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W. AFRICA

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FROM
CO.

DATE
Various

FOR CIRCULATION :-
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Asst. U.S. of S.
.....
.....
Perm. U.S. of S.
Part. U.S. of S.
Secretary of State.

SUBJECT
Private Enterprise Committee
Preliminary correspondence
as to appointment of -

Previous Paper
/

MINUTES
Following letters written :-
Chancellor of the Exchequer to Secy S. 26.3.23
N.I.C.C. Davidson to Mr H. Read 11.4.23
Secy S to the Chancellor of the Exch. 16.4.23
Prime Minister to Secy S (Extract) 17.5.23.

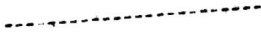
(Requisition for record
16.5.23)

Purvis
16.5.24

part by

Subsequent Paper
5/27/23

Extract of letter from the PRIME MINISTER to the SECRETARY
OF STATE.



Treasury Chambers,
Whitehall, S.W.1
17th. May, 1923.

..... With regard to the Protectorates I am very glad to
note your agreement as to the private enterprise Committee.
I agree that it should be a Colonial Office Committee but as
I am really interested in the matter I should be glad to discuss
the personnel with you later when you have considered the
suggestions I made to you. It may be well to limit the numbers
rather more, so long as the various elements are properly
balanced.

I am entirely in favour of wide terms of reference.
Indeed my criticism of your present suggestion is that it is
too narrow. Why limit yourself to "existing State owned
railways?" and why exclude other possible forms of transport?
I should have preferred something of as wide scope as my
original suggestion (omitting the specific reference to
land settlement):

As I said above: I will write again about
Protectorates.

(SIGNED) STANLEY BALDWIN.

16th April, 1923

My dear Chancellor of the Exchequer,

I have your letter of the 10th of April. I agree that it might be a mistake for us to lay on the table at present any statement of what we are prepared to do by way of financial aid to the Dominions and that it might be an advantage to let them be the first to raise the subject at the Economic Conference; but I think it would be a very great mistake for us to go into the Conference without having made up our minds what line we are to take on this subject and what are the limits of the assistance we are prepared to give if we are asked for it. The Conference will only sit for a short time and it will be quite impossible for us as a Government, more especially as the Imperial Conference will be at work concurrently, to examine adequately any requests which may be put by the Dominions in the interval of the sittings of the Conference.

I will refer to the Overseas Settlement Committee

believe that any opinion on these matters put forward
by such a Committee would be of any value to me as
Secretary of State.

Yours sincerely,

J

P.S. In view of what Lloyd-Greame said in the House
on the 10th, it is very desirable that we should have an
agreed plan settled soon.

To consider the present position, capitalization,
finances, rates and administration of existing ^{and} State owned
Railways in ^{Central} Tropical Africa, their effect upon the
development of the Country, to what extent their acquire-
ment or extension by private enterprise is desirable or
practicable, and to make recommendations in connection
therewith.

To consider the present position, capitalization, finances, rates and administration of existing ^{Rail} State owned Railways in ~~the~~ Tropical Africa, their effect upon the development of the Country, to what extent their acquirement or extension by private enterprise is desirable or practicable, and to make recommendations in connection therewith.

Personal.

11th April, 1923.

My dear Read,

Following our conversation with regard to the proposed Committee to investigate the possibilities of private enterprise in Africa. I understand that the general desire is that the Committee should be as small as possible. The names that Niemeyer submitted in his original letter were, of course, tentative in nature and he tells me that the Treasury view is that a banker, a railwayman and a business man with general overseas experience and knowledge would appear to be a useful combination. In this connection the names occur of Mr. Edward Robert ~~Robert~~ ^{and} the well known banker, Mr. Charles Gunter who is very well regarded in the City and has wide experience of the Argentine and Africa.

With regard to the railway representative, I think your view was that a British railwayman

TREASURY CHAMBERS
WHITEHALL, S.W. 1

26th March, 1923

Copy

was not much good for advising on Colonial railway matters and the best man I can think off is Mr. Joseph Percival Clarke, CBE., who was General Manager of the Leopoldina Railway in Brazil from 1902-1906, and General Manager of the Buenos Aires Great Southern Railway from 1907-1914. He did, I am told, quite remarkable work ^{as Secretary} ~~as Secretary~~ Director of Inland Waterways and Transport at the War Office during the war. The only criticism might be that both Mr. Gunt and Mr. Clarke have been and are connected with South America but on the other hand, of course, there is a good deal to be said from the point of view of distances and other considerations such as need for appointment of men with experience of South American countries.

If you would like to have a word with me about it I shall be only too glad to come over and have a talk.

Yours ever,

Stanley Baldwin

My dear Secretary of State,

We did not explore when we were discussing the other day the question of Empire Development the point raised in the Prime Minister's letter of the 13th March as to an enquiry into the development of transport facilities in Tropical Africa. This is a different question from the propriety of financial assistance to individual schemes and I feel rather strongly that it ought to be examined at once, the more so as all the big pieces of development e.g. Canada and South America have been almost entirely the work of private enterprise. I do not believe you will get Africa developed quickly or on sound lines without a great deal of private help. Whether I am right or wrong in this I hope you will agree that the matter ought to be authoritatively examined. To show you more clearly what I have in mind, I enclose a sketch of terms of reference and personnel of a possible Committee - of course no one has been approached.

Yours sincerely

(sd) STANLEY BALDWIN

His Grace
The Duke of Devonshire, P.O. Box 1, K.G., C.M.G., G.C.V.O.

~~Committee to consider and report on the best~~
 whether, as to what measures ~~could be taken to encourage~~
~~methods of encouraging~~ private enterprise in the
 development of the East and West India Provinces with special
 reference to ~~the development of land settlements~~
 and to report to the C.P.S. for the Colonies.

Chairman
 1 of reference
 Feb 27/3

Chairman. 1 (Lord Selborne.
 (Ormsby Gore. ✓

→ Sir F. Lygon

Members. 2 J.C.C. Davidson. MP ✓

3 D.O. Malcolm.

(C.O. Treasury and
 now director of
 Chartered Co.)

4 (Cecil Lubbock or
 (Peacock.

(Canada and Bank of
 England).

5 Sir C. Addis.

(Chinese Railways etc.)

6 (W.M. Acworth or
 (Guy Granet.

7 a representative of Scotch Land Mortgage
 Co's.

8 (? C.E. Gunthar.
 (? Follett Holt.

South American
 Experience

Chairman
 1 of reference
 Feb 27/3
 Members
 2 J.C.C. Davidson
 3 D.O. Malcolm
 4 Cecil Lubbock or Peacock
 5 Sir C. Addis
 6 W.M. Acworth or Guy Granet
 7 a representative of Scotch Land Mortgage Co's
 8 C.E. Gunthar or Follett Holt

Feb 27/3

TELEGRAMS & TELEPHONE
HURSTPIERPOINT 4.

NEWTIMBER PLACE.
HASSOCKS, SUSSEX.

July 7 1923

My dear Revonshire

I was
 feeling sorry, as I
 am sure you will
 appreciate, that I felt
 obliged to send that
 telegram never that
 moment.

I am always
 glad to be of any

July 7 1923

My dear Revonshire

I was
 feeling sorry, as I
 am sure you will
 appreciate, that I had
 tried to send that
 telephone message this
 morning.

I am always
 glad to be of any

GRAMS & TELEPHONE
HURSTPIERPOINT 4

NEWTIMBER PLACE.
HASSOCKS, SUSSEX.

All the same to the
 Gov. - & the Commission
 we have been interested
 in. This I am
 sure we, in the
 at my disposal, I
 could not, in view
 of the last meeting
 of the Conference, have
 done justice to the
 important questions so
 abundant & regular
 in the Commission

I may say that the
 literary work referred
 to ^{in my name} is an appreciation of
 General White on which
 I am working but
 which may or may not
 see the light - & which
 is a pretty different
 thing in its previous
 political state of
 I suppose; but I think would
 have been

TELEGRAMS & TELEPHONE
WESTPIERPOINT 4

NEWTIMBER PLACE
HASSECK, SUSSEX

received your letter
 6.0. - & the Commission
 we are very interested
 in. This I am
 sure you, in the
 at my disposal, I
 could not, in view
 of the early meeting
 of the Conference, have
 done justice to the
 important questions to
 be considered, especially
 in the Commission

I may say that the
 literary work referred
 to ^{in my name} is an appreciation of
 Ernest Ryle on which
 I am working &
 which may or may not
 see the light - & which
 is a pretty different
 job in the present
 political state of
 S. Sussex; we stand only
 on

promised to want 2
Trade ^{some time ago} ~~has~~ ^{to}
the character of an
International Convention

~~It~~ is connected with
the degree of respect
of, since news probably
as it is decided that
an Englishman should
be allowed. That would
fall under a less ^{kind}
of order

apologies for the
length of time I am answering
and for all that I am
replying to compliments
which have been made

Since I had an appointment
 of speakers for the Duke
 yesterday I have been
 thinking over the matter
 very carefully & going into
 dates. I must be out by
 in Sept. or almost
 certain that for a considerable
 part of Oct. I shall be
 occupied at the Duke's
 house. I shall be at the Duke's
 house for the 5th of August
 & I shall be at the Duke's
 house for the 5th of August
 & I shall be at the Duke's
 house for the 5th of August

Since I had an opportunity
 of speaking to Mr. Deane
 yesterday. I have been
 thinking over the matter
 very carefully & going into
 details. I must have been
 in Sept. 1855 almost
 certain that for a considerable
 part of the time. A. H. Deane
 was in the B. for I am
 well known & engaged on some
 of the work which was done.

occupies a considerable
amount of my time. The
proposed committee will
cover a 8 columns
of the book have to be
with separate. I
afraid in the case
I do not find sufficient
time for the committee
to be in a position to
prepare a complete
report. As a result of
the conference

accepted a contract
and of my time. The
proposed contract would
cover a 8 colonies
of which we have to be
with separate I
afraid in the case
I could not find sufficient
time for due care
to be responsible of
production of a useful
report. It is time first
to the Conference

occupied a considerable
part of my time. The
proposed census will
cover 218 Colonies &
of the kind have to be
well prepared. I
am afraid in the case
I could not find sufficient
time to do so
to be responsible for
production of a useful
report. A letter to
the Congress