

1911

EAST AFR. PROT.

C O
38850REC'D
RES

38850

Hass D.

Date

Uganda Railway materials.

21 Nov.

at previous Paper

Complains that so much of it is of foreign manufacture.

Mr. Batters
 East African Bill (The Uganda Railway Bill)
 C. O.

The practice with regard to the Uganda Railway has been the same as for the Colonies i.e. that we never place an order abroad except for special articles not procurable in this country or when some very substantial advantage in time or cost is obtained. The orders placed abroad for the Uganda Railway have for a good many years past been but few.

During construction in the 19th century a number of American locomotives were purchased on account of the engineers' strike, and also an American firm carried off in open competition by advertisement a large contract for bridges on the Mau escarpment. Possibly Mr. Hass has seen some of these locomotives and bridges. These matters were

were all settled by the long disbanded committee under the Foreign Office and may now be regarded as ancient history. In 1910, by the instructions of the Secretary of State for the Jinja-Hakinda Railway, we gave a considerable order for steel Belgian sleepers, owing to their cheapness, Mr. Haes may have seen or heard of some of these. The new engines, now being supplied, are all being built by the North British Loco. Co. No engine has been built abroad for a good many years past.

It does not seem worth while to make an exhaustive search of our records, but from memory I should say that except the Belgian sleepers that no important order has been placed abroad since construction ceased.

Certainly none has been so placed for the last four or five years. I have referred to Messrs Rendel & Robertson and they confirm this.

The above will I think enable you to answer Mr. Haes who has evidently either been misinformed or jumped to unwarranted conclusions without making enquiries.

[Signature]
14th December 1911

Can you suggest an answer

Can you suggest an answer

WMS 6/11

to Walter ...
or should he ...?

I submit draft for ...

to ... names ... to be ...

WMS 16/11

with ...

He might at least change his name.

JAB

Dec. 16.

British India Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.

S. S. Kurnea

Voy. No.

Uden Nov 21

C. O.
38850
REC. 2
1911

To H M Secy of State for the Colonies

Sir

I have just been visiting the Colony of British East Africa & have made a journey on the Uganda Railway, from Mombasa to Port Florence & back. As a British taxpayer I should like to ask how it is so much of the materials & a large number of the Engines for the Railway, are foreign make? I also understand that a new lot of Engines are coming out & these are also foreign make. Is it right the British taxpayer's money should be spent in foreign countries when the materials & Engines can be made as cheap & as well in Great Britain. It appears to me that the Crown Colonies officials are too fond of going abroad for the requirements of the colonies. It is about time a stop was put to this. This Railway has cost the taxpayer a large enough amount & if the money found for it where possible should

I am sorry you will look into the matter
 Reply of British Govt to the Secy of State
 12/12/11

Pat. 1880

18

18 Dec 1880

I am etc to read the
 Remind of your letter of the
 2nd of Nov. And in reply to
 inform you that the practice
 with regard to the purchase
 of materials, engines, etc
 for the Lyonsa Railway
 has been ~~the same as for the~~

DRAFT

and has by

MINUTE

- Mr. A. B. 16/2
- Mr. B. 16
- Mr. Fiddles 16
- Sir H. J. 16
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Lucas.
- Mr. Harcourt.

In answer
 I think we
 had better avoid
 statements about
 the Coleridge etc

~~Coleridge generally, it~~
 at to place orders
~~to a note in which~~
 abroad such for several
 articles not procurable in
 this country a when some
 substantial advantage in
 time is not to obtain
 the same of the No

(Minutes.)

(Subject)



in connexion with the Uganda Railway

important order has been

placed abroad for several

years ~~ago~~ ^{since} the

introduction of the order for

Certain steel sleepers for the

Uganda Railway Extension.

~~An order has been placed for~~

~~sleepers for the extension of~~

~~the railway. The steel~~

~~sleepers have been supplied~~

~~and are being used for~~

~~the extension.~~

PH