

E. AFRICA  
8742

7/9/10

1910

23 inch

at previous Paper

6/6  
8/6

Aden-Zanzibar Mail Service

Request Co. shows on the various questions in A.C. for 24 inch. I ask what means this to you as regards the value of the service to the Post Office as to present position of the negotiations with the Government

Mr. Fiddle

Reply that the question of the value of the B. I. S. N. Co's service from the point of view of passengers & trade depends to a certain extent on the question of the value of the new service indicated by the three latter lines, which has scarcely been mentioned apparently but to enable a proper estimate to be formed on the subject - that Lord Cromer is however asking the Post Office whether he can see the advantages conferred by the B. I. S. N. Co's service are worth £7,200 - year, from the point of view of passengers & trade & so on

To 480. 12 apr 1910  
copy of contract to Co. 361 of price 8/6

Subsequent Paper  
ms 8863

& that a further comm<sup>n</sup> will be sent  
when his reply has been rec<sup>d</sup> - &  
ask the pr<sup>o</sup> by tel. accordingly,  
making it clear that the value of  
the service for postal purposes is only  
£1800 a year.

H. J. R.

24/III

Mr. J. H. Wood

London

18/III  
24/III

Proceed as proposed  
Judging by Sir P. G. ...  
... on 24/3 he also  
... with the same  
... is ... - at least  
... the ...  
... depends on ...  
... on the ...  
... to any ...  
... B I S N ...  
... for ...  
... by ...

25/III

8742  
REC 24 MAR 10

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON

23 March 1910.

87

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 9th instant No. 5872, I am directed by the Postmaster General to acquaint you for the information of the Secretary of State that Mr. Cathcart Wason M.P. has given notice that the following question will be asked in the House of Commons on Tuesday the 29th instant:

"To ask the Postmaster General, whether, in view of the fact that there is a direct loss to the Post Office of £7,200 a year by the contract for the conveyance of mails from Aden to Mombasa, and that the said service is of no value for either passengers or for trade, he will take into consideration the desirability of terminating the contract, with a view to secure a service that will be of some advantage to the commerce of East Africa".

The Postmaster General would be glad to learn what observations the Secretary of State has to offer on this question, and what answer he would wish given to it so far as the service is to be regarded as performed for other than Post Office purposes.

The value of the service for purely Post Office purposes is not estimated at £1800 a year. It has, of course, always been recognised by this Office that the conveyance of mails was only a small part of the considerations for the maintenance of the service.

Under Secretary of State  
COLONIAL OFFICE.

The

The contract with the British India Steam Navigation Company has not yet been completed, as there are still some questions under consideration in regard to the exactness of penalties in connexion with some of the early voyages under the existing arrangement. From the enclosed copy of the draft contract it will be seen that the contract will be held to have commenced on the 22nd of February 1909, and that it is now terminable at any time by six months' notice.

The service has been performed substantially in accordance with the terms of the draft contract, with the exception that owing to an accident to one of their ships the Company were forced to commence the service under the new arrangement with a ship of less speed than is contemplated and that the arrival at Mombasa was consequently several hours late on the first three outward voyages under the draft. It is questionable also whether the time between which the monsoon allowance is granted to the Company should not be revised to a slight extent so as to fall more exactly within the period in which the monsoon prevails.

Further communications shall be sent to you on these points, and also in connexion with the call at Lamu referred to in your letter of the 6th of January last, No. 39395/09.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*Matthew Nathan*

ms  
8742/12 Exp

26. Feb 10

Sir,

I am to ack. the  
recd of your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup>  
inst. re 22099 on the  
subject of the mail service  
for India and Jambhain  
at present performed by the  
Pr. India Steam Navigation  
Co.

DRAFT

The Secretary  
G.P.O.

MINUTE

- Mr. Hatcher 26/2
- Mr. Keas 26/2
- Mr. Eddes
- Mr. Just
- Mr. Cox
- Sir C. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Col. Selby.
- Lord Crew.

In reply I am to request  
you to inform the Postmaster  
Genl. that the question of  
the value of this service  
depends to a certain  
extent on the question of  
the value of the new  
service to be initiated by the  
London-Cable Line, which  
has scarcely been in existence  
sufficiently long to enable

2 dfts

a proper estimate to be  
formed on the subject. As  
Crease is however enquiring  
of this for the B.D. by  
all whether he considers  
that the advantages of  
the B.D. are more than  
the present one with £2000  
a year from the point of  
view of passengers and  
trade, and a further  
amount not to be addressed  
to you when his reply  
has been read.

Yours

27th  
Sent 10 pm  
C.M.H.

7493  
honestest

Set

forward  
to create

cost 10p  
please 16/

Refs to you <sup>tel. of</sup>  
<sup>the B.D.</sup>  
The 24 Jan <sup>telegraph of 24</sup>  
<sup>whether you</sup>  
<sup>consider</sup> that the  
advantages of the  
<sup>subsidy</sup>  
conferred by the B.D.  
<sup>passenger</sup>  
steam navigation Co  
service <sup>at a point</sup> <sup>Aden and</sup>  
Zanzibar are worth  
piloting <sup>passenger</sup> <sup>travellers</sup>  
£7500 a year from  
<sup>passenger</sup>  
The point of view of  
passenger and trade  
offer  
the value of the service  
for <sup>passenger</sup> <sup>travellers</sup> <sup>only</sup>  
only £1800 a year.

Com 99012 apl 9m  
9750

Crease