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No. 24 PUBLIC WORKS.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL WORKS.
Buildings.

To

THE MOST HONOURABLE THE MARQUESS OF CREWE, K.G.,

His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Dated Simla, the 8th May 1913.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

IN our despatch No. 27-P.W., dated the 19th September 1912, we addressed your Lordship on the subject of the preparation of designs for buildings to accommodate the offices of the Government of India in the new Imperial City at Delhi, and, with a view to the early selection of an architect or architects competent to be entrusted with the preparation of the final designs, we proposed to advertise simultaneously in England and in India, a competition in accordance with certain conditions. In reply your Lordship informed us in your telegram dated 4th February 1913 that as it was intended to use the assistance of Messrs. Baker and Lutyens, Architects, in selecting and supervising the designs, the proposals contained in our despatch would require to be re-considered and that you were doubtful whether the proposed conditions of competition would have secured a satisfactory field of competitors.

2. We have now the honour to report that competitive designs are not being called for, and in accordance with the proposal to use the assistance of Messrs. Baker and Lutyens, we forward for your Lordship's consideration a copy of a letter No. 3, dated the 4th April 1913, from the Secretary, Imperial Delhi Committee, submitting a draft memorandum embodying the results of the discussions that have passed between the Committee and these gentlemen in regard to their employment as principal architects and general architectural advisers in connection with the new capital.

3. The draft memorandum is intended to afford the basis of a formal agreement as between your Lordship and the architects, and in our opinion, appears to be sufficient to enable such an agreement to be drawn up. The only points which seem to be open to doubt are in regard to the remuneration to be paid to the architects in their capacity as general advisers to the Committee for the city as a whole; and the number of steamer passages to be paid by Government for the assistant-representatives. Regarding the first point, in paragraph 3 of their letter the Committee recommend that the function of general advisers shall be exercised by the architects during their annual visits to India, and that in consideration of their general advice they shall receive during such visits an enhanced daily fee of 10 guineas instead of 5, for each day

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of their stay in India. It is not possible to fix the actual period of residence in India on the occasion of their annual visits, and the draft memorandum makes no provision for any minimum period, but it will suffice if the agreement provides that the annual visits shall be for such duration as the Committee may agree to on each occasion ; subject to this we consider that the proposed terms are suitable. As regards the second point, in paragraph 8 of the draft memorandum it is proposed *inter alia* that one or more assistants who will act as representatives of the architects on the works, will be paid by Government first class steamship fares to and from India. It appears desirable to impose some limit on the number of steamer passages for the assistant-representatives in order to prevent frequent changes of these representatives, and it is considered that the liability of Government should be limited to a maximum of four fares to and from India on this account during the currency of the work.

4. The Committee are unable in the absence of the necessary plans and data to fix the approximate cost of the buildings to be entrusted to the architects, but we are advised that the total amount of fees to be paid is unlikely to amount to less than £60,000 and may amount to a good deal more, excluding travelling expenses, etc.

5. Subject to the above observations we agree generally with the views of the Imperial Delhi Committee and recommend that an agreement be drawn up by the India Office as soon as possible on the basis of the draft memorandum.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD MARQUESS,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

(Signed) HARDINGE OF PENSHURST.

O'M. CREAGH.

G. FLEETWOOD WILSON.

HARCOURT BUTLER.

SYED ALI IMAM.

W. H. CLARK.

B. H. CRADDOCK.

E. D. MACLAGAN.