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L. Magadi Soda Scheme

Support has been given by Council of Government for construction of Road from Lake to the Coast for the construction of pier at Kilindini. The matter being one pending Treasury decision. Further proposals regarding the pier at Kilindini.



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24 MAR 1900

SHELL HOUSE,
104/5, Bishopsgate Street Within,
London, E. C.

23rd. March 1900.

To/
The Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Whitehall, S. W.

Sir,

With reference to our previous letters and correspondence on the subject of Lake Magadi, we venture to suggest that it might possibly save a good deal of time if the Crown Agents could be asked to instruct their Solicitors to prepare the basis of an Agreement for the construction of the proposed Branch Line and for the carriage of Soda, fuels and other materials, and also an Agreement for the lease of land and the construction of a Pier at Kilindini, and to submit this proposed Agreement to our Solicitors for their consideration at an early date.

There are no doubt several questions which would necessarily have to be left in blank until after Mr. Currie's arrival which, we understand, will be on April 16th; but, on the other hand there are doubtless many points which could be now finally settled and the way thus be cleared for a definite settlement of those questions involving finance, which must remain over for the Treasury decision. Our object in making this request is to avoid any possible delay, as there are surveys to be made and many other questions to be studied on the spot involving big expenditure, and which naturally we are unable to incur until the Agreements with His Majesty's Government are finally settled.

Re Pier at Kilindini

It appears to us that in view of the financial obligations connected with this matter His Majesty's Government might be willing to deal with this question separately and that at an

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early date as the building of the Pier would have to be the first work commenced. Therefore we venture to make the following suggestions, which might overcome the difficulty with regard to the financing of this operation should the Government not be able to see their way to undertake it.

That the new Company should finance, build and own the Pier subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) That the public should have the right to use the Pier on conditions and on the payment of charges to be agreed upon.
- (b) That the Government should have the right to buy the Pier at any time on giving 18 months' notice on payment for same, but special facilities to be granted to the Company for the use of the Pier.

We trust that these suggestions will meet your approval and that we may receive a favourable reply.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

M. Samuel J.