

*Print*

DOMESTIC.

EAST AFR. PROT.  
No. 4961

C. O.  
4961  
11 FEB. 08



or Individual.

(Subject.)

lett Sir C.

908

Fibre Concessions.

previous Paper.

3702  
3855  
3806

Do negotiating for a synd. to take over  
Havers Handcock & Abbott's concessions. If  
applied asks that pay of deposits may be  
postponed till transfer

(Minutes.)

Mr. Head

Sir C. Follett is a retired  
Inspector to the Customs & is  
known to us as a member of  
a Syndicate which proposed  
to take over the Jolly-Bay  
concession. He tells me he has  
now dropped them except the  
Voi-Touta Railway, where he  
is fairly visionary.

He is now forming a Syndicate  
to take over lines of 2 fibre  
concessions which have been  
promised to Mr. Handcock

not signed by  
7842

Print Paper.

7842

of Mr. Abbott.

There are similar cases of  
50000 miles each on the Pacific  
main. Term of lease 25 years  
Lessee to spend £5000 on the  
property in 5 years & to deposit  
£1000 as proof of some funds

Rent Rs. 450 p.a. Royalties  
5 p.c. a produce for the first  
2 years & thereafter 10 p.c.

On 9/23/07 the P.P. expressed  
a doubt whether these terms were  
not too liberal as regards area  
& length of lease, but subject to  
satisfying when Mr. Geddes  
(29360/07) applied for a lease  
transfer of these same terms  
we told him that the transfer  
would only be allowed subject  
to conditions embodying the new  
terms of future leases.

But since then Sir J. Packer  
has reported, subject to a report  
in favour by Mr. Hutchings,  
in favour of retaining the

present conditions (43702) 29  
As far as this goes there is less  
reason than there was for  
opposing the transfer.

But the state of affairs as sur-  
-ed by this letter & by Sir C.  
Follett in conversation with me  
is as follows.

Handcock & Abbott can't put  
up their £1000 deposits & there-  
-fore can't get their leases.

They have therefore approached  
Sir C. F. & his friends, & asked  
them to find the money for  
the deposit, on the understanding  
that on obtaining the leases they  
will immediately transfer them  
to Sir C. Follett & Co. for

£3000 & a number of shares  
Sir C. F. accordingly asks us  
to tell the land dept to  
extend the time for making  
the deposits to a date which  
they can find the money

I am not altogether pleased with  
this proposal by which £3000  
& shares is to be put into the  
pocket of Handcock & Abbott without  
their having done anything to the  
land. But if you think they have  
spent time & money in the  
matter, & ought to be some  
return.

I am inclined to ascertain from  
the Gov. by letter what is the  
present position as regards these  
leases, & if they are not already  
prepared to tell him to extend  
the time for the payment of the  
deposits to 31<sup>st</sup> March & then  
tell Sir C. Follett that the  
time will be so extended & that  
if all the deposits are paid the  
leases will be allowed as soon  
as a Co. has been formed &  
£10,000 paid up on condition

30  
wh. will make that sum  
applicable to the development of  
the area leased -

11/12/2

Mr. Antrobus.

So proceed?

H. J. R.

13/2

I am not quite sure about  
it, but I think that under  
the new arrangements this  
should go before the Concessions  
Committee, and that, if Sir C.  
Follett calls again, he sh<sup>d</sup>.  
be informed that he will, if  
he wishes it, be afforded an  
opportunity of appearing before  
the Committee.

Ant. 26. 13.

I agree

Fyles 14. 2  
at mee

W. Read

Will you please let me know  
what papers you wd. wish to lay before  
the Com. I presume that Mr. Ellis's  
memoir on this paper will take the

place of the usual news.

2/2

Yes - + we had better add to it & print  
of 43702 + of the dup: on 9839.

at once.  
H. J. R.  
17/2

M: Read.

This matter was considered by the American  
Committee at their meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>  
of February, and I attach a copy of the  
report on the subject which the Committee  
had before them. The Committee  
recommended that the course proposed  
in the last paragraph of M: Allen  
Memorandum of the 12<sup>th</sup> of February (F/496)  
should be approved.

R. G. 26 Feb.

at once.  
H. J. R.  
27/2

M: Allen  
last year  
the 25<sup>th</sup>

place of the usual means.

H. J. R.  
17/2

Yes - + we had better add to it & print  
of 43702 + of the dup: on 9839.

at once.  
H. J. R.  
17/2

M: Read.

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in the last paragraph of M: Allen  
Memorandum of the 12<sup>th</sup> of February (F/4961)  
should be approved.

R. J. 26 Feb.

at once.  
H. J. R.  
27/2

M: Read  
will you  
the...

Mr. Read.

Sir C. Fellett is a retired Solicitor to the Customs and is known to us as a member of a Syndicate which proposed to take over the Jelly-Biggs concession. He tells me he has now dropped these except the Voi-Taveta Railway scheme which is purely visionary.

He is now forming a Syndicate to take over leases of 2 fibre concessions which have <sup>been</sup> promised to Mr. Handcock and Mr. Abbott.

There are similar concessions of 10 square miles each on the Sabaki River. Term of lease 20 years Lessee to spend £5,000 on the property in 5 years and to deposit £1,000 as proof of bona fides Rent Rs. 750 per annum. Royalty 5 per cent on produce for the first 3 years and thereafter 10 per cent.

On 22/3/07 the Secretary of State expressed a doubt whether these terms were not too liberal, as regards area and length of lease, and accordingly when Mr. Geddes (22360/07) applied for a transfer of these same leases he told him that the transfer would only be allowed subject to conditions embodying the new terms of fibre leases.

But since then Sir J. Sadler has reported, subject to a report by Mr. Hutchins, in favour of retaining the present conditions (43702).

As far as this goes there is less reason than there was for opposing the transfer.

But the state of affairs as revealed by this letter

letter and by Sir C. Pollett in conversation with me is as follows:-

Handcock and Abbett can't put up their £1000 deposits and therefore can't get their leases.

They have therefore approached Sir C. Pollett and his friends, and asked them to find the money for the deposit, on the understanding that on obtaining the leases they will immediately transfer them to Sir C. Pollett and Co., for £3,000 and a number of shares. Sir C. Pollett accordingly asks us to tell the Land Department to extend the time for making the deposits until he can find the money.

I am not altogether pleased with this proposal by which £3,000 and shares is to be put into the pocket of Handcock and Abbett without their having done anything to the land. But of course they have spent time and money in the country, and ought to have ~~some~~ return.

I am inclined to ascertain from the Governor by telegram, what is the present position as regards these leases, and if they are not already forfeit to tell him to extend the time for the payment of the deposits to 31st March and then tell Sir C. Pollett that the time will be so extended and that if the deposits are paid the transfer will be allowed as soon as a Company has been formed and £10,000 paid up on conditions which will make that sum applicable only to the development of the areas leased.

W.D.E.

Jungley Hill 33  
Chilworth



C. O. Surrey  
4961  
9 FEB 08

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Genl

There are, in the East African Protectorate, two Filire Concessions, of about 5 square miles each, conceded to Messrs. Adcock and Abbott, on the River Sabaki. I am, with friends of mine, negotiating transfer of these areas, with a view to syndicate or Company for working them.

I am informed that the Leases are draft in the Protectorate Land Office, for execution, await deposit of £2,000.

The transfers to me, and my friends, not to be completed until the 31<sup>st</sup> of Feb, and must, I am informed, be subject to your consent. There is, however, no doubt of our being able to show you before then full proof of our being to take such transfers, with certainty of working the areas.

My present application is to know if the payment of the deposits may be postponed to be contemporaneous with the transfers to us, if then approved by you.



and if instructions may be kindly  
by you to the Land Office in the  
Protectorate that the payments are  
halted, and that the Leases  
to be held over until then.

I am

Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Secy

Your obedient servant

C. J. Follett

and if instructions may be kindly  
lay you to the Land Office in the  
Protectorate that the payments are  
postponed, and that the Leases are  
to be held over until then.

I am

Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Secy  
Your obedient servant  
C. J. Follett



F  
4961

E.A.P.

34

Sent  
5.5 pm  
10/2

May

DRAFT.

Letter to  
Pudler  
Nairobi

Embossed 27 Feb. 08.  
Poddem

MINUTE.

- Mr. Whis 27/2
- Mr. Read 27
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Antrobus.
- Mr. Cox.
- Mr. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Mr. Churchill.
- The Earl of Elgin.

What is  
actual position  
regarding  
as regards  
Handcock and  
Abbots fibre  
leases forming  
Gossamer, already  
forfeited Approves  
Suppose

for now  
(I promised an  
early reply.)

days time  
extension of

for Miner  
payments of  
deposits till

Interests  
31 March Ugin