

APPENDIX 2.

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE.

No. 2.

NYERI DISTRICT (Area 2.)

Myeri District (Part 2)

Witnesses: Messrs. Maxwell, Twigg & Scanes.

1. Soil, Type & Fertility.

The area comprises the European settled areas between the Chania and the Muiga rivers in the Myeri District. This area of some 10,000 acres in extent of which 2,000 acres are not alienated consists of the best coffee soil - a deep red and chocolate loam and is well watered.

2. Proportion cultivated.

16.5% exclusive of grazing.

This estimate is from known figures. An area of 1,000 acres in the possession of the Italian mission of which only 5% is cultivated reduces the district average of 31.4% to the above quoted.

The total area under occupation including grazing may be taken as 14,000 acres.

3. Proportion cultivable.

75% of 10,000 acres.

5% however is considered the limit of development providing for general needs.

4. Proportion likely to be cultivated by present owners on advent of railway.

50%. The whole question hinges entirely on labour and labour only.

3 years after completion of railway 60% development would be reached.

The average sizes of holdings in the district can be gauged by the following:-

one of 3,000 acres.

one 1,000 "

Four 500 "

Three 300 "

one 200 "

one 150 "

Total 7,800 acres.

4. Present rate of salina of new crops on
railway.

All - unless subdivision of land taxes
place as all available land is occupied.

5. Kind of crops grown.

Coffee, Flax, Sugar, Citrus, Grap, Maize
and native crops.

7. Coffee, Flax, Sugar.

It can be considered as having
passed the first stage.

Percentage of 50% development under
crops may be used as follows:-

Coffee 20%

Other crops 20%

8. Yields of crops per acre.

Coffee 10 cwt. per annum.

Flax 4 cwt. fibre per annum.

Sugar 10 tons per annum.

9. The district is suitable for cattle and
sheep, but not so for pigs.

The purchase of food stuffs for pigs should
prove economical.

In from 11 to 15 holdings, 6 holdings would
probably rear pigs each producing some 50 - 100 pigs
per annum.

10. Traffic in Stock for Breeding and Slaughter
Purposes and in Dairy Produce.

With no existing Bacon Factory, pig rearing
has only received attention on a small scale. With
the advent of the railway the area should produce at
least 500 pigs per annum.

11. Estimation of Traffic, etc.

The following figures represent present

Export Traffic:	Coffee	400 Tons.	
	Gums.	30 Tons.	
	Beans.	20 Tons (if possible for export).	
	Sugar.	40 Tons.	
Import Traffic:	Merchandise	250 Tons.	
	Rawstuffs, etc.	500 Tons.	

on an estimate of 14 boys per acre, 5,000 boys would be required for agricultural purposes.

12. Factors affecting production.

The climate is perfect, the soil and fertility.

Capital is not wanted with the railway, and no fear exists for want of equipment for lack of capital.

Labour is abundant, but expensive, if it is

available. The district is nearly

self-sufficient, there is certainly

no shortage of labour than any other

district in the country, in spite of this, at certain

times it is necessary to get any labour at all.

The development of the district is

dependent on this factor.

Should the Government announce a definite policy with regard to labour which will bring it out into the labour fields, further development will follow immediately.

The forecast contained in this evidence is based on labour being available at a reasonable wage.