

1921

E. AFRICA

123

57820

en^d
21 NOV 21

D OF TRADE

DATE

19TH NOVEMBER 1921

CULATION

Battersea 24/1/21
 Bowmen 24/1/21
 Stockton

Grindis

H. Lambert

I. Read 25/1/21

Matthewson Smith

Frod

Churchill

Previous Paper

SUBJECT

PASSAGE RATESDISCOUNT

Has been question of making some arrangement where by the 10% discount might be obtained. Suggests C.A. official should call and discuss.

MINUTES

Mr. Bottomley,

We have discussed.

(1) As to the importance of getting this concession if we can, there can be no possible doubt; it would save the East African Govt. thousands of pounds a year.

(2) Mr. Faulkner is of course a much better authority on shipping matters than we are, but we find it hard to believe that the Union Castle would be willing to grant the rebate on Crown Agents' passages, provided booking were done by the Dist. of Trade, if they will not do it for us. The Union Castle have just raised their fares something less than 10 per cent, with a view to making their East African service more remunerative. The result of granting a 10 per cent rebate on Govt. passages would be to have the Govt. pay them, so far as Govt. passages are concerned, more than before.

view of the fact that we have now come to terms with the Union Castle Co. over the E. African service, not to do anything behind the Company's back. Before anything is done we think it essential that it should be definitely ascertained from the Union Castle officially or semi-officially that they will not raise objection to the suggestion made in this letter. If Mr. Faulkner can obtain such an assurance from the port well and good; any objection to the scheme entirely vanishes. We think that there should be no difficulty in devising the necessary machinery.

If these views are accepted, the first step would appear to be to write to Mr. Faulkner in the sense of this minute, asking him whether he can obtain an assurance from Mr. "Ant of the nature desired, and saying that if so ~~we shall be ready to have the C° to book us~~ ~~we can arrange~~ ~~to have the C° to book us~~ ~~the necessary machinery.~~

B76

24 XI 28

(1) On passage booked by C.A. ~~on behalf of General Govt~~ ~~the Union Castle Company~~ no extra leg expense to give any discount.

(2) On passage booked by the Board of Trade on behalf of the Imperial East Africa Line no extra leg expense to give any discount.

At all events they are numerous.

110 P.

The following are the Board of Trade & C.A. books the C.A. ~~are~~ ~~passages to~~ ~~make up~~ ~~an amount for us.~~

Below this is the last ~~Facebook~~ is right in thinking that the ultimate East Africa ~~passes~~ ~~can~~ ~~justify~~ the scope of the Board of Trade agreement with the C°, but it is fairly certain that the C° do not understand the agreement applying to those passages.

Perhaps the best course is to send a telegraph that, if we adopt Mr. Faulkner's suggestion, the U.C. will take it out of us some other way (beginning with an increase in passage rates).

and it is fairly certain that
of the 12,000 are apprehended
first etc. and my No. not
known. But
the Compt. 1200 was
so fast that we ought not to
charge the drivers round,
which is probably about 15
L.A. drivers for the safety
of every night's operation.

Oct 24/11 21

We must clearly approach the Co
first, & I agree with you that
a man. Run a death negotiator
is not impossible. But
we are so far behind -

at once
A. J. R.
25 Oct 21

MERCANTILE MARINE DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF TRADE

57820

St. JAMES PARK,

encl

Re 21 NOV 21 S.W.1.

19th November, 1921.

Dear Battersea

Have you given any further consideration to the possibility of getting the 10% discount on Crown Agents passengers?

I am quite satisfied that if the passengers were booked by us and paid for by us, the 10% discount could be granted without question, and from my conversations with the company at the time the agreement was negotiated, I am quite sure that they will not grant this discount to the Colonial Office direct, though why they should take this attitude I do not know in the least.

We have no desire whatever to "grab" work, but this, amongst other things, we have far more work already than can be properly handled by the staff the Treasury would like us to have, but it does seem a pity that this 10% should go begging, and if the Crown Agents can suggest means by which the present arrangement can be allowed to stand and the discount still be obtained, I should like to inform them. Perhaps you could arrange for some responsible officer from the Crown Agents to call here and discuss the question.

Yours sincerely,

W. Farley

F. Battersea
Colonial Office.
1 Downing Street

Downing Street,

2 November, 1921

Dear Faulkner.

Many thanks for your letter of the 19th November as to the possibility of getting the 10% discount ^(the present) on Government passengers to East Africa which I have shown to the authorities here.

We should, of course, welcome the prospect of obtaining the discount in the case of our Government passengers - it would save the East African Govts thousands of pounds a year. But the difficulty we feel is that especially ^{just} after arriving, ^{thanks to you} we hope at a satisfactory conclusion of our negotiations with the Company over the East African service we do not like to make any arrangements behind their back. And if we approach them in the matter we are afraid we shall only meet with a refusal.

The Company have steadily refused to give the Crown Agents the discount, and though of course we know much more about shipping matters than we do it ~~comes~~ ^{has been} hard to see why they should ~~refuse~~ ^{not} tell us what they refuse to do. As you knew the Union Castle have only just made a small increase in their fares via Suez with a view to making that service more remunerative, and if they give us the 10% rebate on Government passengers the result will be to make ~~them~~ ^{them} at least as attractive to passengers as

DRAFT.MINUTE.

Mr. Batterbee

22 Nov. 21

Mr.

Mr. Bottomley

1/11/21

Mr. Grindall

Sir H. Lambert.

Sir S. Read.

Sir G. Widdess.

Mr. Wood.

Mr. Churchill.

If, however, you think that ~~the~~ ^(omitted) ~~any~~ ~~part~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~
Company will grant the rebate ~~in~~

passages are nominally booked by you, —

~~is it asking too much
that we may trust if you will be
to take some patience to send us back a~~ ^{list} ~~so~~ ~~as~~ ~~we~~ ~~are~~ ~~not~~ ~~good~~ ~~enough~~ ~~to approach the Company in the~~

matter officially or semi-officially as

~~you think best.~~ ^{Please do oblige,} ~~If the Company consent~~

we will at once put the Crown Agents in
touch with you and think that there should

be no difficulty about devising the necessary

~~machinery~~ ^{(But before anything is done, we shall prefer,} ~~in view of our relations~~

with the Company, ~~we do think that they ought~~
to be taken into our confidence first.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) H.G.B.