

EAST AFR. PROT.

No. 41724

C O
41724

14 OCT 08

Governor No. Jackson 508

(Subject.)

1908

14 Oct.

Female Postal Clerks

Last previous Paper.

Jan 33558

To memo by Post Master General. Suggests that Impl. Post office shd. be asked for an opinion on the general question, was it whether female telegraphists could be seconded for 3 years.

(Minutes.)

Mr Ellis

Send f. P. O. copy of memo marked in 5403 (as to proposed conditions of service) make it clear that the proposals are still under conser., & ask for f. P. O. views on questions indicated in para 2 of letter enclosed.

HRC

Remind of P O

McG/ll

22/11/08

Ellis

Handwritten notes in left margin: To P. O. copy of memo marked in 5403. To go up in day of 14.5.23. Captains from 3 N.W. 34.56/11

Next Int. Imp. Paper
4392

Governor's Office,

Nairobi,

October 14th 1908.

C.O.
41724
14 53

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 508.

(Incl. 1.)

My Lord,

Handwritten initials

With reference to Your Lordship's despatch No. 452 of the 1th ult. I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorandum by the Post Master General on the subject of the employment of female Postal Clerks.

Your Lordship will observe that Mr. Gosling would be glad to avail himself of the service of female clerks but that he is unwilling to do this if it entails the reduction of the number of probationers under training, and that he cannot arrive at a definite decision until he knows if his staff estimates for the next financial year have met with Your Lordship's approval.

H. B. Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.

Handwritten notes:
107
1-140

3. In these circumstances and in view of the fact that the Postal service is undoubtedly suffering from want of competent clerks and telegraphists the course suggested by Mr. Gosling in the third paragraph of his memorandum would appear to be the best and I consequently recommend it for Your Lordship's consideration.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,



In the absence of H.E. the Governor).

INCLOSURE

41724

In Despatch No. 5880 dt. 14/10/06

525

Secretariat Indian Paper No. 314/06

The Secretary,

The position is that we are not yet provided with men from India and are arranging for the local training of probationers from Seychelles and Mauritius. It will probably be 2 years before these become really efficient officers. During the meantime the service will suffer from the lack of a decent number of qualified men. It is therefore suggested that the following steps be taken. It was suggested in the past that I proposed the engagement of white female telegraphists.

It could not be seen how the necessity of supplying the immediate staff requirements whilst the probationers are under training, I would gladly ^{avail} myself of it as although there are points in favour of the employment of females they are bound to give a certain amount of trouble. A further point is that unless my staff estimates for the ensuing financial year are passed as submitted the number of females would only be possible by wisely reducing the number of probationers under training, and this could be unacquainted from the point of view of future requirements.

In all the circumstances I suggest that the Imperial Post Office be asked to give an expression of opinion on the general question, dealing particularly with the rates of pay and the terms of employment, also as to whether established female telegraphists of the

None

Home Service could be seconded for 3 years service in East Africa. If this were done and the result cabled out, together with an intimation as to what financial provision would be passed next year, I should then be in a position to give a definite answer.

4. Owing to the failure to recruit other clerks there are sufficient funds available to permit of the employment of six female telegraphists as from the 1st of February next, but their employment could not be continued, together with the training of an adequate number of probationers, unless the Estimates for next year are passed as submitted.

General Post Office,
Bombay,

12th October 1908.

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

for 4724 P.A.P.

527

20 Nov 08

18
19

The Sec.

Sir,

G.P.O.

I am so. to request that you will inform the P.M.G. that the Gov. of the U.A.P. has put forward proposals for the engagement of a few female postal clerks and telegraphists for temporary service in the Post.

R. 213, 18/11

Mr Ellis.

McAuliffe

Lord Crewe will be obliged if the P.M.G. will inform him whether it would be possible to second established female telegraphists of the Home service for three years service in the U.A.P., and if so what rates of pay and conditions of employment it would be necessary to offer them.

I am to transmit to you, for the info. of the P.M.G., a copy of a memorandum embodying the proposals put forward by the Gov. It will be understood that these proposals are at present entirely provisional.

Copy memo in 8403

Copy for 249. 12 May 145 24/09

GEORGE S. L. ANTROBUS

Copy Treas 2 Nov 09 for 34569/09