelton to inform you
that the Crown Agents for the Colonies have been instruct-
ed to provide you with a passage to Mombasa by the steamer
leaving Trieste on the 28th of July.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd,)

R. L. STROBUS.

COMMANDER B. WHITEHOUSE, R.N.

of your letter of the 15th of July, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Lyttelton to inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies have been instructed to provide you with a passage to Mombasa by the steamer leaving Trieste on the 28th of July.

I enclose for your information a copy of the letter of the 15th of July, and a copy of the letter of the 21st of July, which you will find in the file of this matter.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. L. STROBUS.

Commander Whitehouse, R.N.

No. 19059/1905.

Downing Street,
20 June 1905.

C. O.
26775
23 JUL 08

366

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Lyttelton to inform you that a leave certificate in regard to your case has been received from the Commissioner of the East Africa Protectorate, but that the amount of leave has been left to the discretion of the Secretary of State.

2. With a view to its being ascertained what period of leave should be granted to you, I am to request that you will present yourself before Sir Patrick Manson at an early date for medical examination. The enclosed letter should be left with Sir P. Manson, who will send his report direct to this Department.

3. I am to add that it will not be possible for Mr. Lyttelton to authorise the issue of any salary in respect of any leave of absence which may be granted to you, and that on your return to East Africa you will be required to complete the survey of Lake Victoria for the sum of £1,589, which remains unexpended out of the total sum of £6694, sanctioned for the work; a total which, it is noted, is some £500 in excess of the estimate of the total cost submitted in your letter of the 21st of August 1903.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

COMMANDER D. WHITEHOUSE, R.N.

R. L. ANTROBUS.

Notes by Mr. Whitehouse:

The area of the Victoria Nyanza is about 28,000 square miles which nearly all requires sounding. The sum remaining unexpended was £1404 not £1589.

Who advised Mr. Antrobus that such an area could be surveyed for a sum that works out at 10 pence per mile? The excess of £500 was asked for by Mr. H. A. F. Currie, not by me. My estimate was for south part of Lake Vtd surveyed in some way as the north was.

PROCEEDINGS of MEDICAL BOARD.

A Medical Board composed as under, assembled at Nairobi, on the 6th of May 1905 for the purpose of reporting on the eyesight of Commander E. Whitehouse.

- President - J. Will, P.M.O.
- Members - { Dr. J.A. Haran.
Dr. W.J. Radford.

The Board having assembled proceeded to examine his eyes and find that he has a moderate amount of Presbyopia.

There is opacity of the lens of left eye (incipient cataract), floating bodies, and signs of old Retinitis.

There is a history of Conjunctivitis of some standing, now recovered from, and of frequent attacks of Malaria.

The Board recommends that he be invalided to England for change and special treatment.

- (Sd.) J. Will, P.M.O. - President.
- (Sd.) J.A. Haran, Medical Officer
- (Sd.) William J. Radford, Medical Officer. } Members.

Commanding Officer
20 June 1905

I am directed by Mr. Secretary to inform you that a leave certificate in regard to your case has been received from the Commissioner of East Africa Protectorate, but that the amount of leave has been left to the discretion of the Secretary of State. With a view to the better management of what period of leave is granted, it is requested that you will present yourself with a medical certificate of your condition for medical examination, and that you will advise the Secretary of State of the result of such examination. I am to inform you that the leave of absence will be granted to you on your return to East Africa for the purpose of completing the survey of Lake Victoria for the year 1905, which remains uncompleted at the present time, and which will be the work of the year 1905. As some leave of absence is necessary for the purpose of completing the survey, it is requested that you will advise the Secretary of State of the result of such examination.

Commanding Officer
20 June 1905

(Copy)

C. 6. 7
26775

Recd
23 JUL 08

52 Brook Street,
W.

368

June 22/05.

Capt. Whitehouse has consulted me on two occasions
June 2nd and June 15th.

He is suffering from vitreous opacity in the left
eye probably due to haemorrhage which is rapidly clearing
up and I do not anticipate any permanent damage to sight.

(Sgd.) CHARLES HIGGINS.

F.R.C.S.

(8)

Colonial Office Minutes June 1905.

Mr. Antrobus

Commander Whitehouse seems an unsatisfactory officer. He is always more or less in bad health and he is so ill-tempered that no one can work with him.

£500 more than he estimated in his letter 21st Aug. 1903 to be necessary to complete the survey has been granted and now there remains £1529 to complete about 1100 miles of coast.

I take it that he may still be regarded as serving under the terms of his agreement of 1st Oct. 1899 under which he can be got rid of at 3 months notice.

Leave is left to discretion of Secretary of State.

I think when Commander Whitehouse reports himself he should be told that he(words illegible) during his leave, send him to Dr. Manson to see how long he requires and tell him he must finish his work for the £529 suggested.

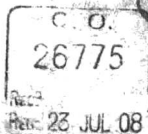
I don't think he ought to have been given a passage home.

W. S. E.

Managers Office.

No. 98/17.

May 8th 1905.



I regret to have to report that Commander B. Whitehouse R.N. in charge of the Lake Survey has been in indifferent health for some time past. Ever since his return from the lake 1903 he has been repeatedly complaining of slight ill health. At the end of December last he got bad fever at Lukembe, and had to go to Bukoba where he remained to 21st January, Leaving that post for the North^d he again got ill on 24th January and had to go to Entebbe suffering from fever and inflammation of the left eye. He was laid up there for some time and was unable to resume work on the survey until 17th March. On my recent visit to Bukoba in the Winifred I found he was still complaining of his eye and took him into Entebbe to consult Dr. Moffat a copy of whose report is enclosed. Acting on this he came down to Nairobi and was examined by a medical board a copy of whose report I also enclose. He will leave for England by the first vessel in which he can secure a passage.

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Commander Whitehouse was originally appointed in charge of the lake survey on 1st October 1899, at £800 a year. He returned to England in May 1901 having with Mr. Hunter completed the survey of the northern (British portion) of the lake. He was re-appointed in London on 9th April 1902 in charge of the survey for the German portion on the same salary. After having done a certain amount of work he became ill and was granted sick leave from 15th April 1903 returning to Africa 12th September 1903.

He resumed work on the survey in November 1903 with Mr. C.S. Hunter as his assistant. *In Feb. 1904 Mr. Hunter became ill and had to leave for Nairobi.* The doctors forbade his returning to the Lake so that since then Commander Whitehouse has worked alone.

I offered to procure him an assistant but he replied

C. O.
26775

that he preferred and was able to complete the survey by himself.

27 JUL 08
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The present state of the survey is explained in Commander Whitehouse's report dated 8th May 1905, copy of which I enclose. The portions remaining to be surveyed are of minor importance. We already have sufficient data to navigate the ships between the present ports of call. As the period within which it was originally anticipated that the survey could be completed has expired, I am unable to grant Commander Whitehouse any leave.

I have provided him with the cost of a passage to London and have given him a last pay certificate.

On arrival in London the Colonial Office will doubtless decide what leave can be granted him.

He takes his books and plans with him so that if possible he can work on them at the Admiralty Office in London. As regards funds the attached statement shows an unexpended balance of £1529 for the completion of the work out of £2694 sanctioned.

I also enclose a confidential report on Commander Whitehouse and his work.

I have etc.

(Sgd.) H.A.F. CURRIE,
Manager U.S.

Report on Commander Whitehouse, R.N.

In charge of Survey of Victoria Nyanza. Salary C.O. 170
26775
23 JUL 08

The lake survey from climatic conditions and the nature of the work entails very great hardships on the staff employed. Cr. Whitehouse is therefore entitled to every consideration that can be granted. It is due to the work done by himself and Mr. Hunter that our steamers can now be navigated with comparative safety. There is therefore no question but that he has done good work under very unfavourable conditions. He is afflicted with a most uncontrollable temper which renders it very difficult for another European or anyone to serve under him. He is also of a highly nervous temperament and always imagines that he is seriously ill when suffering from any minor ailment.

Both these characteristics render work on the lake more trying to him than most men.

Seeing that all the survey already made has been carried out under him, I think it would be only right to give him the opportunity to complete the work. If the Colonial Office decide to do so, I beg to recommend that he be given a fixed sum of money to cover the completion of the work. As things stand at present, there is no inducement to him to hurry on with the survey, in fact quite the opposite, and if he returns under the same conditions, the work will take a long time to complete. If he asks for assistance it must be engaged in London. I have at present no one here who is qualified and willing to serve under Commander Whitehouse.

Mr. Hunter cannot possibly be spared from the Railway and moreover would I know be most averse to going back to the Lake. As far as I am aware Commander Whitehouse's relations with the German authorities have been most cordial.

I have.

(Sgd.)

H.A.F. CURRIE

Notes by Cr. Whitehouse on Mr. H.A.F. Currie's
Confidential Reports.

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It is quite untrue that I repeatedly complained of slight ill health.

I got intermittent fever at Lubembe in December 1904 and as Mr. Currie was informed in my No. 56 of 12 January 1905 "this was the first time I had been ill for any length of time since returning from leave."

I was at work during much of the time he states I was away from the survey viz., end of December 1904 to 17th March 1905.

Mr. Currie did not offer to procure me an assistant when Mr. C.S. Hunter was invalided, on the contrary he asked me in his letter of 31st August 1904 if I could do without one. I preferred to then, but in February 1905 refused to let Mr. Townsend, a trained sailor who had volunteered, go with me, pressed me to take Mr. McClure instead, refused to let him take Mr. Townsend's place, refused to let me have the "Percy Anderson," and refused to make any special arrangements for passing my stores over the railway in accordance with my agreement.

He states that only survey work of minor importance remained to be done, while a most costly wreck took place a month later, the board of enquiry on it finding that "the navigation was fraught with difficulty in the present unshaped state of the coast."

He states in one letter that he offered to procure me an assistant, and in the other that he had no one there qualified or willing to work with me.

26775

REC-
R. 23 JUL 08

(Copy)

Nairobi.

March 9th 1944

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My dear Whitehouse,

I am sorry to hear that the launch has broken down and that you have had to return. As soon as I get your letter I will see what can be done and if we can put her right she will be sent after you.

I am afraid you have wasted a lot of time over her, when explanations for extra funds for your estimate are demanded, it will be difficult to explain away all these weeks.

Please therefore go ahead as fast as you can and leave her alone. She seems to be a regular white elephant.

I hope you are fit and that you will find your men all right.

Let me have a line by the "Sybil" each month.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.)

H.A.P. CURRIE.

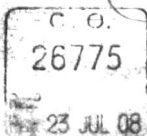
Note by C. Whitehouse

*The launch would not run because the
mechanic did not know how to drive.*

(Copy)

NAIROBI.

Aug. 31st 04.



My dear Whitehouse,

373

Hunter has arrived and has seen Radford who reports as follows:

"This is to certify that in my opinion Mr. G.S. Hunter should not return to the Nyanza to complete his survey but should carry on his duties in some other locality in this country. Though his present condition does not warrant his taking leave out of the country at present, I am thoroughly of opinion that should he be subjected to the same conditions of life, as those he has experienced during the last 3 years, that compulsory invaliding will be necessary in the near future."

Hunter will therefore stay here until he receives details from you to enable him to start plotting so please send them on as soon as possible. As soon as he has done all the plotting he can, I think the best plan will be for him to go on leave. Under Radford's certificate he can't well be sent back to you. As a matter of fact Hunter himself is anxious to return to you now and see the job out, but he does not want to go back to you after return from leave for the few months that will be required to finish up and I think he has reason on his side.

Can you manage to get along alone without him? If you must have assistance I really don't know who could be sent to you.

Please let me have your ideas. It would suit me very well if Hunter came back to the railway on his return from leave because other men will then be going on leave.

I have done all you want as regards rope and pass for your things. The rope must go as Ry. material and cannot go

ires.

I do hope the launch will do you well. I have seen Sandiford about the spare parts and am enquiring about the driver. You will hear the result by next boat. 374

Glad to gather that take it all round you are fit and getting on at a good pace.

Please send me a reply by the boat as regards Hunter. I take it he (H.) is rather sick at having to leave your job so I gather from that that things have gone well between you.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.)

H. A. F. CURRIE.

Recd
 JUL 23 1908

375

Mr. Antrobus

Per Minute on 39581. Comdr. Whitehouse has been surveying German part of the Lake.

Ask Commissioner to write to Government G.E.A. in the sense desired and so inform Comdr. Whitehouse. Better not say anything to him in recommendation of his work.

I may say that what I have seen and heard from him tends to confirm Mr. Currie's report on him in 1909/1905 below.

W.D.B.

[The Hon. Mr. Currie's report]

Instead of writing to the Commissioner we had better write to F.O. and ask them to get the necessary communication made to German Government.

With regard to Commander Whitehouse himself I must say that in spite of his peculiar temperament I think that we owe a great deal to him.

There is no doubt that in many ways he has been an impossible man. He has been hypersensitive, quarrelled with other officers and has been altogether a difficult man to work with, but on the other hand he has done a really big piece of work in mapping the Victoria Nyanza (an area of say 20,000 square miles) and as far as I can gather from Colonel Smith and Major Bright, has done it extremely well. He has worked single-handed and in consequence of the prevalence of sleepingsickness on the Lake, and the nature of the work, has been exposed to great risks and hardships.

It is not likely that he will be employed again and I hope the Commissioner will recommend him for a C.M.G. which has been given before now for survey work of less

importance.

I would ask that (here follows draft of No. 40451/1906 from Mr. Antrobus to Comdr. Whitehouse.)

H.J.R.

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Notes by Cr. Whitehouse.

On my return home when seeing Mr. H.J. Read about my resignation, he assured me that Mr. H.A.F. Currie was the best friend I had got that the Colonial Office was entirely satisfied with what I had done and that I was not to think otherwise for a moment, so I do not understand how these minutes came to be written a few days later. It is first stated that I was difficult to work with and then that I worked single-handed.

Many people might be hypersensitive when called on to work as I was in the interior while knowing that confidential correspondence was causing trouble although I had been promised none should be written.

Later, in May 1907 Mr. Read informed me the Colonial Office had been mistaken in this matter. (See para 8 letter l.a. enclosed.)

* I said something to the effect
because Mr. Currie had spoken sympathetically
to me about Currie. W. had said that
he would be glad to get something done for him,
& that he proposed to get the file to
recommence his job at C.O.G. I am certain
that Mr. Currie had no opinion against Currie. W.
had recognized Currie's good points,
although he had suffered a good deal
from his intractability. #32

C. O.
26775
Rec.
23 JUL 08

(Copy)

No. 17972/1907.

DOWNING STREET,

17 June 1907.

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Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Selkirk to inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies have been instructed to issue pay to you at three-fourths of the full rate of £720 a year for the period during which you are working in this country in connexion with your recent survey of Lake Victoria i.e., from the 17th of October to the 20th of February.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.)

R.L. ANTROBUS.

COMMANDER B. WHITEHOUSE, R.N.

C. D.
R. 2
D. 19

W. 26775 E.A.P

Jan

10 Sept 08.

Comr. E. Whitehouse, R.M. Sir,

I am so. to ack. the recd. of your letter of the 28th July, in which you set out your case fully for his Lordship's consideration.

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H.R.C. 7/9

Mr Ellis

7/9

Mr Contadus

C.Pd. 9/8

and 56295

I am to point out that the questions of your leave and passage in 1905 have already been fully discussed, and that the letters of which you forward copies, relating as they do to your leave in 1903, can have no bearing on what was decided in 1905 under the regulations then in force.

I am to add that the other grounds for consideration to which you draw attention were given due weight in the computation of the remuneration paid to you for your work in this country in 1906-7.

In all the circumstances the S. of S. thinks that no good purpose will be served by continuing this corresp.

(Signed) C. P. LUCAS.