

1934.

Kenya.

No. 23084 / 1

SUBJECT

C0533/445

Native Education.

Provincial School, Nyeri.

Previous

3154/33.

Subsequent

Report proposal for extension of Nyeri School instead of another of a joint school for the Kiambu & West Hill Districts. Has authorized necessary costs & requests approval

IA

I attach a note opposite.

The Gov's present proposals seem satisfactory in view of No. 19 on 17/10/31. The Gov said it gives favourable view to a much less desirable scheme.

? Subject to Mr. Fisher's opinion give covering approval.

The enclosure to the despatch is a report on the Nyeri School and perhaps should circulate to the ACEC just as No. 1. on 31/5/33 did. Enclosure of letter is in case? Leave to circulate to the CEE the despatch. Perhaps Mr. Fisher will say. See in the Cameroon his report of 19/2/32 on 7/10/31.

Davidson: 27/3

Mountain 28

I agree that the proposals seem satisfactory and could be approved but am strongly in favour of their being submitted to the Gov. Education for the fact.

Hamilton
9.4

Sir C Bottomley

This is an interesting development and of all it was to be a school at Kiambu for which the Native Council was prepared to put up the money. Then a joint school for Kiambu & Fort Hall was suggested. Both Councils agreed and was ready to provide the money. Finally it is suggested that the situation will be met by enlarging the existing school at Nyere and making it a tripartite concern. It is pointed out this will save money to all concerned. The cost to each Council will be £5000 down & £11000 in year, as against £10,000 down & £20000 a year each with three separate schools.

I am sure the Governor is right in giving his approval but I own to some doubt for the future. There may easily be a demand for separate schools and arguments that each is not getting its fair share. But that is for Kenya to settle.

I don't much care for the Nyere report. It looks as if things were a bit casual and I hope that the school will be inaugurated fairly after it has kept up to standard.

To the Education Committee

11.6.34

4.6.34

It will probably be desirable to let the Nyamboni, Fort Hall people and representatives to visit the school from time to time.

As the Governor authorizes the extension more than a month ago of the 1st Committee will come rather late, but

as proposed

W.B.M.

5.6.34

9 A.C.E.C. 12/34 Int African School Kenya

3. Extract from minutes of 1st meeting
? Await a further report

Officer in Charge
13/34

4 Minutes regarding report of Sub Com to which A.C.E.C. 12/34 was referred

5 Report of Sub Com (A.C.E.C. 10/34) 15 May

6 Extract from draft minutes of 52nd meeting A.C.E.C. held on 31 May 1934

approval
The Com. being the 1st of the arrangements made for the establishment of the Fort African School at Nyere, & in the same way, approve the arrangements made with regard to the new school in the South Kavirondo District (Kipsi) See Sub Com 2.

Enclose for information, copies of 5-6-34

C. J. Ross
14/6/34

Pl. copy through the Registrar
A. B. Smith
14/6/34

To Kenya, 478 (2/100 5+6) 29 JUN 1934
1 forward

W.B.M.

4
No 6
G. O.

Mr. Greenwith

Mr. Maylor

Mr. Freeston

Mr. Parkinson

Sir G. Tomlinson

Sir C. Bottomley

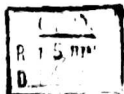
Sir J. Shuckburgh

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

23004/1/34



DRAFT.

KENYA

NO. 478

GOY.

A.C.C. 15/4
(No. 5)
draft minutes
(No. 6.)

(No. 1)

D. 11/11/34

19 June, 1934.

Sir,

I have, etc. to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 106 of the 2nd March in which you reported the arrangements which have been made for the expansion of existing school at Kagumo, into a provincial school, to accommodate pupils from the Kiambu and Fort Hall districts. I have also received your despatch No. 122 of the 8th March regarding the arrangements for the establishment of a Government African school in the South Kavironda district.

(No. 1
Sub File 2)

FURTHER ACTION.

2. Both despatches were laid before my Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies, and ~~to~~ the arrangements described ~~therein~~ ^{therein} were examined by a special Sub-Committee. I enclose for your information a copy of the report of the Sub-Committee, together with an extract from the draft minutes of the 52nd meeting of the Advisory Committee.

3. I agree with the conclusions reached by the Advisory Committee in this matter and I ~~therefore~~ approve the arrangements which have been made for the establishment of the two schools.

I have, Etc.,

(Sgd.) P. CUNLIFFE LISTER

Room 297

Will you please enter
these minutes on file and
circulate to Department?

J.B. Williams.

8.6.34.

Cop. attached to 23064/2/34

6

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN THE COLONIES.

Extract from Draft Minutes of 52nd Meeting
held on Thursday May 31st, 1934
at 11.a.m.

3

Government African Schools in Kenya.

A note had been circulated regarding the papers relating to the development of Government African Schools in Kenya, which had been referred for consideration to the Local Education Authorities Sub-Committee (A.C.E.C.15/34).

Dr. Oldham said that he and Mr. Mayhew had carefully examined the Kenya proposals and were satisfied that they were in accordance with the Secretary of State's instructions. They had ascertained that the other members of the sub-committee were in agreement with this view.

Mr. Mayhew said that it was clear that the local Missions had been taken into consultation with regard to the probable effects of the proposals on Mission Schools and that the proposals were consistent with the Committee's recommendations relating to educational functions of local bodies.

The Chairman proposed that the note recording the views of the sub-committee (A.C.E.C.15/34) should be sent forward with the Committee's approval to the Secretary of State.

The Committee agreed to this proposal.

4
copy to Kenya G

Advisory Committee on Education in the ColoniesGOVERNMENT AFRICAN SCHOOLS IN KENYA

At the ^{14th} meeting of the Advisory Committee in April, 1934 despatches from the ^{Government of} Kenya Government relating to the development of Government African schools in ^{Kenya} that Colony (A.C.F.C. 12/34) were referred for consideration to the Local Education Authorities Sub-Committee (see 8 of 5th minute.)

Dr. J. H. Kempster

That Sub-Committee has examined the despatches in the light of the Secretary of State's instructions relating to African educational policy in Kenya and in the light of advice tendered by the Advisory Committee on which the Secretary of State's instructions were based. They have come to the conclusion that the arrangements recorded in the despatches now under reference have been carefully framed in accordance with advice and instructions received by the Kenya Government and that they are consistent with the general conclusions regarding the functions of local education authorities in Africa enunciated in the memorandum recently prepared by the Sub-Committee and adopted by the Advisory Committee. They recommend accordingly that the despatches be regarded with approval by the Advisory Committee.

It was not found necessary to convene a meeting of the Sub-Committee as the members were able, by correspondence, to arrive unanimously at the opinion recorded above.

The Local Education Authorities Sub-Committee

is constituted as follows :-

Dr. Oldham (Chairman)
Miss Burstall
Mr Mann
Mr. Mayhew
Mr. Somerville
Mr. ^{Bigg} (Colonial Office Representative)

J. B. Williams
Official Secretary

Colonial Office
23rd May 1934

4
Mr. Bigg.

If you, as Colonial Office representative of the L.E.A. Sub-Committee, agree to this report which has been accepted by the non-official members of the Sub-Committee will you kindly send on to Mr. J. B. Williams who will have it reworded in time for presentation at the next meeting of the Advisory Committee on May 31. I have attached to the official file correspondence with Dr. Oldham, Chairman of the Committee and the other members which will explain and justify the report which has been drafted.

Arthur Hughes

15/5/34.

Mr. Bigg

It appears from the minutes on 1006733

that you are the C.O. representative on this issue

top copy
16/5/34

for J. B. Williams

I agree.

Carajp

21/5

38

*by attached
23/11/54*

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN THE COLONIES.

Extract from Minutes of 51st Meeting held on 26th April

2. Government African Schools in Kenya.

Despatches had been circulated from the Governor of Kenya reporting the circumstances in which he had approved the establishment of two new Government African Schools (A.S.A.S. 12/34).

The Chairman said that the papers might raise a number of points of detail which would require closer examination than the full Committee would be able to give them at the meeting. He accordingly suggested that they should be referred to a sub-committee for further examination.

The Committee agreed that the papers should be referred to the sub-committee which had considered the question of Local Education Authorities in Africa, consisting of:-

Dr. Oldham (Chairman)
Dr. Burstall
Mr. Mann
Mr. Mayhew
Mr. Somerville
A Colonial Office representative.

Copy also attached 46 23084/2/34

A.C.E.C. 12/34.

Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies.

With reference to A.C.E.C. 25/31 and 18/33, I circulate two despatches from the Governor of Kenya regarding the establishment of Government African Schools at Nyeri and in the South Kavirondo District. A copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State to the Governor of Kenya, No. 181 of 4th March 1932, to which reference is made in the despatches from the Governor, is attached for convenience of reference.

The Secretary of State proposes to give his covering approval for the establishment of the schools at Nyeri and in the South Kavirondo District.

J.B. Williams.

Official Secretary.

Colonial Office.

19th April, 1934.

Copy.

NR.
NO.100.

Government House,

Nairobi,

Kenya.

2nd March, 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No.181 of the 4th March, 1932, on the subject of a school for the Kiambu District.

2. In paragraph 9 of this despatch you laid down certain conditions on the fulfilment of which your consent to the establishment of the Kiambu School was dependent.

These conditions briefly were -

- (a) That the financial arrangements were regarded as exceptional and that no further Government African School would be established until similar assistance was given to the Kiambu School; and
- (b) That you wished to be satisfied that the economic condition and prospects of the natives concerned were such that a compulsory rate could be borne and maintained by them without hardship.

You also wished to be informed as to the probable effects of this school on Mission Schools.

3. In paragraph 4 of your despatch under reference you referred to Lord Passfield's despatch No. 120 of the 13th February, 1931, in which he asked for a report on the working of the Schools at Kamoga and Nyeri. A report on the

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

MAJOR SIR PHILIP QUALIFFE-LISTER, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

the former school was given in my despatch No.199 of the 30th March, 1933, and with regard to the Nyeri School, I attach a report which has been furnished by the Director of Education. As, however, the latter school was only instituted early in 1933 it would have been premature to submit a report until a reasonable period had elapsed.

4. You will recall that the Kiambu Local Native Council were prepared to pay £8,250 or, if necessary, a little more, to build the school, and £3,880 or, if necessary, a little more, each year to maintain it. The sum of £7,500 was available and it was proposed, if necessary, to raise further money by the levy of a rate.

5. During August of last year it was suggested by the Director of Education that the Local Native Councils of Kiambu and Fort Hall should pool their resources and erect a joint school for the two districts in the vicinity of the Fort Hall and Kiambu boundaries; that each Local Native Council should provide £5,000 towards the capital expenditure on the construction and an annual contribution of £1,000. As both Councils had ample resources for this, there would have been no need for the imposition of a special compulsory rate. The proposal was approved by both Local Native Councils concerned.

At a later date a further proposal was made that, instead of erecting a joint school for the Kiambu and Fort Hall Districts, the two Councils should combine with the South Nyeri Local Native Council for the expansion of the existing school at Kagumo, Nyeri, into a provincial school to serve all three districts. This involves the provision of accommodation for an additional 180 boys, making a total
for

12

for the combined school of 360. All questions with regard to the necessary additions to the site have now been settled and the three Local Native Councils have approved the proposal.

6. The capital expenditure on the Nyeri School has been in the neighbourhood of £9,000 and it is estimated that the additional capital expenditure to accommodate pupils from Kiambu and Fort Hall will be approximately £6,000 or a total capital expenditure for the combined provincial school of £15,000, which will include compensation paid to owners of the githakas on the site occupied by the school. The share of each Local Native Council for capital expenditure will thus be some £5,000, which will necessitate a refund to the South Nyeri Local Native Council of the amount of their over-contribution.

There are other minor adjustments of expenditure in connection with equipment which will require to be made, but these are matters of detail which will be disposed of by the Director of Education and the Provincial Commissioner.

The share of the recurrent expenditure payable by the Local Native Councils for the new combined school is estimated at £4,000 or some £1,330 from each of the three Local Native Councils. This will provide for boarding costs and the expenditure by Government, which will be approximately the same, will be devoted to the payment of staff. It is, however, possible that there will be a reduction in the figure quoted. It will therefore be observed that the extension of the Nyeri School for the three districts will mean a substantial saving in both capital and recurrent expenditure to the three Local Native Councils as if three separate schools had been built the expenditure for each Local Native Council would have been £10,000 capital and £2,000 recurrent expenditure.

B

I am aware that Lord Passfield, as stated in paragraph 4 of your despatch No. 181 of the 4th March, 1932, felt some compunction in allowing Local Native Councils to find the whole of the money required for the erection of these schools which, to avoid any misunderstanding in regard to their supervision and control, it was proposed to designate Government, and not Local Native Council, schools.

In 1931 the financial situation made it impossible for Government to contribute towards the cost of these schools; and though such improvement in the position as has since occurred has justified no departure from the policy of strict economy, the demand for schools in the Kiambu and Fort Hall districts has continued to increase in intensity.

For this reason I have considered it right to sanction a proposal which satisfies the aspirations of the Fort Hall and Kiambu natives at a cost, both capital and recurrent, considerably less than was previously estimated. On the other hand the principle, mentioned in paragraph 3 of your despatch, that Government should bear the cost of staff, inspections, and consumable stores has been observed in the provision by Government of a part of the recurrent expenditure, to be spent on these services, approximately equivalent to that which will be contributed by the Local Native Councils concerned.

7. Reverting to the conditions referred to in paragraph 2, I am addressing another despatch to you on the subject of the establishment of a Government African School at Kisii as the combined school at Kisii will fulfil the condition laid down by you with regard to Government assistance for the Kiambu schools, which will now be included in the combined school.

8. With regard to the conditions that you wished to be satisfied that the economic condition and prospects of the natives

4

natives were such that they could bear their share of the cost of the erection and maintenance of a school without hardship, I am glad to be able to assure you that the conditions prevailing in 1932 and 1933, due to locusts and drought, have very considerably changed and I am satisfied that the three districts concerned can bear, without hardship, their share of the necessary expenditure on the combined school.

In regard to paragraph 8 of your despatch, I have explained above that only a portion of the recurrent expenditure on the School will be met from Local Native Council funds. Moreover, in view of the reduction of the capital and recurrent cost to the Kiambu Local Native Council, the need for the imposition of a compulsory levy has been removed.

The question as to whether fees should be charged is still under consideration. At a recent meeting the Advisory Council on African Education was of opinion that, owing to the communal nature of Government African Schools, fees should not be charged. In view of this opinion and the general opposition to fees on the part of Local Native Councils I am inclined to think that it is undesirable to impose them, but I wish to reserve my opinion on this. In any case the question is now of much less importance in view of the reduced expenditure by the three Local Native Councils.

9. As regards the effect of the School on Mission Schools, the general effect will be that owing to the decreased expenditure both to Government and the Local Native Councils, more funds may be available from both sources for assistance to Mission Schools. I am also informed by the Director of Education that the proposal to substitute one combined provincial school at Nyeri for three district schools has met with the approval of the Missions.

10. It will be observed that, as stated in paragraph 8 above, I am satisfied the economic condition of the natives is now such as to justify expenditure being incurred on the building.

Only a portion of the recurrent expenditure will now be met from Local Native Council funds, and the reduction of both the capital and recurrent cost has rendered the imposition of a compulsory levy in the Kiama District no longer necessary.

Moreover, the proposal to establish a joint school has the support of the Missions concerned.

As, therefore, the present scheme fulfils the conditions laid down in paragraph 9 of your despatch of the 4th March, 1932, I have authorised the necessary extension to the Nyeri School and I trust this arrangement will meet with your approval.

I have, etc ,

(Sgd.) J. BYRNE.

Brigadier-General,

G O V E R N O R.

COPY.

GOVERNMENT AFRICAN (KIKUYU) SCHOOL, N.Y. T.I.

Visit of Supervisor of Technical
Education,
on August 8th, 9th and 11th, 1933.

1. I visited the school on the 8th and 9th with the Inspector of Schools, New York (Mr. Donovan) and the Principal (Mr. McMunn). This was my first visit since the school opened.
2. Buildings. These were in good order. The Inspector of School's house, and the two workshops had been finished since my last visit. One bath-house remains to be built: it is not needed while the school remains at 90 or 120. The Dining-hall has a dwarf wall on the side opposite the kitchen: it would have been better if the Native Industrial Training Depot pattern had been exactly followed.
3. I agreed that the Principal might fill in and glaze one side of the Carpenters' Shop: prevailing rain-winds make that side untenable at times. He will find money from Local Native Council; and use school labour; or he may send drawings to the Native Industrial Training Depot for the joinery work.
4. The big Assembly Hall is not being used, as there are not sufficient benches. The Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services (Mr. Parsons) made a note in the log-book, remarking that the hall is not sufficiently ventilated. I do not agree with this opinion: the hall is ventilated at the eaves, and the high side windows are free to open.
5. The Class-rooms are well lighted, and well ventilated. They easily take the standard-pattern dual desks

desks, seating thirty. One room is furnished with imported "Kingfisher" desks: these give even more room, but are too luxurious for African schools.

6.

7.

8. The standard Smith's Shop had not been built.

There seems little possibility that it will be needed; the Principal asked that a Tailor's shop should be built. I agreed that he might send in a proposal later, with plans; meanwhile one of the vacant class-rooms can be used the first year. He will also send in proposals for a store, in addition to the one next to his office.

9. The food-stores attached to the kitchen were not being used for the purpose provided. They should be used: if unsatisfactory, they can be altered later.

10. Staff. The Principal reported that the African Staff was satisfactory. Without going into details in any class-room, I found that Time-tables were not exhibited on the walls; and that the notes kept by Teachers were unsatisfactory - Wallace Kabega, for instance, ex-Church of Scotland Mission, Kikuyu and ex-Alliance High School, had started the year with fairly good daily notes; but had fallen into slack habits. He had, apparently, at his best, only kept daily notes: no periodical summaries of work done related to the syllabus. The Registers of Attendance were properly kept, on loose-leaf forms.

11.

12. Pupils. There are 94 boys: 15 have been apprenticed as Carpenters, and 15 as Masons. The Principal informed me that the other 60 all hope to become Teachers: the proportion is altogether too high, especially as all are at about the same stage of education. We cannot possibly encourage so many boys to look upon Teaching as a career; and those who fail will have no vocation, except that of Clerk.

13. Medical. A head Porter is doing the work of Dresser, with a small dispensary. The Medical Department have inspected the school, but only with a critical outlook in respect to sanitation, etc; it is urgently necessary that there should be regular medical assistance in respect to the health of the pupils. I mentioned this ~~matter~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~District~~ ~~Commissioner,~~ ~~Nyeri,~~ asking that at least the Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Nyeri should be directed by the Medical Officer, Fort Hall to make regular visits during term-time at weekly, fortnightly, or other intervals. The District Commissioner undertook to write to the Medical Officer.

14. The diet of the boys had been criticised as not containing enough fat. The boys looked well fed; but, so far as I could judge, the criticism seemed correct. I advised the Principal to follow Tumutumu practice, and include beef-dripping or other fat in the maize-porridge daily ration.

15. Technical Training. As noted above, 30 boys have been apprenticed to trades. A quarry of soft stone has been found near the school: this is advantageous, as the basalt used, for concrete in building the school is too hard for Masons' work. The work being done was of instructional value.

16. Trials had been made of local clay for brick-making; these were not successful.

17. In the Carpenters' Shop there were ~~not~~ benches sides available for the 15 apprentices; the benches used by the Native Industrial Training Dept gauge are still the only ones

19

once in use. The main work in hand was making bedsteads, etc., for the Native Teachers' houses: the Principal, assured me that any such furniture made in the school would remain the property of the school, and not be removed by any Teacher. That being so, there is no objection, as the work is of instructional value. Care must be taken, however, to ensure that 'basic training' is fully carried out.

18. The school 'shambas' are disappointing: this has been entirely the result of the drought, as much cultivation has obviously been done by the boys.

In this connection, I had a long talk with Mr. Lecky, Agricultural Officer at Eyeri: he has investigated the Reserve, area by area, and finds that the Kikuyu must radically change their agricultural methods. The population densities are becoming too great for the soil, impoverished as it is becoming by methods suitable only to pre-British conditions.

He advocates mixed farming as the best remedy - cattle to be kept on the farm and fed by cultivated fodder crops - and suggests strongly that we give up the small school plots, and turn our whole agricultural area into a mixed farm. If a class of 25 - 30 pupils could be set apart for this work, he would look after it at the school; only so many hours per week as are necessary for other technical work being given to the farm. After looking over his calculations I am impressed with the necessity of this change. The extra expense would be the purchase of implements and a few calves.

19. Michelle. The Principal has had an application from the Scott Laboratories to accept a boy for general education who has been through their Agricultural course. I said that his age should be ascertained, and a

decision

decision made on that: it was reversing the correct order of the boy's education.

20.

I gathered that the Native Technical Teachers are anxious about their promotion when they reach Shs.100/- per month. The Principal asked if some special course at the Native Industrial Training Depot, followed by a test could be arranged for Instructors, to select those fit to go beyond Shs.100/-. At the moment I have no recommendation to make on this suggestion.

21.

The area of land allotted to the School is now 54 acres.

(sgd.) H.O.Weller.

SUPERVISOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

22nd August, 1933.

Copy.

K. H. Y. A.

No. 122.

Government House,

Nairobi,

Kenya.

8th March, 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 9(a) of your despatch No. 181 of the 4th March, 1932, on the subject of a proposal to establish a Government African School at Kiambu.

2. You will be aware from the Governor's despatch No. 106 of the 2nd March that the proposed school at Kiambu will now be merged in the existing school at Nyeri, and that a contribution from Government funds will be made to the recurrent costs of the joint school.

3. As, therefore, the condition laid down in your despatch that no further Government African School should be established with Government assistance unless similar assistance has first been given to the Kiambu School has been satisfied, approval has now been given to the establishment of a similar institution in the South Kavirondo District, Government assistance for which has been provided in the Estimates for the current year.

The capital cost of the building to be shared by the two Local Native Councils concerned will be £6,000, and a recurrent cost of £150 will be met from Local Native Council funds, Government being responsible for the salaries of the European and African teaching staff.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

MAJOR SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

4.

4. In the Governor's despatch referred to above reference is made to the improved economic conditions in the Akuyu Reserves. A corresponding improvement has taken place in the South Kavirondo District and I am similarly satisfied that the natives can bear, without hardship, their share of the expenditure involved.

5. As regards the effect of the school on Mission enterprise, see paragraph 3(c) of your despatch of the 4th March, 1932. I am informed that its establishment will be the support of the Missions concerned, and of the Catholic Mission especially as its proximity to the seed bullock plot of the Agricultural Department will conduce to an agricultural bias which will render mission co-operation the more easy.

The general effect will thus be to assist in the development of mission education in its own sphere.

6. I trust this arrangement will meet with your approval.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) H. M. M. MOORE.

Governor's Deputy.

Copy.

A. N. Y. A.

Downing Street,

No. 181.

4th March 1931.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 656 of the 18th November 1931 in which you referred to me for my consideration a resolution passed by the Kyambu Local Native Council in favour of the establishment of a Central School for Kyambu.

2. The proposal is one which presents difficulties in relation to the general policy of Government both towards acceptance of contributions from local authorities to educational institutions and towards mission education, and it may be useful if I begin by setting out briefly the policy approved by my predecessor.

3. In paragraph 10 of his despatch No. 421 of the 13th July, 1929, Sir Jacob Barth discussed at some length the policy to be adopted in assessing the contributions to be made from Colonial and from Local Native Council funds. He recommended that Colonial funds should bear the cost of staff, inspections and consumable stores in the Elementary "B" and "C" schools and that the Local Native Council votes should provide the capital expenditure, permanent equipment and maintenance of the schools but not of mission hostels attached to the schools. In his despatch No. 722 of the 17th September, 1930, Lord Passfield accepted this basis of distribution "at any rate for the present" but expressed his
entire

GOVERNOR,

ESCADIER GENERAL

SIR JOSEPH A. BYRNE, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.,
etc., etc., etc.

entire agreement with the view that a greater proportion of the direct revenue collected by the Government from natives should be expended upon native education.

4. Sir Edward Grigg in his despatch No. 55 of the 30th August, 1930, stated that he had agreed to the establishment of a school at Kakamega and to the drawing up of plans for another school at Nyeri, the capital cost to be borne in each case by Local Native Council funds and the maintenance and recurrent charges to be shared equally by Government and the Local Native Council. Lord Passfield was interested to learn of these arrangements but he asked, in paragraph 2 of his despatch No. 120 of the 13th February, 1931, that the two schools should be regarded as experiments and that full opportunity should be allowed for investigation of their work and its results before any substantial enlargement of the field of experiment was contemplated. He asked for a special report on these two schools to be furnished in due course. You have subsequently suggested in your despatch No. 363 of the 10th July, 1931 that too much emphasis should not be laid on the experimental nature of these schools, as several other schools of a type practically identical were previously in existence: and I may say here that I should not regard it as reasonable to rule out the present proposal on that ground. In his despatch of the 13th February, 1931 Lord Passfield, following the advice of the Advisory Committee, also emphasised strongly the importance of the control of such schools resting entirely and unequivocally with the Government through the Education Department; and to avoid misunderstanding, he asked that they should be designated Government African Schools and not Local Native Council Schools. For this reason he felt that the principle of allowing Local Native Councils

Councils to find the whole of the money required for the erection of such schools was open to serious question. He recognised that regard must be had to the financial situation and that undesirable delay must be avoided and he therefore agreed to the proposal in the case of the Kakamega and Nyeri Schools, but he said that he did not wish it to be thought that he could accept in future the principle followed on this occasion.

5. As regards relations with Missions, the policy was fully set out in Lord Passfield's despatch No. 851 of the 29th October, 1930, paragraph 4 of which referred to the possible need for developing Government schools side by side with mission schools as having been definitely taken into account and admitted.

6. From this recapitulation of general policy I turn to consideration of the particular proposal now made.

7. The Kyambu Local Native Council are prepared to pay £8,250, or if necessary a little more, to build the school, and £3,880, or if necessary a little more, each year in order to maintain it. The sum of £7,500 is already available and it is proposed to raise the further money necessary by a compulsory rate, which, unless fees are charged, is likely to be in the neighbourhood of Shs. 3/- a year. The Council would welcome a Government contribution but they are quite prepared to bear the whole cost. They agree to the building, establishment and conduct of the school being in the hands of the Director of Education.

8. Apart from the question of enlarging the field of experiment on which I have already expressed my opinion in paragraph 4 above, the proposals now submitted require consideration from three points of view in particular:-

(a)

(a) At the present moment the Government is not in a position to contemplate any contribution from Native Funds. Therefore while it is the intention that the school should be entirely controlled by Government through the Education Department, and should be designated a Government African School it is proposed that not only the salary of the teacher but also the whole cost of maintenance for an indefinite period should be borne by Native Local Council funds. This arrangement goes far beyond that to which Lord Passfield agreed, not without hesitation, in the case of the Kakamega and Nyeri schools and it seems undesirable to deviate even temporarily from the accepted principles regarding the incidence of cost except for very special reasons.

(b) The imposition of a compulsory rate of, say 3/- a head in addition to the normal general purposes rate of 2/- per head and the Hut and Poll tax of 12/- per year represented as unduly burdensome on the natives. Although I note from paragraph 10 of your despatch that the District Commissioner is satisfied that it is well within the capacity of the people to pay such a rate.

(c) Although as pointed out in paragraph 5 above the development of Government schools side by side with mission schools is contemplated, I note that one of the guiding principles suggested in paragraph 3 of your despatch of the 22nd October, 1931 (to which I am not yet in a position to reply) is that "no violent action should be taken which would involve mission schools now in receipt of grants in difficulties, owing to their sudden withdrawal or reduction, except on the ground of inefficiency." While the demand for this new school is in no sense due to the initiative of the Government, the effect of its establishment on the mission schools is an important aspect of the matter on which I should desire to be fully informed.

9. Although it is necessary to give due weight to the foregoing considerations, I do not feel that it is possible to resist the reiterated demand, properly expressed by resolution of the Local Native Council, for the establishment of this school. Although it may be necessary in the first instance for the whole of the cost, including the cost of maintenance, to be borne by native funds; but I concur in the recommendation of the Sub-Committee of the Executive Council that no money should be spent on the building and no part of the proposed rate be levied until the Government is satisfied that there is no longer any apparent menace from locusts, and that there is no apparent reason to fear any local shortage of food. When your Government is so satisfied, and you feel justified in recommending the proposal for final approval, I shall be prepared to give favourable consideration to such a recommendation, provided

(a) that the financial arrangements now proposed are regarded as exceptional, and that an assurance is given that no further Government African School will be established with Government assistance unless similar assistance is given, or has already been given, to the Kyambu school, and

(b) that I can be satisfied that the economic condition and prospects of the natives concerned are such that a compulsory rate can be borne and maintained by them without hardship. For this purpose, I should wish to be more definitely informed as to the prospect of revenue from fees and as to the amount of the compulsory rate which would actually be necessary.

I have already, in paragraph 8(c) above, expressed a desire for full information as to the probable effects

effects of the new school on mission schools.

10. It may be that you will be able to communicate with me on some of the matters which I have raised in advance of the time when you can make a final recommendation and in that case I shall be glad if you will do so.

I have,

(Signed) P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

No. 1 on 16395/30

In August, 1930, the Governor stated that he had agreed to the establishment of a school at Kakamega on the understanding that it was to be erected from funds provided by the Local Native Council and that the maintenance and recurrent charges were shared equally by Government with the Local Native Council. He further stated that in deference to insistent representation by the Chief Native Commissioner he had authorised the preparation of a scheme to provide for a Government African school at Nyeri to be erected at a cost of approximately £10,000 from Local Native Council's funds and to be maintained equally by the Government and the Local Native Council.

No. 9 on 16305/30

In Reply the Secretary of State noted this with interest, but said he wished the schools to be regarded as experimental and asked for a special report on this in due course. In order to make it perfectly clear that Government was responsible for the two schools and that their control was not to be handed over to the Local Native Councils (for which he felt strongly the time had not yet come) he suggested that they should be called Government African Schools rather than Native Council Schools. He continued that the principle of allowing the Local Native Councils to find the whole of the money required for the erection of such schools was open to serious question, for he recognised that regard must be had to the financial position of the Colony. Though he did not object to the whole of the capital cost of the two schools being met from Local Native Council funds, he did

No. 15 on 17110/A/31

not wish it to be thought that he could accept in future the principle followed on this occasion.

The Governor stated on the 22nd of March, 1931, that it was for the present impossible to make more funds available from ~~central~~ funds for the development of African education. Later in the year he reported that the Kyambu Local Native Council were prepared to pay £8,250 or, if necessary, a little more to build the school, and £3,880 each year to maintain it. The sum of £7,500 was already available and it was proposed to raise the further necessary money by a compulsory rate. Though the Council would welcome a Government contribution, they were quite prepared to bear the whole cost.

No. 14 on 17110/A/31

In the circumstances the Secretary of State ~~said he would be prepared to give financial assistance~~ agreed to this on condition that the financial arrangements were regarded as exceptional and that no further Government African School would be established until similar assistance was given to the Kyambu School; and on condition that the economic conditions of the natives were such that a compulsory rate could be borne without hardship, i.e. it was important that there should be no menace of a food shortage because of a locust invasion or for any other reason.

In the present despatch the Governor explains ~~that he has authorised an extension of the Nyeri School into a provincial school to serve the Kyambu and Fort Hall districts, as well as the Nyeri district, a scheme which satisfies the three Native Councils concerned.~~ that he has authorised an extension of the Nyeri School into a provincial school to serve the Kyambu and Fort Hall districts, as well as the Nyeri district, a scheme which satisfies the three Native Councils concerned.

Up to date £9,000 has been expended on the Nyeri School by the South Nyeri Native Councils; the extension will cost another £6,000. Total £15,000. Expenditure is to be divided between the three Native Councils, i.e. Kikuyu will pay £5,000, Fort Hall £5,000 and South Nyeri will be refunded £1,000. If three separate schools for each district had been built, it would have involved a capital expenditure of £10,000 by each Native Council, and thus the Governor's proposal saves each Council £5,000 capital expenditure.

With regard to recurrent expenditure, each Native Council will have to pay about £1,330 on boarding expenses. Government will contribute about the same amount towards the payment of staff, inspection and consumable stores. If three separate schools had been established, each Native Council would have been involved in about £2,000 recurrent expenditure, which means that the present scheme saves them about £670 each.

The following factors constitute further arguments in favour of the scheme now proposed:

(i) In view of the saving it will not be necessary for the Kikuyu Native Council to impose a compulsory rate;

(ii) The Governor specified that the three Native Councils could bear the expenditure without hardship and they are very anxious to do so;

(iii) The Colony's financial situation still does not permit of Government contributing to the capital cost;

(iv) The scheme has met with the approval of the Missions.

A report on the Nyeri School as at present constituted is annexed to the despatch.

It will be noted that the Governor inclines to the opinion that fees should not be charged, but he has not yet made up his mind on this point.

KENYA.

No. 106



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
NAIROBI.
KENYA

2nd March, 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 181 of the 4th March, 1932, on the subject of a school for the Kiambu District.

Answered (9)

2. In paragraph 9 of this despatch you laid down certain conditions on the fulfilment of which your consent to the establishment of the Kiambu School was dependent.

These conditions briefly were -

- (a) That the financial arrangements were regarded as exceptional and that no further Government African School would be established until similar assistance was given to the Kiambu School; and
- (b) That you wished to be satisfied that the economic condition and prospects of the natives concerned were such that a compulsory rate could be borne and maintained by them without hardship.

You also wished to be informed as to the probable effects of this school on Mission Schools.

3. In paragraph 4 of your despatch under reference you referred to Lord Passfield's despatch No. 120 of the 15th February, 1931, in which he asked for a report

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MAJOR SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W. 2

2.

report on the working of the Schools at Kakamega and Nyeri. A report on the former school was given in my despatch No.199 of the 30th March, 1933, and with regard to the Nyeri School, I attach a report which has been furnished by the Director of Education. As, however, the latter school was only instituted early in 1933 it would have been premature to submit a report until a reasonable period had elapsed.

4. You will recall that the Kiambu Local Native Council were prepared to pay £8,250 or, if necessary, a little more, to build the school, and £3,880 or, if necessary, a little more, each year to maintain it. The sum of £7,500 was available and it was proposed, if necessary, to raise further money by the levy of a rate.

5. During August of last year it was suggested by the Director of Education that the Local Native Councils of Kiambu and Fort Hall should pool their resources and erect a joint school for the two districts in the vicinity of the Fort Hall and Kiambu boundaries: that each Local Native Council should provide £5,000 towards the capital expenditure on the construction and an annual contribution of £2,000. As both Councils had ample resources for this, there would have been no need for the imposition of a special compulsory rate. The proposal was approved by both Local Native Councils concerned.

At a later date a further proposal was made that, instead of erecting a joint school for the

Kiambu

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Kiambu and Fort Hall Districts, the two Councils should combine with the South Nyeri Local Native Council for the expansion of the existing school at Kagumo, Nyeri, into a provincial school to serve all three districts. This involves the provision of accommodation for an additional 180 boys, making a total for the combined school of 360. All questions with regard to the necessary additions to the site have now been settled and the three Local Native Councils have approved the proposal.

6. The capital expenditure on the Nyeri School has been in the neighbourhood of £9,000 and it is estimated that the additional capital expenditure to accommodate pupils from Kiambu and Fort Hall will be approximately £6,000 or a total capital expenditure for the combined provincial school of £15,000, which will include compensation paid to owners of the githakas on the site occupied by the school. The share of each Local Native Council for capital expenditure will thus be some £5,000, which will necessitate a refund to the South Nyeri Local Native Council of the amount of their over-contribution.

There are other minor adjustments of expenditure in connection with equipment which will require to be made, but these are matters of detail which will be disposed of by the Director of Education and the Provincial Commissioner.

The share of the recurrent expenditure payable by the Local Native Councils for the new combined school is estimated at £4,000, or some £1,350

from

from each of the three Local Native Councils. This will provide for bounding costs and the expenditure of Government, which will be approximately the same, will be limited to the paper cost of a P.F. It is, however, possible that some will be required to be made in the future. It will therefore be necessary to have a statement of the Government's expenditure on the subject of educational work, and to have a statement of the expenditure of the three Local Native Councils as if three separate schools had been built the expenditure for each Local Native Council will have been P.F., capital and P.M. expenditure expenditure.

It is now stated that Local Native Councils are to be established in paragraphs 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. It is felt that the Local Native Councils to finance the whole of the expenditure for the erection of these schools, and that the Government's mismanagement in regard to the schools which are not under Government control, it was proposed to separate Government and not Local Native Council, schools.

In 1931 the financial position was such that it was impossible for Government to contribute towards the cost of these schools; and though the Government was in the position as has since occurred has caused the departure from the policy of strict economy, the demand for schools in the Kiambu and Fort Hall Districts has continued to increase in intensity.

For this reason I have considered it right to sanction a proposal which satisfies the aspirations of the Fort Hall and Kiambu natives at a

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cost, both capital and recurrent, considerably less than was previously estimated. On the other hand the principle, mentioned in paragraph 3 of your despatch, that Government should bear the cost of staff, inspections, and consumable stores is preserved in the provision by Government of a part of the recurrent expenditure, to be spent on these services, approximately equivalent to that which will be contributed by the Local Native Councils concerned.

7. Reverting to the conditions referred to in paragraph 2, I am addressing another despatch to you on the subject of the establishment of a Government African School at Kisii as the combined school at Nyeri - will fulfil the condition laid down by you with regard to Government assistance for the Kiambu School, which will now be included in the combined school.

8. With regard to the condition that you wished to be satisfied that the economic conditions and prospects of the natives were such that they could bear their share of the cost of the erection and maintenance of a school without hardship, I am glad to be able to assure you that the conditions prevailing in 1932 and 1933, due to locusts and drought, have been considerably changed and I am satisfied that the three districts concerned can bear, without hardship, their share of the necessary expenditure on the combined school.

In regard to paragraph 3 of your despatch, I have explained above that only a portion of ^{the} recurrent expenditure on the School will be met from

Local

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Local Native Council funds. Moreover, in view of the reduction of the capital and recurrent cost to the Kiambu Local Native Council, the need for the imposition of a compulsory levy has been removed.

The question as to whether fees should be charged is still under consideration. At a recent meeting the Advisory Council on African Education was of opinion that, owing to the communal nature of Government African Schools, fees should not be charged. In view of this opinion and the general opposition to fees on the part of Local Native Councils I am inclined to think that it is undesirable to impose them, but I wish to reserve my opinion on this. In any case the question is now of much less importance in view of the reduced expenditure by the three Local Native Councils.

9. As regards the effect of the School on Mission Schools, the general effect will be that owing to the decreased expenditure both to Government and the Local Native Councils, more funds may be available from both sources for assistance to Mission Schools. I am also informed by the Director of Education that the proposal to substitute one combined provincial school at Nyeri for three district schools has met with the approval of the Missionaries.

10. It will be observed that, as stated in paragraph 8 above, I am satisfied the economic condition of the natives is now such as to justify expenditure being incurred on the building.

Only a portion of the recurrent expenditure will now be met from Local Native Council funds.

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funds, and the reduction of both the capital and recurrent cost has rendered the imposition of a compulsory levy in the Kiambu district no longer necessary.

Moreover, the proposal to establish a joint school has the support of the Missions concerned.

As, therefore, the present scheme fulfils the conditions laid down in paragraph 9 of your despatch of the 4th March, 1932, I have authorised the necessary extension to the Nyeri School and I trust this arrangement will meet with your approval.

No 19
17.10.32/A

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

Brigadier-General,
GOVERNOR.

GOVERNMENT AFRICAN (KIRUVU) SCHOOL, NYERI.

Visit of Supervisor of Technical
Education,
on August 8th, 9th and 11th, 1953.

1. I visited the school on the 8th and 9th with the Inspector of Schools, Nyeri (Mr. Donevan) and the Principal (Mr. McEwan). This was my first visit since the school opened.
2. Buildings. These were in good order. The Inspector of Schools' house, and the two workshops had been finished since my last visit. One bath-house remains to be built; it is not needed while the school remains at 90 or 150. The Dining-hall has a dwarf wall on the side opposite the kitchen; it would have been better if the Native Industrial Training Depot pattern had been exactly followed.
3. I agreed that the Principal might fill in and glaze one side of the Carpenters' Shop; prevailing rain-winds make that side untenable at times. He will find money from Local Native Council; and use school labour; or he may send drawings to the Native Industrial Training Depot for the joinery work.
4. The big Assembly Hall is not being used, as there are not sufficient benches. The Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services (Dr. Paterson) had a note in the log-book, remarking that the hall is not sufficiently ventilated. I do not agree with this opinion; the hall is ventilated at the eaves, and the high side windows are free to open.
5. The Class-rooms are well lighted, and well ventilated. They easily take the standard-pattern dual desks, seating thirty. One room is furnished with imported "Kingfisher" desks; these give away more room, but are too luxurious for African schools.
6.
7.
8. The standard Smith's Shop had not been built. There seems little possibility that it will be needed; the Principal asked that a Tailor's Shop should be built. I agreed that he might send in a proposal later, with plans; meanwhile one of the vacant class-rooms can be used the first year. He will also send in proposals for a store, in addition to the one sent to his office.
9. The feed-stores attached to the kitchen were not being used for the purpose provided. They should be used; if unsatisfactory, they can be altered later.

10. **Staff.** The Principal reported that the African Staff was satisfactory. Without going into details in any class-room, I found that Time-Tables were not exhibited on the walls; and that the notes kept by Teachers were unsatisfactory - Wallace Kabaga, for instance, ex-Church of Scotland Mission, Kikuyu and ex-Alliance High School, had started the year with fairly good daily notes; but had fallen into slack habits. He had apparently, at his best, only kept daily notes; no periodical summaries of work done related to the syllabus. The Registers of Attendance were properly kept, on loose-leaf.

11.

12. **pupils.** There are 90 boys; 15 have been apprenticed as Carpenters, and 15 as Masons. The Principal informed me that the other 60 all hope to become Teachers; the proportion is altogether too high, especially as all are at about the same stage of education. We cannot possibly encourage so many boys to look upon Teaching as a career; and those who fail will have no vocation, except that of Clerk.

13. **Medical.** A head Porter is doing the work of Drusser, with a small dispensary. The Medical Department have inspected the school, but only with a critical outlook in respect to sanitation, etc; it is urgently necessary that there should be regular medical assistance in respect to the health of the pupils. I mentioned this matter afterwards to the District Commissioner, Nyeri, asking that at least the Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Nyeri should be directed by the Medical Officer, Post Hill to make regular visits during term-time at weekly, fortnightly, or other intervals. The District Commissioner undertook to write to the Medical Officer.

14. The diet of the boys had been criticized as not containing enough fat. The boys looked well fed; but, so far as I could judge, the criticism seemed correct. I advised the Principal to follow Kikuyu practice, and include beef-tipping or other fat in the maize-porridge daily ration.

15. **Technical Training.** As noted above, 50 boys have been apprenticed to various trades. A quarry of soft stone has been found near the school; this is advantageous, as the basalt used, for concrete in building the school is too hard for Masons' work. The work being done was of instructional value.

16. Trials had been made of local clay for brick-burning; these were not successful.

17. In the Carpenters' Shop there were eight bench-planes available for the 15 apprentices; the benches used by the Native Industrial Training Dept were still the only ones in use. The main work in hand was making bed-stands, etc., for the Native Teachers' houses; the Principal, assured me that any such furniture made in the school would remain the property of the school, and not be removed by any teacher. That being so, there is no objection, as the work is of instructional value. Care must be taken, however, to ensure that 'technical training' is fully

carried out.

- 18. The school 'shambas' are disappointing: this has been entirely the result of the drought, as much cultivation has obviously been done by the boys.

In this connection, I had a long talk with Mr. Lecky, Agricultural Officer at Nyeri; he has investigated the Reserve area by area, and finds that the Kikuyu must radically change their agricultural methods. The population densities are becoming too great for the soil, impoverished as it is becoming by methods suitable only to pre-British conditions.

He advocates mixed farming as the remedy - cattle to be kept on the farm and fed by cultivated fodder crops - and suggest strongly that we give up the small school plots, and turn out whole agricultural area into a mixed farm. If a class of 25 - 30 pupils could be set apart for this work, he would look after it at the school; only so many hours per week as are necessary for other technical work being given to the farm. After looking over his calculations I am impressed with the necessity of this change. The extra expense would be the purchase of implements and a few cattle.

- 19. Miscellaneous. The Principal has had an application from the Beett Laboratories to accept a boy for general education who has been through their Agricultural course. I said that his age should be ascertained, and a decision made on that basis regarding the correct order of the boy's education.

- 20. I gathered that the Native Technical Teachers are anxious about their promotion when they reach Shs.100/- per month. The Principal asked if some special course at the Native Industrial Training Depot, followed by a test could be arranged for Instructors, to select those fit to go beyond Shs.100/-. At the moment I have no recommendation to make on this suggestion.

- 21. The area of land allotted to the school is now 54 acres.

(signed) J. O. Keller.

SUPERVISOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

22nd August, 1922.