

who were on leave on the
21st. of August ^{will be} has been
made retrospective to the ~~as from~~ the
beginning of their leave.
~~Can you adjust~~
Jan etc.

READ

EAST AFR PROT
49982

OAB
Baring 485

1917
21 Aug.

Last previous Paper.

NAIROBI HIGH SCHOOL

Given history of school and requests sanction
to assist school with grant from public funds for
period of two years. Asks for telegraphic reply.

W. Read.

I do not think we need hesitate
expenditure is to be met from savings
in the Education etc

Telegraph approval.

WAB

11.10.17

at once.
H. J. R.
11/13/17

Ans. to Baring

Last subsequent Paper.
307
22804

AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 488.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

August 21st, 1917.

Sir,

Petition

I have the honour to invite your consideration in regard to the existing provision of educational facilities in this Protectorate and would especially refer to a school which has for some years past served a useful purpose in Nairobi and is known as the Nairobi High School.

2. The history of the school is as follows. In April 1908 Miss E.B. Secombe (now Mrs. H.R. Laws) on the recommendation of the Colonial Office addressed the Protectorate Government on the possibility of establishing a school for girls and small boys in Nairobi on the lines of an English High School and on the likelihood of receiving assistance from
Government

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

WALTER LONG, B.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, S. W.

Government for this purpose. As a result of this correspondence Miss Secombe visited East Africa and, having been provided by Government with a bungalow and a limited amount of furniture, opened a small boarding school on the lines proposed. Her action was especially welcome, as there was at that time no establishment of the kind in the country for the children of European settlers. For a period of three years Miss Secombe received financial assistance from a religious society in England but at the end of 1911 the existence of the newly established Government boarding school and the cessation of funds from home forbade the further continuance of the school.

8. Early in 1914 Miss Secombe returned to East Africa. The child population of the country had increased so much during her absence that the accommodation at the Government boarding school was no longer sufficient to meet the demand. A number of responsible residents of Nairobi thereupon petitioned Government that the former facilities might again be extended to Miss Secombe. A copy of their petition is enclosed herewith. It was then decided that the provision of educational

educational accommodation, which has always been a difficult matter for Government to arrange, could be met to some extent by the loan of a bungalow as formerly in 1908. The school was accordingly re-opened in 1915 and has since been conducted in a satisfactory manner.

4. I now understand from the inspection report of the Director of Education that circumstances, arising from the present conditions prevailing in the country, render it difficult to maintain the school on a footing that is financially sound and consequently to obtain a permanent and satisfactory staff of teachers. I consider it most undesirable that the school should be closed until Government is in a position to deal more fully with the development of European education. The additional boarding accommodation which you were good enough to sanction for the Government School in February last was instantly occupied and - apart from the difficulty of providing for 20 day scholars elsewhere - the closing of Nairobi High School would deprive some 16 boarders of the possibility of attending school.

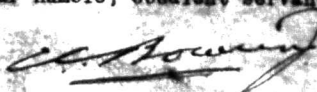
5. I would therefore ask your permission to assist this school with a grant from public funds for a period of two years, at the end of which period Government may be in a position to provide additional facilities. The grant would take the following form:-

- (1) £200 per annum recurrent for two years in aid of salaries of the staff.
- (2) An initial sum of £50 non-recurrent in aid of teaching equipment in which the school is deficient.

Subject to your sanction I propose to meet the above expenditure during the current year from savings on the Education Vote and to make provision for it in the forthcoming Estimates for 1918-19.

6. I trust that these recommendations will meet with your approval, as it is most desirable for the future of the country that the education of European children shall receive the most careful attention and I would further ask the favour of a reply by telegraph.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your humble, obedient servant,



ACTING GOVERNOR.

NAIROBI,

94

British East Africa,

September 8th, 1914.

His Excellency,

Sir H. Conway Belfield K.C.M.G.,

U.F.S. to the Chairman,

Nairobi School Committee.

Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned parents, resident in and around Nairobi, desire to approach you on a matter which is causing us grave concern, namely the question of the future education of our children.

The limit of accommodation in the European school having now been reached, we understand, those who are desirous of making arrangements for their children's education find themselves confronted with two alternatives. The first, which is impracticable for many of us owing to the expense and difficulty attendant thereon in a new country like East Africa, is the engagement of a governess or tutor. The second is the course which we are now adopting and for which we venture to solicit your sympathetic interest. It is, that assistance should be given by Government to a lady who is qualified in every way to undertake the education of children and who was in fact mistress of a school in Nairobi a few years ago.

We allude to Miss Seccombe who is now resident in Nairobi. Her qualifications are well known to the Director of Education and to those who have interested themselves in the past in the education of European Children in Nairobi, and she is willing to undertake again the duties previously carried out by her. Strong inducements are being held out to Miss Seccombe to go up to Molo and to open a private boarding school there, and those of us who feel that there is need for such a school in Nairobi are anxious to move in

to move in the matter before it is too late.

The absence of educational facilities for children in Nairobi has, we are informed, compelled some parents to send their children out of the country and in some cases has even been the cause of preventing persons from settling in British East Africa.

The great difficulty is the lack of suitable accommodation at our disposal and although we are aware that the housing question in Nairobi is now more than ever an acute and pressing one, we feel confident that given your kind consideration and assistance a solution of the problem may be arrived at.

Might we venture to suggest that the Bungalow on Railway Hill, formerly granted rent free ~~from~~^{for} scholastic purposes, might ~~be~~ again be placed at the disposal of a Committee for a school for those children for whom there now exists no institution for giving the necessary tuition. We name this bungalow because it is admirably suited to the purpose which we have in view as regards health, position and accommodation as was amply proved upon the occasion of its being utilized as a school for a period of three years.

We further beg Your Excellency to assist us by a grant in aid from the Education Vote if any unexpended balance is available for this purpose, such grant to be used in meeting the necessary expenditure attendant on starting the school.

We hold ourselves in readiness to appoint two or three of our number to put before you our proposals in greater detail should Your Excellency be kind enough to grant us an interview.

We have the etc.,

Gov. East
49982

R. 2 OCT
D. 13

Sent to Stanley

Oddities

12 October 1917

DRAFT.

telegram (code)

Governor

Nairobi.

MINUTE.

your despatch of 2 August
unconely

488 proposals approved
program.

Mr. Butler. 12.10.17
at once

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle.

Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Bead.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Mr. Steel-Maitland.

Mr. Long.

Long