

1911

EAST AFR. PROT.
UGANDA
ZANZIBAR

C O
42314

L. O. 811

Min. of
Commerce
Date.

*Cable Communication
bet. Mombasa & Zanzibar.*

Sec.
Various Paper.

*Call attention to present inadequacy of
wires construction of overland cable linking
E. Afr. land cables with Sudanese system.*

Copy to file for 365 case 20 Apr 1911

Mr Fiddes.

You will remember that we had this question put
with the British Cotton Growing Association at our last
meeting. The case against linking up the Uganda tele-
graphs with the Sudan telegraphs as a business proposition
is stated in the minutes on F.O. 5224/08. You will see
that Mr Churchill, who was ^{the} great advocate of the connexion,
admitted that the case against making it was conclusive.
If and when the Sudan Government take over the administra-
tion of the northern part of the Uganda Protectorate, as
was recently proposed, they will no doubt extend their
telegraphs to Nimale for their own purpose.

For the present we can, I think, only reply that Mr
Harcourt is aware of the inconvenience which has been ex-
perienced both by the Government and the mercantile com-
munity ^{owing to} the interruptions in the cable between Mombasa
and Zanzibar; that the question of installing ^a wireless
telegraphy ^{at Mombasa} to communicate with that at Zanzibar
is under consideration; and if such an installation is
provided,

Subsequent Paper

924

... does not consider that the
further expenditures involved by joining up the Uganda tele-
graphs with those of the Sudan would be justified in present circumstances

Has

Dec 28

W 28

at once

~~Ch 29 12~~

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
LONDON LONDON
TELEPHONE NO 327 BANK



OXFORD COURT, CANNON STREET,
LONDON, E.C.

C 43844-284

December, 1911.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that the East African Section of this Chamber have had under consideration, the disability under which the trade of British East Africa and Uganda has been placed owing to the fact that the overseas cable communication is dependent upon the single line between Mombasa and Zanzibar.

It was reported that there was in contemplation a proposal to institute wireless telegraphy as a means of communications between Mombasa and Zanzibar, and in this connection I am instructed to intimate that the Section are of opinion that this alone will not be adequate to meet the requirements of the trade and commerce of the East African Protectorate, and that the Section desire to strongly urge that the Secretary of State will authorise the construction of an overland cable linking the East African land cables with the Sudan Government system.

I am,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Charles E. Murgrave
Secretary.

The Under Secretary of
State for the Colonies,
COLONIAL OFFICE,

S. W.

40844

20

Downing Street,

2 January, 1912.

DRAFT.

The Secretary,

LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Sir,

MINUTE.

I am directed by Mr. Secre-

Mr. Butler 30/12/11.

tary Harcourt to acknowledge the

Mr.

receipt of your letter dated December

Mr. Prides.

1911 which reached this Office on the

Sir H. Just.

22nd ultimo, relating to cable communi-

Sir J. Anderson.

cation between Mombasa and Zanzibar.

Lord Emynoth.

2. Mr. Harcourt is aware of

Mr. Harcourt.

the inconvenience which has been

experienced both by the Government

and the mercantile community owing to

interruptions in the cable. The

question of installing a wireless

telegraph station at Mombasa to

communicate

Copy for 2065 can 20 April 1912

communicate with that at Zanzibar is under
consideration, and, if such an installation is
provided, Mr. Harcourt does not consider
that the further expenditure involved by
joining up the Uganda telegraphs with those
of the Sudan would be justified in present
circumstances.

I am, etc.,

A handwritten signature, possibly initials, consisting of a vertical stroke followed by a loop and a horizontal stroke.