

DESPATCH

EAST AFR. PROT.  
No. 38721

38721  
23 OCT 08

Governor No.  
496  
1908  
3 Oct.  
Last previous Paper.  
40  
204

(Subject.)

Electric light. Nairobi

Under memorandum by Comr of Public Works  
of 7 P.O. being copy received by 17/10/08  
205. 28 Sept.

(Minutes.)

Mr. Read

The charge of 5/6. to the  
officials on the cost of installation  
is of course increased one.  
The Mr. R. said 25 Sept  
that the majority of expenses  
were on the account that  
the charge would not occur  
having the fact when telegraphing  
on 3 Oct. that to the officials  
was anxious to have the light  
on the lines performed very quickly  
as it appears from the fact  
that the charge was increased.

He said not therefore, I think,  
modify our letter to Treasury  
on 36204, but simply reply  
that the charge will be annual

W. S. J.

35

Governor's Office,

Nairobi,

October 3rd 1908.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 496.

(Incl. 2.)

38721  
23 00 08

My Lord,

With reference to my telegram No. 198 of to-day's date and previous correspondence on the subject of the installation of electric light in Nairobi I have the honour to transmit herewith memoranda by the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Public Works which give the information called for in Your Lordship's despatch No. 295 of April 28th. I presume that the charge of 5% on the cost of installation referred to in that despatch should be an annual one.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.

INCLOSURE No. 1

Memorandum. In Despatch No. 496 of 26.2.1908

C. O.  
38721

Please see Mr. Ross's minute of 25/3/08. It has taken a great deal of time to receive answers from each officer, hence the delay in informing you how many officers are willing to take the electric light.

2. As regards lighting the streets of Nairobi we have no information of the cost as yet but the General Manager - Mr. Dall - expects to furnish us with this information next week. It is however not so important to receive this estimate as the one for houses because £1550 will not be sufficient money to pay for the lighting of every street, and the Municipal Committee will have to make the money go as far as it can, and find further funds later on to complete lighting all the streets when the Municipal Act is passed.

3. Mr. Ross deals fully with the case and orders are required:-

(a) Whether meters may be bought out of the £3000 each tenant paying 5 per cent on the cost of the meter viz: Rs.1 on Rs.80. If this is sanctioned then there will be less than £1400 for street lighting.

(b) Whether the five per cent is to be paid once for all or annually by the tenant. I think the former must be intended.

Orders having been passed on these questions I suggest that a telegram be sent to the Colonial Office in answer to (1) of 28/1/08 saying:-

(a) That the Company is now in a position to furnish a satisfactory and constant supply of current.

(b) That most of the Officials are anxious to have the light and accept the terms.

(c)

(c) That the Nairobi Municipal Committee is in a position to pay for the lighting of such streets as can be lighted from the balance of the £3000 after the installation in Officials' houses has been paid for.

(d) That early sanction to spending the £3000 may be given so that the work may be commenced soon.

1. With reference to Mr. Ross's suggestion about buying fittings &c. these are details which I will go into with Mr. Hitzel when we come to the construction stage.

Y/- G. K. WATTS  
Commissioner of Public Works.

Nairobi,

September 26th 1908.

Order No. 446 of Dec. 31, 1908

G.O. No. 38721  
27.12.08

MEMORANDUM.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING OF GOVERNMENT QUARTERS.

1. Enquiries accompanied by a line plan of the house, and a statement of the number of lamps of 5 and 16 c.p. respectively required, have been sent to the occupants of Government Residences.

2. Replies have been received, as follows:-

Acceptances	38	involving	728	points.
Doubtful	10	"	167	points.
Refusals	11	"	129	points.

Details are given on the attached sheet. In addition to the "doubtful" cases specified there, there are the cases of:-

the old dak bungalow, now to be converted into a school, and the old "Nurses' Quarters" as to which no decision can be given just yet.

3. Of the 728 points which are required by those who are accepting the light, it will be noticed that the 2nd. and 3rd. Battalions K.A.R. account for 217.

4. Since the question before us now is that of arranging for funds, it seems only prudent to allow that light may be required in the whole of the "doubtful" cases. So the number of lights that may have to be provided is 895, - say 900. At an average cost of Rs. 22/- per point this would mean an expenditure of Rs. 20,700 or £1,300. Of this sum 5% or £65 would be contributed by the consumers themselves leaving the sum of £1,235 to be met from item V.V.E. No. 74 "Electric Light installation scheme at Nairobi, Rs. 2,000."



5. Allowing 10 per cent extra for contingencies, (additional lights that will probably be required in kitchens, outhouses, porches, etc. etc.) the amount becomes £1311 plus £131, i.e. £1442 or say £1450.

6. If this much is used for the lighting of residences it will leave £1550 with which to begin the installation of electric light in the streets.

7. The acceptances are in the large majority of cases made upon the assumption that only one payment of 5% of the cost of installation is to be made, and that this payment is not to be an annually recurring one. From a perusal of Colonial Office despatch No. 205 of April 23rd 1908 I can see no indication that an annual charge of 5% is intended.

8. The majority of officials who wish to pay by meter would prefer to have the meter included in the cost of installation and to pay down 5% of its cost instead of a small monthly rent. This is a matter of indifference to the Company, and I recommend that Government sanction should be sought for this procedure. The meters will cost Rs. 80 each.

9. Mr. Hirtzel informs me that he is sure that if Government bought fittings either from home or from the Company, the house installations could be satisfactorily completed at a figure far below Rs. 25 per point. This suggestion seems to deserve consideration.

Sd/- W. McGregor Ross  
Director of Works.

Neirabi,  
September 25th 1908.

		<u>ACCEPTANCES.</u>	
		Brought forward	
Bell	0	Millie	161
Bowring	26	Monson	8
<del>Daine</del>	11	Montgomery	19
Campbell	10	Morrison	13
Carrie	25	Reid	16
Catwood	26	Billy	11
Clot	13	Reynolds	13
Cople	17	Ross P.H.	16
Custare	13	Ross W.M.	10
Gallagher	16	Sandiford	17
Granville	43	Sergeant	12
Grless	8	Smith (Major)	20
Isaac	9	Stordy	12
Johnson	13	Tanner	17
K. R. 2nd	110	Waring	9
" 3rd	107	Waters	13
Macnaghten	10	Watts	22
Marley	10	Wright	13
		TOTAL	<u>528</u>
		<u>DOUBT-UL.</u>	
Barnes	17	Donald's (house)	16
Cooper's (house)	16	Hobley	20
Curch	17	Hollis	17
Do	14	Lutchins	22
Emtekshank	17	Stanley (U.R.)	11
		TOTAL	<u>177</u>
		<u>REFUSALS.</u>	
Concussions	11	SPOLINS*	129



D  
21  
1908

*[Handwritten signature]*

3 Nov '08

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your  
desp. no. 498 of the 3rd Oct., on the  
subject of the installation of electric  
light in Nairobi.

No. 548

P.O. 51/10

Mr Ellis *[Handwritten signature]*

2 You are right in assuming that the  
charge of 5% on the cost of the install-  
ation in officials' houses should be an  
annual one.

3 I have invited the concurrence  
of the L.C. of the Treasury  
in the proposed expenditure  
of £2000 by the Govt.  
on the installation.

*[Handwritten flourish]*

