

EAST AFR. PROT  
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3066  
REC'D  
MAR 28 1910

March 110

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1 sheet

st previous Paper.

Postal facilities  
Rural Post Offices

Submits scheme for establishment of a system of rural post offices in conn. with small shops or general stores in outlying districts. Suggests that E.S.O. might assist in obtaining suitable sub-postmasters under the scheme.

W. Beckler.

The cost of the rural offices proposed by Mr. Beckler is -

£ 535 - "remuneration"

£ 100 - office rent

Total £ 635 per annum.

Although the fr. does not say so, presumably there will be a saving in expenditure as hitherto post offices.

Send copy of despatch to E.S.O. for opinions pointing out that the scheme is not yet approved.

Copy was given 25 June 18369 ✓

sequent Paper.

I before approaching the Treasury  
(as may eventually be necessary)  
ack: despatch & enquire what  
the financial result of the scheme  
will be & say that the I. L. O.  
has been asked provisionally  
for their views on the scheme.

ack  
35/3

Mr. Read.

I do not think it is any good sending the Emigrants  
Information Office a copy of this despatch. They are not  
qualified to express any opinion on the merits of the scheme.  
Nor can they assist in any way in the selection of candi-  
dates for appointment under the scheme. As you probably  
know, they are in no sense an Employment Agency. Their sole  
function is to give information as to the prospects in the  
various Colonies, including East Africa, but they are not  
fitted to form <sup>an</sup> ~~any~~ <sup>condense</sup> opinion on the qualifications, either  
technical, financial, or <sup>moral</sup> ~~disposal~~ of people seeking private  
or government employment, nor have they any machinery which  
would enable them to undertake the necessary enquiries.  
The utmost they could do in a case of this kind would be to  
state publicly, possibly in their publications, at any rate,  
in answer to enquiries, the fact that there are vacancies in  
the service of the Government of the East Africa Protec-  
torate of the kind suggested in this despatch, to add informa-  
tion as to the general conditions of climate, cost of living,  
etc., in the Protectorate, and then refer intending appli-  
cants to the body entrusted with the selection of candidates,  
that is, either the Colonial Office, the Crown Agents, or  
possibly in this case the General Post Office. All this  
was, by my express directions, carefully impressed upon the

Reading

Gosling when he discussed this question with the Chief Clerk of the Emigrants' Information Office.

Leaving the Emigrants' Information Office out of account for these reasons, I have some doubts, as a member of the East African Department of the Colonial Office, as to the value of this scheme. In the first place it is necessary to enquire whether the proposed employment of European instead of Indian Postmasters will result in a saving or a loss. If in a loss, <sup>can</sup> ~~could~~ the loss be justified merely on the ground that white settlers will get on better with European Postmasters? The Governor has shown distinct ~~and real~~ <sup>palpable</sup> signs of ~~preference~~ <sup>preference</sup> to the white settlers in matters of this kind. In another despatch he has suggested that European clerks should be appointed instead of Hindoo clerks in most of the Government Offices, because the white settlers like European clerks better. This emphasizing of racial distinctions in posts which can be usefully and economically filled by Indians must be carefully watched. The Secretary of State has yielded to the wishes of the white settlers to the extent of laying it down as the Executive (though not the Legislative) policy not to make further grants of land to Indians in the Highlands, but I feel that it is going altogether too far to exclude Indians from clerical and other <sup>posts</sup> posts under government supervision on sentimental grounds.

If this difficulty is successfully met by the Governor and the scheme is approved in principle, I think it eminently desirable that all these appointments should be filled in the Protectorate. It is all very well selecting

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? Explain to the Governor that the Jointants' Information Office can only <sup>assemble</sup> ~~arrange~~ information as to the conditions of appointment and cannot in any way help in the selection or recommendation of candidates; Enquire as to the financial aspect of the proposal, and observe as above as to the desirability of appointments being filled locally.

JAB

April 1

M. Fiddes

I agree with Mr. Nathan

Proceed as proposed?

A. J. R.

1/11

Sir J. Hopwood

So proposed

W. B. R.

7/11

J. H. C.

2/11

at 11

3  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

March 1st 1910.

No. 110

(Incl. 2)



My Lord,

I have the honour to bring to Your Lordship's notice a scheme proposed by the Postmaster General with the object of improving and increasing postal facilities in districts where there are considerable numbers of European settlers.

Memorandum  
Model Contract

2. His suggestion is, briefly, to inaugurate a system of rural post offices in connection with small shops or general stores on the lines with which we are familiar in many English villages. The attached Memorandum and model contract show the conditions on which the system would be worked. In some cases Government would find the buildings at a nominal rent, in others they would have to be erected by the incumbents, who would then receive an allowance of £20 per annum for office rent. The remuneration offered would range from £40 to £55 per annum.

3. There is no doubt under existing conditions great likelihood of friction between the present Indian Postal Staff, which is all the Department can afford in most districts, and the European settlers.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF CURZON, K.G.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

settlers: such a feeling would disappear if these rural post offices under white management could be introduced, but unfortunately it has not so far been possible to find the right class of men for them and it is thought that the Emigrants Information Bureau, with which the Postmaster General was in communication prior to formulating his scheme, might be able to assist in the matter.

4. We may, of course, be able to dispose of some of the post offices mentioned in the Postmaster General's list locally, but the majority will have to be provided for otherwise and I should be much obliged if the Bureau could be asked whether they are in a position to help us.

I have the honour to be  
Your Lordship's humble,  
obedient servant,

*W. J. G. ...*  
GOVERNOR.

## MODEL CONTRACT FOR SUB-POST OFFICE.

-----oo0oo-----

3036

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN \_\_\_\_\_

of \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter referred to as the Contractor) of the one part and \_\_\_\_\_

Postmaster General of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates (hereinafter referred to as the Postmaster General which term shall include the Officer for the time being performing the duties of Postmaster General of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates) of the other part, WITNESSETH.

WHEREAS the Postmaster General is willing to arrange for the putting out to contract of the work of conducting a Sub-Post and Telegraph Office at \_\_\_\_\_ and the Contractor is prepared to enter into a Contract for the performance of the same, the parties hereto have agreed as follows:-

1. The Contractor undertakes to provide for the carrying on for and on behalf of the Postmaster General of the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Post and Telegraph Office including Money Order, Postal Order, Savings Bank and Telegraph business for a remuneration of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ per month and the Postmaster General agrees to entrust such work to him and to pay him the said remuneration of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ monthly.

2. The Postmaster General undertakes and agrees to place at the disposal of the Contractor for the purpose of and during the period of this Agreement and for such purposes as are hereinafter described, the building situated at \_\_\_\_\_ and erected by the Public Works Department for the purpose of a Post Office; such building to be leased to the Contractor at a rental of \_\_\_\_\_ per mensem which rental the Contractor

Hereby

hereby undertakes to pay to the Postmaster General in advance on the 1st day of each month.

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3. The Postmaster General also undertakes to let on hire to the Contractor to be used by him solely for the purpose of this Agreement the following articles of Postal and Telegraph furniture:-

(Tables, Stools, Sorting Cases, Telegraph Instruments, Dated Stamps, &c., &c., varying according to circumstances ).

For which articles the Contractor undertakes to pay to the Postmaster General a further monthly rental of            to be paid as aforesaid.

4. The Postmaster General agrees that the aforementioned Post Office building may be used by the Contractor for the purpose of a Trading Store to be conducted by him in conjunction with the Post and Telegraph Office: provided however that the building may not be used by the Renter for the storage of Heavy, Offensive or Dangerous goods or articles which might endanger the safety, or cause damage, or depreciation of the building. The decision of the Postmaster General as to what constitutes Heavy, Offensive, or Dangerous goods or articles shall be conclusive and binding.

5. The Contractor undertakes to make good any damage or depreciation to the building which may result from its use as a Store, as distinct from its use as a



9.

Post and Telegraph Office and any loss or damage to Government property occasioned otherwise than by natural causes or by fair wear and tear in the Post Office service - any disputes on this head to be submitted to arbitration - otherwise the normal upkeep and repairs shall be provided for by the Protector to Government.

6. The Contractor shall at all time be responsible for the efficient conduct of Post and Telegraph business at the \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Post Office and for the punctual observance and carrying out of the instructions of the Postmaster General or of any of the Officers of the Post and Telegraph Department who may be authorised by the Postmaster General to issue directions in regard to the Departmental arrangements.

7. The Contractor and all his employees who may have access to the \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Post and Telegraph Office shall be bound to secrecy by a declaration before a Magistrate in the form (A) annexed.

8. For the purpose of conducting the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Post and Telegraph Office the Postmaster General shall supply the Contractor with a suitable stock of the ordinary Account Books, Letter Bills, Registered Letter and Parcel Lists, Stationery, Pencils, Pens/~~or~~<sup>and</sup> writing Ink and Stamp Ink (but not Sealing Wax or String) as issued by him to similar Sub-Post Offices conducted by the Staff of the Post and Telegraph Department, e.g., Kikuyu.

9. The Contractor undertakes to be responsible for all the Post and Telegraph Department cash, Stamps and Postal Orders received by him or by his employees in connection with the conduct of the \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Post Office, and to furnish accounts to the satisfaction

of

of the Postmaster General regarding the same, and also to pay the value of the contents of any Registered Letter or Parcel received by him or his employees and not properly despatched or delivered to the addressees; provided that his liability in this respect shall not exceed Thirty Rupees (₹.2) in respect of any one Registered Letter or Fifteen Rupees (₹.1) in respect of any one Parcel.

10. The Contractor undertakes to provide for the prompt and efficient delivery of all telegrams for persons residing within five miles (by cart or cycle road) of the Sub-Post Office for a charge of five cents or a rupee per telegram which charge the Postmaster General undertakes to pay. It is agreed between the parties hereto that this charge is to apply to all telegrams whether State or Private which are delivered off the Post Office premises.

11. The Contractor undertakes to enter into a bond with one or more sureties to be approved by the Postmaster General in the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Rupees (₹.100) for the faithful discharge of his duties as an Officer of the Post Office.

12. The Contractor shall not assign, sublet or part with the possession of the Post Office premises or any part thereof and shall not assign his interests under this Agreement.

13. This Agreement shall be terminable at three months notice on either side, with the reservation that in the event of any breach of or non-compliance with any of the provisions of Clause 5 hereof by the Contractor or his employees, or in the event of the \_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Post Office being so conducted as to cause serious public complaint, the Postmaster General shall have the power to

cancel

cancel this Agreement at Twentyfour Hours' notice. On the termination or cancellation of this Agreement the Contractor shall immediately vacate the Post Office building and remove all his property therefrom and deliver up to the Postmaster General all the furniture, stores and things enumerated in article 3 and all other property of the Protectorate Government which may be contained in the said Sub-Post Office building at \_\_\_\_\_

Executed in duplicate and signed at \_\_\_\_\_  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_

Postmaster General for the  
East Africa and Uganda Protectorates.

and at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor.

DECLARATION.

I.....an employee in the Postal and Telegraph Department of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will not wittingly or willingly open, or delay, or cause or suffer to be opened or delayed contrary to my duty, any letter or anything sent by the Post which shall come into my hands or custody by reason of my employment relating to the Post and Telegraph Office; that I will not embezzle or tamper with any such letter or anything contained therein or appurtenant thereto or anything sent by the Post and Telegraph Office as aforesaid, that I will observe the strictest secrecy in relation to all letters, telegrams, messages, accounts, communications, intelligence, business and all matters whatsoever communicated or done by me, or coming to my knowledge in the course of or doing my employment; and that I will never at any time upon any pretence or account whatsoever without the consent of His Majesty's Commissioner, disclose, divulge, or make known to any persons whatsoever, any such letters, telegrams, messages, accounts, communications, intelligence, business or matters aforesaid or the purport thereof, respectively, or anything in any matter relating thereto unless compelled so to do by Court of Law or other competent Tribunal, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously intending to fulfil and obey the same and by virtue of provisions of the statutory declaration Act 1885.

Signature of Employee.....

Declared before me this ..... day of ..... 190.....

Signature.....

Qualification.....

INCLOSURE

In Despatch No. 1102 of 1911

1911

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MEMORANDUM OF THE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
THE CONDUCT OF SUB-POST OFFICES IN EAST  
AFRICA BY EUROPEAN SHOPKEEPERS.

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1. It is desired to arrange for a number of the Sub-Post Offices already existing in the healthier parts of the East Africa Protectorate to be conducted by European Shopkeepers on the same lines as those generally adopted with the village Sub-Post Offices in the United Kingdom. The Sub-Post Office would be worked by the Shopkeeper under a sort of contract, and the Post and Telegraph business would be conducted in the shop or store employed for the ordinary trade or business of the Contractor.
2. In several cases suitable Post Office buildings already exist and these could be taken over by the Contractors at a nominal rent. In other cases Post Office buildings would require to be erected by the incumbent.
3. The qualifications desired are those ordinarily possessed by the Shopkeepers conducting village Post Offices in England, or by their Assistants. A certain knowledge of postal work is desirable, but the most necessary qualification

is.

is the ability to send telegrams in the Morse code, and to receive them by sound at a speed of not less than 20 words per minute. The qualification might be possessed by the wife, son or daughter of the Contractor and not necessarily by himself.

4. The remuneration proposed, whilst more liberal than is customary in England, is not framed with a view to its constituting a living wage for Europeans. The work of the Post Office would in no case require the undivided attention of the Contractor and the posts now available are suitable only in assisting in the establishment of a European store, or other business, at the places mentioned. The posts should be useful to persons possessing a capital of from £300 to £500 who have experience of storekeeping on the lines adopted in English villages, i.e. persons who are accustomed to a general as distinguished from a specialised trade.

5. The following is a list of the Sub-post Offices in the East Africa Protectorate which are available to be conducted by Shopkeepers.

Name of Office	Remuneration Offered.	Remarks.
Eldama Ravine	£40 per annum	} Post Office building provided by Government.
Fort Hall	£55 " "	
Kericho	£40 " "	

Name of Office	Remuneration Offered.	Remarks.
Kijabe	£50 per annum	} Post Office building provided by Government.
Kikuyu	£50 " "	
Limoru	£40 " "	
Njoro	£40 " "	
Lumbwa	£50 " "	} There is no suitable Post Office building and an allowance of £20 per annum would be given for office rent.
Machakos	£40 " "	
Molo	£40 " "	
Naivasha	£50 " "	
Nyeri	£40 " "	

6. A plan shewing the general type of the Post Office buildings provided (in case where these have been erected by the Government) can be seen on application at the Emigrants' Information Office, Broadway, Westminster, where the form of contract can also be inspected.

General Post Office,

Nairobi,

23rd, November 1909.

July 9006 East

Handwritten initials

DRAFT

Sub No 177

Ans'd 18369

For Mr. P. G. isman

From

to April 1900

MINUTE.

Sir,

- Mr. Cockerill
- Mr. <sup>Mr. Fiddes</sup> ~~Fiddes~~
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Cox.
- Sir C. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Col. Seely.
- Lord Crewe.

I have the honor to ack: the receipt  
 of your despatch No. 110 of the 11<sup>th</sup> of  
 March bringing to my  
 notice a scheme proposed by  
 the P. M. G. for inaugurating  
 a system of rural post  
 offices in connection with  
 small shops or general  
 stores. I have to request that  
 you will  
 in the first place  
 before you will furnish  
 me with a statement



not take any part  
cannot in any way  
help in the selection  
or recommendation  
of candidates. 17

It is an information  
office merely, and in  
no sense an agency  
for finding specific  
employment for  
individuals. It is  
thus not equipped in  
any way for  
pronouncing upon  
the qualifications of  
candidates, or for  
undertaking  
enquiries with regard  
to candidates.

If, however, I am  
moreover,  
of opinion that ~~should~~  
eventually  
the scheme ~~be approved,~~  
commend itself to me,  
it would ~~be~~ is very  
eminently desirable  
that all the appls under  
it should be filled in  
the P<sup>te</sup>. There is  
no objection to be  
urged against selecting  
a man in this country  
for an appl in East  
Africa if the  
instruments of the post  
are sufficient to  
support him & his  
family, or even

in this country to form  
 any reasonable opinion  
 as to his chances of  
 making a living from  
 retail trade in the Pt.,  
 having regard to ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> smallness  
 of the European population,  
 the deficiency of transport,  
 & the probable competition  
 of Indian traders.

It would, <sup>in these circ.</sup> therefore, be  
 a very serious  
 undertaking for the  
 Govt. to induce a man  
 of this class to go out  
 to East Africa. If,  
 however, a man of  
 this class is already  
 in the Pt. & is  
 acquainted with the  
 local conditions, <sup>the</sup>

DRAFT.

MINUTE.

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr. Fiddes.
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Cox.
- Sir C. Lucas.
- Sir E. Hopwood.
- Col. Seely.
- Lord Crewe.