

DOMESTIC

EAST AFR. PROT.

20262

20202

JUN 09

of individual

Date Recd  
1909

1909

16 June

Previous Paper

16  
1909

Steamship Service.

Reports present fashion of affairs. Note for some  
 reduction of bag Canal charges. Inquiries whether  
 if some sort of cargo would be necessary or arranged  
 for water part of their cargo by the canal at an open

Mr. Antillon

Ad: July is preparing a  
 memo: for Lord Cromer on the ~~financial~~  
 question of the part of a subsidy to the  
 Suez line. The general question of policy  
 involved will have to be settled with the  
 Cabinet in the first place - i.e. the  
 question. Ad: July will probably take  
 some opportunity of telling Mr. Holtens  
 that he has received his £25,000.

H. J. R.

17/11

Lord Cromer (July) R.H. Jones 17/11/09

I have acknowledged Mr. Holtens's letter in due season  
 when Mr. Holtens is coming to the issue as to the possibility of  
 opening up of 4000 cargo by either route. I will forward the memo  
 and will refer to it in the course of this week. Yrs  
 H. J. R.

20835

London  
16th June, 1908R  
20202  
My dear Seely,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 14th June, but am sorry to see that nothing is to be done on the East Coast of Africa. I observe that even the limited encouragement you thought you would be able to give apart from the subsidy would not be possible. The complete handing over to a foreign Company of the whole trade of that coast and giving it the full benefit of the expenditure of British capital in Uganda in East Africa is very unfortunate.

The situation is of course most seriously aggravated by the enormous charges of the Suez Canal Co., which are really outrageous and a tremendous handicap to British shipping. Every year more foreign countries are paying the dues for their shipping through this canal. You know the detriment these charges are to East Africa and to Australia and New Zealand, as you are aware of the protests which have been raised. Can nothing be done to get a reduction of these dues out of the enormous profits which the British Government receive, chiefly from British shipping, in dividends on their Suez Canal shares?

May I ask whether, in the event of our being able to arrange some sort of cargo service to Mombasa, you would be prepared to agree to give us all the Government cargo at an agreed rate, say the rate which the Natal Government has with a fair addition for the increased mileage? Could this be done for any of the other protectorates on the East Coast as well?

Yours sincerely,

P. A. M. Allen

Colonel J. B. Seely, M.P.,  
Colonial Office, S.W.