

File No. F. 20/386

TREASURY.

File No. F. 20/386

MISCELLANEOUS.

ENTERTAINMENT :

ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS :

(1) S. S. "DISCOVERY".

REFERENCES:

F 9/619/86 - Imperial Conference papers in connexion with Arctic and Antarctic and Polar Questions.

F.12/723 (19/4/34) : Customs facilities for officers and crew of the R.R.S "Discovery".

WF/BvD.



P.M. 103/17.

SECRET.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,

PRETORIA,

9th September, 1929.

TREASURY  
PRETORIA.  
11 SEP 1929  
Ref. No. F. 25/386

THE SECRETARY FOR FINANCE ,  
PRETORIA.

*Mr. Williamson*

re Douglas Mawson Scientific and  
Exploratory Expedition.

*Seay*

With reference to the conversation between the Secretary for Finance and the Under-Secretary of this Department last Saturday, I beg to forward herewith a copy of Secret Despatch No. 293 of the 1st August, 1929, from the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs in connection with the abovementioned Expedition.

In view of the importance of the Expedition to the Union, the Prime Minister is of opinion that it should be given every facility at Cape Town and that the cost of the overhauling of the "Discovery" and the coal to be taken in by the vessel should be borne by the Union Government.

The Department of Railways has agreed that it will not charge harbour dues in respect of the vessel.

As regards the cost of the overhauling and the coal, I beg to confirm the arrangement that the Treasury will make the necessary financial provision.

*Approved  
Gur  
19/9/29*

*J. H. Russell*

Under SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Antonie Bedford*

COPY/BvD.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DOWNING STREET,

NO. 293.

1st August, 1929.

SECRET.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Sir,

I have the honour to state for the information of His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa that arrangements have now been completed for the despatch to the Antarctic of a scientific and exploratory Expedition under the leadership of Sir Douglas Mawson who commanded the Australian Expedition of 1911-1914. The expedition has been organised under the auspices of His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia, a financial contribution is being made by His Majesty's Government in New Zealand; and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have marked their desire to be associated with the enterprise by arranging with the Government of the Falkland Islands for the Royal Research Ship "Discovery" to be placed at the disposal of the Commonwealth Government for this purpose and for the charges for the hire of the vessel under this arrangement to be met from the funds of the United Kingdom.

2. The Expedition has been arranged for the Antarctic season 1929/30 but may be extended to include a further season. It is the intention of the Commonwealth Government that the Expedition should operate principally in the sector between Enderby Land

and .....

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

and the Ross Sea, with a view to the completion of the geographical and scientific work previously undertaken, in this sector by Sir Douglas Mawson and other British explorers. It is also hoped that the visit of the Expedition will lead to the final establishment of British title to this sector with the exception of the French territory of Adélie Land.

3. It will be recalled that at the Imperial Conference, 1926, it was recommended that an Expedition should be sent out which, by taking possession in the name of His Majesty of the areas mentioned in the Report of the Conference (pages 33 and 34 of Cmd. 2768) might prepare the way for the issue of Letters Patent formally assigning the administration and control of such areas, to one of His Majesty's Governments. In this connection I would invite reference to Imperial Conference Paper No. E. 130, a copy of which was enclosed in Mr. Amery's Secret despatch of the 5th January, 1927. In pursuance of the policy recommended at the Imperial Conference, 1926, it was considered desirable that Sir D. Mawson should be provided with the necessary authority to take possession in the name of His Majesty of the areas above referred to and of any new territory which the Expedition may discover. His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant to Sir Douglas Mawson a formal Commission of authority for the purpose.

4. The "Discovery" will be commanded by Captain J.K. Davis and will carry a crew of some twenty-eight officers and men and a scientific staff of some thirteen persons. It is proposed that the vessel

should .....

*Copy this file*



- 2 -

should sail from London on the 1st August for Capetown, where the scientific members of the Expedition will assemble. The vessel should arrive at Capetown early in October and will be subject to overhaul there, preparatory to leaving for the Antarctic, by way of Kerguelen, about the middle of October. It is anticipated that the boilers will require cleaning and that some re-arrangement of the sails and rigging will be required. The vessel will take in some hundreds of tons of coal at Capetown. It would be greatly appreciated if arrangements could be made in advance of the arrival of the vessel for the grant of the requisite facilities during the stay of the vessel in Capetown. The agents of the Expedition in Capetown are -

Messrs. Ellerman and Bucknall (Pty) Limited,

26, Strand Street,

Cape Town.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

PASSFIELD.

Levy

For confirmation pl. I assume <sup>2</sup>

that expenses (about probably about £500) may be charged to the Contingencies sub-head in the Miscellaneous Services vote? &

C.W.

12/9

Exh. C.

1. Approp.
2. 9c.

Exh

17/9/29

Humble Servant,

PASSFIELD.

of the areas above referred to and of any other territory which the Expedition may discover. His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant to Sir Douglas Scott a Special Commission of authority for the purpose.

The "Discovery" will be commanded by Captain J.E. Davis and will carry a crew of one hundred and thirty officers and men and a valuable staff of one hundred persons. It is proposed that the vessel

shall

CONFIDENTIAL.

20th September, 1929.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

With reference to your Minute of the 9th instant, No. 103/17, I beg to inform you that the Treasury approves of the proposed expenditure upon the overhauling of the "Discovery", and for the coal to be taken in by that vessel at Cape Town, being met from public funds. The expenditure should form a charge against sub-head "E" of Vote No. 9 - Miscellaneous Services.

*E. W.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

*ago Bph*  
*to note re*  
*then*  
*W. A. D.*  
*Ry*     *File*     *File*

F.

*m*

*The Secretary*

TELEGRAFIESE ADRES  
"RAILPORTS" or "RAILBOARD."



TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"RAILPORTS" or "RAILBOARD."

UNIE VAN SUIDAFRIKA.—UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

VERWYS NA  
REF. NO. } 478/A/21.

KANTOOR VAN DIE MINISTER VAN SPOORWEE EN HAWENS  
EN VAN DIE SPOORWEGRAAD,

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS  
AND OF THE RAILWAY BOARD,

UNIEGEBOU,—UNION BUILDINGS,

PRETORIA,

21st September, 1921

*Mr. Williamson*

The Private Secretary,  
The Minister of Finance,  
PRETORIA.

*720/388*

Re S. S. "Discovery".

My Minister will be glad to be advised  
as to whether the Treasury will be prepared to bear  
the cost of the coal as well as the Railway Adminis-  
tration's charges for putting the coal on board the  
"Discovery" and whether it is desired that the Ad-  
ministration should take any action in connection  
<sup>with</sup>  
~~with~~ the supply thereof.

*Mp 12.  
W.*

*D. W. W. W.*  
ACTING SECRETARY.

F.

*then*

*W. H. H.*

*Ry*

*Zic*

*Zic*

*M*





20/386.

UNIE VAN SUIDAFRIKA - UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

KANTOOR VAN DIE MINISTER VAN FINANSIES EN OORDEELING VAN SUIDAFRIKA

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

24th September, 1929.

THE SECRETARY TO THE RAILWAY BOARD,  
PRETORIA.

*7/9/29*  
The Secretary,  
The Ministry of Finance,  
Pretoria.

With reference to your Minute of the 21st instant, No. 478/A/21, I beg to inform you that the Treasury will only meet the cost of overhauling the vessel and of <sup>supplying</sup> such quantity of coal as the Commander of the 'Discovery' may require. Any charges for loading, etc., will, it is understood, be met by your Administration in accordance with the arrangement made by the Secretary to the Prime Minister with the Administration to grant the 'Discovery' all facilities while she is in South African waters.

A copy of this communication has been sent to the Secretary to the Prime Minister, who is dealing with the matter.

*W. van der Merwe*  
ATTN: SECRETARY  
*W*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

THE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

Forwarded for your information.

F.

*W. van der Merwe*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

7

TELEGRAFIESE ADRES  
"RAILPORTS" of "RAILBOARD."



TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
"RAILPORTS" or "RAILBOARD."

HW/  
UNIE VAN SUIDAFRIKA.—UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

VERWYS NA } 478/A/21.  
REF. NO. }

KANTOOR VAN DIE MINISTER VAN SPOORWEE EN HAWENS  
EN VAN DIE SPOORWEGRAAD,

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS  
AND OF THE RAILWAY BOARD,

URGENT.

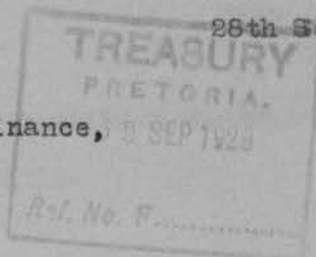
UNIEGEBOU.—UNION BUILDINGS.

PRETORIA.

28th September, 1929.

The Secretary for Finance,

PRETORIA.



With reference to your minute F.20/386 of the 24th instant, in regard to the S.S. "Discovery", I am directed by my Minister to inform you that on the assumption that it is the desire of your Department that the <sup>work</sup> ~~cost~~ of overhauling the S.S. "Discovery" and supplying such quantity of coal as the commander of the vessel may require should be arranged by the Railway Administration, instructions have been issued accordingly, and debit will be raised against the Treasury in due course.

*afcs. Beh.*  
*File*

*P. D. Moskie*  
ACTING SECRETARY.

Forwarded for your information.

F.

*SW*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

7



JU/EW.

P.M. 103/17.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA,

22nd October, 1929.

TREASURY  
PRETORIA  
23 OCT 1929  
Ref. No. F .....

The Secretary for Finance,  
Pretoria.

RE. DOUGLAS MAWSON SCIENTIFIC AND  
EXPLORATION EXPEDITION.

With reference to your Minute No. F. 20/386 of the 20th September, 1929 on the above subject, I forward herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter dated the 18th October, received from the Commander of the Expedition, expressing his sincere thanks, and <sup>the</sup> appreciation of the expeditious way in which the necessary overhaul of the S.Y. "Discovery" has been carried out.

*W. J. van der Merwe*

ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Forwarded for your information.

F.

*W. J. van der Merwe*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

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THE BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALAND  
ANTARCTIC RESEARCH EXPEDITION OF 1929-30.

S.Y. "Discovery".

Cape Town,

18th October, 1929.

Under Secretary  
for External Affairs,  
Pretoria.

Sir,

In connection with the overhaul and facilities which the South African Government have been good enough to extend to the "Discovery" I desire to thank you and ask you to convey through the General Manager of Railways and Harbours to all concerned our very great appreciation of the expeditious way in which the necessary overhaul has been carried out. Captain Davis has reported to me that the vessel is now fit in every way for our contemplated voyage. He feels under a special obligation to all the officers and employees of the Department concerned for the good services they have given in connection with this work; and I need hardly say that I deeply appreciate the very valuable assistance you have given to the Expedition during our stay in Cape Town.

Yours faithfully,

Douglas Mawson.

Commanding Expedition.



20/386.

24 OCT 1929  
676/10072  
23rd October, 1929.

The Secretary,  
Railway Board,  
Union Buildings,  
PRETORIA.

Douglas Mawson Scientific and  
Exploration Expedition.

I beg to forward herewith for the  
information of your Board and for necessary action,  
a copy of a letter received by the Department of  
External Affairs from the Commander of the Expedi-  
tion.

*hw.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

ME.  
7

20/386.

28th November, 1929.

The General Manager,  
South African Railways and Harbours,  
Johannesburg.

Douglas Mawson Scientific and Exploration  
Expedition.

With reference to the debit of £2.19.9.  
appearing in your accounts for the month of October in  
respect of charges for the transfer of personal effects from  
the S.S. "Nestor" and R.M.S. "Armada Castle" to the  
"Discovery", I beg to point out that when the arrangements  
for the overhauling, etc., of the "Discovery" were under  
discussion it was agreed that the Treasury would meet the  
cost of overhauling the vessel and the cost of supplying  
such quantity of coal as was required, but it was understood  
that all other charges would be met by your Administration  
in accordance with the arrangement made by the Secretary  
the Prime Minister with the Administration to grant the  
"Discovery" all facilities while she was in South African  
waters.

It is not considered that charges should be  
raised against the Treasury for small services carried out  
by the Administration and it is requested that you will be  
good enough to arrange for credit to be given in your  
account for the amount mentioned above.

*H. I. D.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS.—SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE EN HAWENS.

All Communications to be addressed to the General Manager.

BC

In your reply quote  
H.15807/1/1.  
Haal in u antwoord aan

Alle mededeelingen moet aan die Algemene Bestuurder gedreger word.

Telegrams/Telegrams } SAR.  
Cables/Kabelgramme }

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE,  
ALGEMENE BESTUURDER SE KANTOOR,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Phone: Railway Exchange.  
Telefoon: Spoorwegburo.

6th December, 1929.

TREASURY  
7 DEC 1929  
Ref. No. F.....

The Secretary for Finance,  
Treasury,  
PRETORIA.

DOUGLAS MAWSON SCIENTIFIC & EXPLORATION  
EXPEDITION.

With reference to your Minute F.20/386  
of 28th ultimo, I have to inform you that instructions  
have been given for the debit of £2.19.9d to be  
withdrawn.

for J. R. More,  
GENERAL MANAGER.

*[Handwritten signature]*

B7  
17/1/30  
*[Handwritten initials]*

*Not marked  
Re let me know  
if correct please  
through  
H/11.*

raised against the Treasury for ...  
by the Administration and it is requested that you will be  
good enough to arrange for credit to be given in your  
account for the amount mentioned above.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE

20/386.

13th December, 1929.

The General Manager,  
South African Railways and Harbours,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Douglas Mawson Scientific and Exploration  
Expedition.

With reference to your Minute No.H.15807/1/1 of the 6th instant and previous correspondence, I beg to enclose an account for £163. 4. 7 received from the Stores Superintendent, Cape Town, for coal supplied to the S.S. "Discovery" and to invite attention to the charge of £1.5.0. for loading which should be borne by your administration in accordance with the arrangements made.

The Treasury will be glad if you will arrange for this item to be eliminated when payment will be made of the balance.

(Sgd.) J. J. M.

SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

B.7.  
~~7/12/29~~ MB  
RC.



SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS.—SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE EN HAWENS.

All Communications to be addressed to the General Manager. BC

Alle mededelingen moet aan die Algemene Bestuurder geadresseer word.

Telegrams/Telegrams } SAR.  
Cables/Kabelgramme }

Phone : Railway Exchange.  
Telefoon : Spoorwegburo.

In your reply quote

H. 15807/1/1

Haal in u antwoord aan

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE,  
ALGEMENE BESTURDER SE KANTOOR,

JOHANNESBURG.

19th December, 1929,

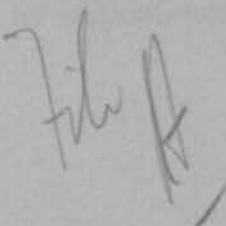
TREASURY  
PRETORIA.  
20 DEC 1929  
Ref. No. F.....

The Secretary for Finance,  
Treasury,  
PRETORIA.

DOUGLAS MAWSON SCIENTIFIC & EXPLORATION  
EXPEDITION.

With reference to your minute F.20/386 of 13th instant, I have to inform you that instructions have been given for the loading charge of £1.5/- to be withdrawn and for an amended debit note to be furnished.

for J. R. More,  
GENERAL MANAGER.



B.7.  
7/12/29  
RC.  
A

20/386.

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE,  
RAILWAYS BESTUURDE DE KANTOOR,  
JOHANNESBURG.

15th January, 1930., 1929.

The Local Accountant,  
S. A. Railways and Harbours,  
CAPE TOWN.



Douglas Mawson Scientific and Exploration Expedition.

I beg to inform you that an account for £163.4.7d. was received from the Stores Superintendent, Cape Town in December for charges in connexion with coal supplied to the s.s. "Discovery".

This account was referred to the General Manager, South African Railways, with a request that an item of £1.5.0d. for loading charges should be deleted and a reply was received per Minute No.H.15807/1/1 dated 19.12.1929 stating that instructions had been issued for the charge to be withdrawn.

On the 13th instant the attached amended account No.Z.11/12 for £163.18.11d. was received, again including the charge for £1.5.0., while on the 14th idem the attached credit note No.Z.3/12 for £78.18.11 was received. The Treasury will be glad to have details of the item £78.4.7. shown in the Credit Note. If the amount of £1.5.0. is not included it is presumed that you will now arrange for this to be done.

Kindly return the annexure with your reply.

*F. W. D.*

*F. W. D.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

# SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS & HARBOURS.—SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEEË EN HAWENS.

All Communications to be  
addressed to  
LOCAL ACCOUNTANT,  
P.O. Box 34.

In your reply quote B. 2  
Haal in u antwoord aan.....

LOCAL ACCOUNTANT'S OFFICE,  
PLAASLIKE REKENMEESTER SE KANTOOR,

Alle mededeling moet aan die  
PLAASLIKE REKENMEESTER,  
Posbus 34, geadresseer word.

CAPETOWN—KAAPSTAD,  
30th. January, 1930.

The Secretary for Finance,  
Treasury,  
Pretoria.



Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter F.20/386 of the 15th instant I have been in communication with the Stores Superintendent, Salt River, who informs me that credit for £1.5.0 is being passed in January.

A payment of £162.13.11 will settle your accounts for November and December.

Yours faithfully,

*G.H.E. Dickinson*  
for G.H.E. Dickinson,  
Local Accountant.

The Treasury will be glad to have details of the item 278.4.7. shown in the Credit Note. If the amount of £1.5.0. is not included it is presumed that you will now arrange for this to be done.

Kindly return the annexure with your reply.

*F.H. A.*

*G.H.E.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

20/386.

4th February, 1930.

The Local Accountant,  
South African Railways & Harbours,  
C a p e T o w n.

With reference to your Minute No. B.2. of the 30th ultimo, intimating that a payment of £162.13.11d. will settle the account for November and December in connexion with the supply of coal to the s.s. "Discovery", it would appear that you have arrived at this amount by deducting the loading charges of £1.5.0. from the total of your amended account No. 2.11/12 for £163.18.11d, but ignoring the credit note No. 2.3/12 for £78.18.11d. issued on the 25th December last.

This credit includes the reversal of an item of 14/4d. by which your original account for £163.4.7d. was increased to £163.18.11d, while you were requested in Treasury Minute of the 15th ultimo, to furnish details of the balance of £78.4.7d. In the absence of any information to the contrary it is assumed that the latter item is a reversal of an over-charge in your original account so that the balance due to your Administration would be £83.15.0d.

A copy of the credit note is attached for your information and I shall be glad if you will confirm the amount of £83.15.0d. as payable by the Treasury when the necessary adjustment will be made.

*E. J. D.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

7.  
H/30  
[Signature]



# SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS & HARBOURS.—SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE EN HAWENS.

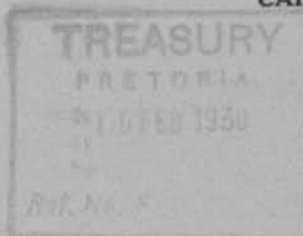
All Communications to be  
addressed to  
LOCAL ACCOUNTANT,  
P.O. Box 34.

In your reply quote  
Haal in u antwoord aan..... B. 2.....

LOCAL ACCOUNTANT'S OFFICE,  
PLAASLIKE REKENMEESTER SE KANTOOR,

Alle mededeling moet aan die  
PLAASLIKE REKENMEESTER,  
Posbus 34, geadresseer word.

CAPETOWN—KAAPSTAD,



8th. February, 1930

The Secretary for Finance,  
Treasury,  
Preterria.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter F. 20/386 of the 4th instant; I have to point out that the Steres Superintendent, Salt River debited you in November with an amount of £78.18.11, per his Debit Note Z. 75/11. The charges were found to be wrong, and Credit Note Z. 3/12 was issued reversing the entire amount.

As the amount of £78.18.11 was not paid by you both Debit Note Z. 75/11 and Credit Note Z. 3/12 may be eliminated from the subject under discussion: the one being regarded as clearing the other and leaving you without any debit for the coal supplied.

The correct charges were raised per Debit Note No. Z. 11/12, except that the Steres Superintendent agrees that the £1. 5. 0 mentioned in your letter of the 15th ultime is an over-charge, and is passing a Credit Note for that amount.

I shall be glad therefore to receive your cheque for £162.13.11.

Credit Note Z. 3/12 is returned herewith.

Yours faithfully,  
for G.H.E. Dickinsen,  
Local Accountant.

A copy of the credit note is attached for your information and I shall be glad if you will confirm the amount of £83.15.0d. as payable by the Treasury when the necessary adjustment will be made.

SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

AFRICAN RAILWAYS & HARBOURS.—SUID-AFRIKAANSE SPOORWEE EN HAWENS

20/336.

LOCAL ACCOUNTANT'S OFFICE,  
PLAASSE WYDREKINGSKAMER VAN KAPSTAD.

CAPE TOWN—KAAPSTAD.

12th February, 1930.

The Secretary for Finance,  
Treasury,  
Pretoria.

The Local Accountant,  
South African Railways and Harbours,

Dear Sir,

With reference to P.O. Box 34, Cape Town, I beg to point out that the Debit Note No. 2.75/11, dated 1st March 1911, for the amount of £278.18.11, was not rendered to the Treasury which explains the difficulty in arriving at the amount stated to be due to your Administration.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Minute No. B.2. of the 31st instant, the contents of which have been noted. The Debit Note No. 2.75/11 for £278.18.11 was not rendered to the Treasury which explains the difficulty in arriving at the amount stated to be due to your Administration.

It is observed that you are now requesting payment of an amount of £14/4 being 2 1/2% stores charges on £47.12.10 but, in view of the arrangements made whereby the Railway Administration would grant the "Discovery" all facilities while she was in South African waters, the Treasury feels that a purely departmental charge of this nature should not be raised and trusts that it will be withdrawn. In anticipation of the Administration's concurrence in connexion with this item a warrant voucher for £161. 19. 7 in settlement of your account is enclosed.

*File A*

*E.W.D.*  
SECRETARY FOR FINANCE.

720/386

DECODE OF CABLEGRAM.

FROM:  
The High Commissioner,  
London.

TO:  
The Minister of Finance,  
Pretoria.

Dispatched from London, 21st June, 1930, at 2.55 p.m.  
Received in Pretoria, 21st June, 1930, at 4.55 p.m.  
Received in Treasury, Pretoria, 23rd June, 1930.

No. 970. My letter 5th April, No. 5/6/10 Crown Agents  
request you to discontinue payment allotment of L. Jennings  
from 1st June.

SS: Discovery

Reginald