

EAST AFR. PROT

28874

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REC'D
REC'D 5-11-14

ynolds, Lieut
R.M.

NAVE STRAWER OFFICERS
EYESIGHT STANDARD

1914

at previous Paper

at previous Paper

Submit observations. Suggests Board of Trade
requested to furnish report on Lieut Mortimer's
eyesight and his suitability for apt then
considered.

1239 1/2
eye

W. Fiddler
p. 4 Sec 4

Proceed as proposed by
Lt R. ?

W. S. S.

6/2/14

I cannot agree. Why drag in the
Trade to determine whether the eyesight
actually fails the normal
oculist would be a better judge. It
seems that Lieut Reynolds was trying to
admitted, and general rule to get a good man
upon the grounds of a good officer,
but he doesn't happen to be an
The question is not medical at all, but
administrative. AF 6

at previous Paper.

W. H. ...

I don't think the P.S. really comes in here - it is for the dept. to set the standard & qualifications required for the P.S. to find a candidate suitable for the job. I should not have thought, however, that there was any harm in proceeding as Lt. Reynolds suggest, and I may perhaps observe that, as we are now prohibited from selecting A.M.O. officers, it will be very difficult to find second officers for the R. Marine for the time being.

Yours
 7.8.14

~~... ..~~
~~... ..~~
~~... ..~~
 He is an officer of R.N.R. & has, as far as I am aware, been mobilized.
 Pat

7/11/14

Inf.

See
 7.8.14

R. C. D.
EMIS 28874
COL OFFICE

Chief Clerk

R. J. Morrison 14

August 11th 1914

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter 12391/1914 of July 11th 1914 regarding the descriptive certificate of a above mentioned officer in the past of Mr. Morrison having the he never been required by Board & Training was though such was held prior to January 1st 1914 on my half normal vision was necessary qualifies him to remain the increment measure.

It is probable, however, that if officer joined a large military company, and had passed the vision test prior to January 1st 1914, it he would be required to pass a further vision test to show he possessed normal vision before he was admitted to the company.

It must be remembered that fast steamers that run in crowded seas and encounter fog, etc. etc. it is necessary to ensure that

ly such officers are employed who possess the best eyesight possible. I entirely agree that all of our officers should possess the eyesight required by the Board of Trade, and in future recommendations of all officers applying for appointments in our service be governed that such appointments will be dependent upon their passing, or having passed, the vision test required by the Board of Trade subsequent to January 1st 1914.

Lieut. Mortimer, although rather young the age at which we usually engage our second officers, appeared to me to be a good type of officer and I should like to see him appointed.

However it is no use for us to appoint an officer who might subsequently prove a liability on account of defective eyesight. I suggest that Lt. Mortimer be instructed to present himself at a Board of Trade to undergo another vision test and that the

Dept of Trade has asked to furnish
special report on his eyesight
wherein it actually fails to
be normal.

With this & this I may be able to
form an opinion whether the defect
in Mr Mortimer's vision is such as
under him inevitable to us.

I am at present, unaware of the
exact meaning of half normal vision.

By your receipt of this report he
is considered suitable I still
consider that he should be

sent to the Medical Adviser to the
Colonies with a request to the
Adviser ^{to inform us} whether he considers that
Mortimer's eyesight will further
degrade in East Africa.

In connection with this it must
be remembered that the glare
of Lake Victoria is very trying to
the eyes.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant
P. H. Reynolds

Under
Secretary of State
Colonial Office