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Covering 189

1916  
22 Mar

Last previous Paper.  
502  
19401

VACANCIES FOR TELEGRAPH ASSISTANTS

Confirms telegram reporting three additional assistants required. Gives reasons and asks if men cannot be obtained in England authority may be given to engage in South Africa.

The Road

The only point to be dealt with is that of finance. There are vacancies on the Postal side of the Dept and probably there will be many, enough - if not, I should have preferred the <sup>vacancies</sup> to be met from other sources than thrown on the capital account of the war. I think that as a matter of practical policy it would be necessary to include the <sup>vacancies</sup> in the Estimates for 1917-18 - if so, why have a <sup>special</sup> ~~special~~ arrangement this year?

If however you consider that the Govt proposal shd be approved, I should like to draw attention to one despatch to the phrase "War Expenditure" that should mean the purely Postoffice War account, but it seems a <sup>probable</sup> ~~probable~~ that they would <sup>include</sup> ~~include~~ the <sup>vacancies</sup> ~~vacancies~~ in the matter. But if they mean the

Class 307. 10/2/16  
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London Charge Account, will please require  
the amount of £1000 and to be paid  
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the right of the account and the any banking  
in the same funds.

R. C. H.  
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to be paid  
to the account

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EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE  
No. 189.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

March 22nd, 1916.

Sir,

*S. 2*  
*12-153*

I have the honour to confirm my telegram No. 80 of the 20th instant, reading as follows:-

"Three additional Telegraph Engineering Assistants very urgently required and will as far as possible be paid from savings on Personal Emoluments on Postal Department Vote. If you approve, please engage on rates of salary now ruling at home on agreement for one or two years with prospect of permanent engagement if satisfactory. One of them should be capable of taking complete charge of Mombasa Wireless Station and the others should have good telegraph and telephone engineering qualifications. Despatch follows".

The

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
ANDREW BONAR LAW, P.C., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET,  
LONDON, S. W.

20469

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2. The engagement of three additional Telegraph Engineering Assistants for the Postal and Telegraph Department has now become an urgent necessity owing to the great and ever-increasing demands of the military authorities for telegraph and telephone engineering services. These demands are very heavy and it has been found necessary to neglect, to a very considerable extent, the normal work of the department which has so far fallen into arrears that, even if hostilities were to cease now, the available staff would be insufficient to cope with it in such a way as to avoid serious complaints from the public. It is to overtake these arrears that the engineers now asked for are required.

3. Further, the advance into German East Africa must inevitably lead to special demands for engineering services in connection with the maintenance of communications, for which there is at present no staff available.

4. Again, the telephone systems in Nairobi and Mombasa are steadily expanding and the shortage of competent Assistant Engineers is causing a serious neglect of the ordinary maintenance duties as well as of the usual programme of telephone line reconstruction and preparation for expansions on behalf of the public.

As

5. As regards the incidence of the cost connected with the proposed appointments, for which no provision is made in the Estimates, I would suggest that this be met, as far as possible from such savings as may be available on the Personal Emoluments Vote of the Postal and Telegraph Department, and the balance be charged to War Expenses.

6. I may say that the question of these requirements has been referred to the General Officer Commanding who agrees that the appointments are necessary and approves of the above proposal regarding the allocation of their cost.

7. Under the circumstances, I trust that every effort will be made to secure the men required; and, if it is found impossible to engage them at home, that authority may be given for their engagement in South Africa.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,



GOVERNOR'S Deputy

877  
MAY  
10 1916

10 May, 1916

SE

DRAFT

Sir,

E.A.P.

I have to acknowledge

N<sup>o</sup> 331

the receipt of your despatch  
N<sup>o</sup> 189 of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March,  
with regard to the three  
additional ~~to~~ Assistant  
Telegraph~~ing~~ Engineers  
required for the Posts &  
Telegraphs Dept.

Gov. Sir H. Balfour

A.C. 8/5/16

M: Bostanley 8/5/16

(2) The question of

selecting candidates to fill  
~~these~~ appointments has already  
been dealt with by telegraphic  
correspondence. With regard  
to the incidence of their cost,  
I am of opinion that, in  
the event of <sup>sufficient</sup> ~~the~~ savings are  
not being forthcoming on the  
Personnel Emoluments vote  
for the Dept., it would be  
impracticable

preferable that the excess  
should be met from  
savings on other heads,  
and should not be  
charged to War Expenses.  
<sup>would also</sup>  
It appears that, ~~as a~~  
~~matter of practical working,~~  
it will be necessary to  
include the whole cost of  
the app.<sup>ts</sup> in the Estimates  
for 1917-18; and I do  
not consider, therefore, that  
there is sufficient reason  
for arranging to meet any  
part of this year's cost  
from sources other than  
Protectorate revenues.

WILSON & BONAR LAW,