

1911

EAST AFR. PROT.

C O  
24410

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PLD  
26 11 11

Secretary  
Date.

Reduction of railway rates

July  
Previous Paper.

Submits views on proposals. Assents to them on the understanding that effect will be carefully watched, & proposals revised if found to be unremunerative. Requests full report at end of three years.

753

Mr Ross Fiddes

Excellent.

Memorandum to the Governor that proposals are approved provisionally and confirmed by despatch, under copy of Secretary's letter

28/5/11

H. V. R.  
25/5/11

atouch  
24/7

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In the reply to this Letter the following  
Number should be quoted.

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C O  
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REC'D  
JUL 26 11  
TREASURY CHAMBERS.

25 July 1911.

Sir,

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Fiddes' letter of the 14th instant (19753/1911) and the accompanying copy of correspondence with the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate on the subject of reducing the third class fares on the Uganda Railway.

Reductions are recommended of two kinds: first in the case of the ordinary third class fares by means of sliding scale similar to that adopted on the East Indian Railway; and secondly a still further reduction is proposed in respect of natives travelling in batches of ten men or over.

The former of these concessions appears likely to involve at the outset a considerable loss of revenue, as explained in the 6th paragraph of the Manager's despatch of the 20th March last, and it is doubtful, to judge from the remarks contained in the 3rd paragraph, whether this loss would be fully recouped by a corresponding increase of traffic.

The second proposal seems at first sight to be based on more substantial grounds, but My Lords regard Mr Secretary Harcourt's objection, viz. that it will primarily benefit the Magadi Company rather than the Railway as of great weight and as not entirely met by the arguments urged by the Governor in his despatch of the 11th May last.

This

*for*  
13064  
19753  
The Under Secretary of State  
Colonial Office.

This concession points to the desirability of fixing the rates for these gangs of men at the highest reasonable figure which this Company could afford to pay without having recourse to imported labour.

In both cases, moreover, My Lords presume that the carrying capacity of the existing rolling stock must have an important bearing on the question whether the concessions are likely to be reproductive.

While the proposals seem to Their Lordships to be open to criticism in these particulars, They are not disposed to withhold Their assent to them so long as they are regarded as purely experimental in character and open to revision hereafter, -If therefore Mr. Harcourt is satisfied on the question of the rates payable by the Lagai Company, to which reference has been made, My Lords are willing that the reductions should be put into force forthwith on the understanding that their effect will be carefully watched and that they will be revised, if clear evidence is forthcoming that they are not remunerative. In any case My Lords would ask for a full report at the end of three years.

In conclusion I am to express Their Lordships' gratification at the improvement in the Railway's receipts reported in Sir. P. Girouard's despatch of the 20th May last.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*J. L. Heath*

Trinity La. P.  
18410

Sent 6. 25<sup>th</sup> 1841  
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Your disp of 20 h  
280 proposal annulet

DRAFT.

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Nairobi

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MINUTE.

- Mr. A. B. 2/7
- Mr. Reed 31
- Mr. Fiddes.
- Mr. Just.
- Sir C. Lucas.

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Drapate follows by hand

Lord Lucas.

Mr. Harcourt.

Edwards.

Handwritten signature or initials

S2C  
3  
July 1891

Hi

3 Aug

C.P. no 423

John P. ...

I have the honor  
to inform my ...  
of the Bk of July which  
reads as follows -

ms 4/11

Read 31

[true copy to ...]  
I ...  
for your ...  
a copy of a letter from  
the ...  
my ...

any 25 July