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KENYA

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Regd 28 June 22.

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TRADE

DATE.
29TH JUNE 1922

ION :—

SUBJECT

FLAX GROWING

Encloses copies of Report of Empire Flax Growin Committee on 13th June containing discussion on possibilities in Kenya. Quotes Resolution passed re continuance of Govt scheme of grading. Draws attention to necessity of giving some assistance to growers during next 4 or 5 years.

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MINUTES

Including the Colonial City, we have four cabinets of the Proceedings

Send copy of the covering letter & annexure & three copies of the Proceedings to the Gov. for consideration & by today's mail

Then ask. rest may that the views expressed have been communicated to the Gov.

the S. of S. is obliged to the Gov. for this valuable report of the discussion and that

Then acknowledge

Letter of 29 July 1923 No 116

subsequent Paper

See 11/36808

[illegible] PLAY BILLING COMMITTEE.

[illegible] Alexander [illegible] Director [illegible]

[illegible] Committee [illegible]

[illegible] Committee [illegible]

[illegible] Resolution [illegible] 2nd [illegible]

[illegible] for the consideration [illegible]

[illegible] to the Board of Commerce.

[illegible] of the Legislative Reading [illegible]

[illegible] conditions and wishes [illegible]

[illegible] Bayes, Esq. Pres. Railway [illegible]

[illegible] Government [illegible]

[illegible] the Department of Agriculture [illegible]

[illegible] would be mentioned. [illegible]

[illegible] meeting that the [illegible]

[illegible] a [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] the Dominion".

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Committee [illegible]

[illegible] the meeting [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] the Secretary of the Association and invite your [illegible]

[illegible] of March 29/22 bearing on the Resolution.

[illegible] have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Frank [illegible]

Chairman.

EMPIRE FLAX GROWING COMMITTEE.

Persons present at the Meeting on 13th June, 1922.

Sir Frank Warner, K.B.E. (in the chair),
Mr. W. Norman Boase, C.B.E. (Spinner),
Mr. J. A. Calder (Colonial Office),
Mr. R. Garrett Campbell, C.B.E. (Spinner),
Mr. J. R. Campbell (Dept. of Agric. & Tech. Inst. for Ireland),
Mr. W. L. Griffith (Canadian Government),
Mr. P. Guedalla,
Mr. [illegible] Crawford (Chairman of Linen Industry Research Assn.),
Mr. J. Vargas Eyre (Director of Linen Industry Research Assn.),
Mr. F. G. Faraker (Australian Government),
Mr. A. L. Rotherington (Dept. of Scientific & Industrial Research),
Capt. S. E. J. Brady (Secretary).

The following were also present by invitation.

Hon. Alex. Holm (Director of Agriculture, Kenya),
Colonel W. H. Franklin, C.B.E., D.S.O. (Trade Commissioner for East Africa),
Dr. Goulding (Imperial Institute),
Mr. Harcourt Kitchin (Editor Board of Trade Journal),
Mr. W. C. Scott (Dept. of Overseas Trade),
Mr. W. J. Dawson (President, Flax Growers' [illegible] Kenya),
Colonel C. A. Macdonald (Acting Director of [illegible] in Kenya),
Mr. E. Wigglesworth) of Messrs. Wigglesworth [illegible]
Mr. A. Wigglesworth)
Mr. F. J. Leitch of Messrs. D. D. Leitch & [illegible]
Mr. E. Wilson of Messrs. W. F. Malcolm & [illegible]

Flax Committee.

C.P.157.

C13

BOARD OF TRADE

Meeting of

EMPIRE FLAX GROWING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 13th June, 1922.

Note taken by Treasury Reporter.

Board of Trade,

Trade Commissioners' [illegible]

EGYPTIAN FLAX GROWING COMMITTEE.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Mr. [illegible], [illegible] in the Chair.

Dr. [illegible].

Mr. [illegible], M.P.
Prof. [illegible].

Mr. [illegible].

Mr. [illegible].

Mr. [illegible].

Mr. [illegible].

Dr. [illegible], M.P.

Dr. [illegible].

Mr. [illegible].
Mr. F. [illegible].
Capt. S. [illegible] Grady, M.B.E. (Secretary).
Mr. [illegible].

The following were also present by invitation:

Mr. [illegible]	Department Overseas Trade.
Dr. [illegible]	Imperial Institute.
Mr. [illegible]	President, Flax Growers' [illegible] Union.
Colonel [illegible]	[illegible] Commissioner - E.A.
The Honorable [illegible]	Director of Agriculture, Egypt.
Mr. [illegible]	Board of Trade Journal.
Mr. [illegible]	Messrs. N. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible] Mr. [illegible]	Wigglesworth & Co.
Mr. [illegible]	D.D. [illegible] & Co.
Colonel [illegible]	(Late Dir. of Agriculture in Egypt).

CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen,

It is a long time since we met to consider matters respecting the Empire supply of flax, but it will be within the recollection of the members of the Committee that we have had a good deal of evidence of the growing of flax in Kenya. In 1918 we had evidence from Mr. Albert Wigglesworth, Mr. Edwin Wigglesworth, Major Leggett now Sir Humphrey Leggett and later on from Mr. Hoey on the same subject. At the end of 1920 we had a very full report from Mr. Alexander Holm on the whole of the district of Kenya Colony and he has very kindly come here today with Colonel Franklin to give us further information on the prospects of flax growing in that part of the world. We need hardly say that we are very much indebted to them for coming to us. I do not suggest asking either of these gentlemen to make a long and formal statement, but I think if Mr. Holm will take up the points he raised in his report we shall be very glad to listen to him and if he will allow us to enter into some discussion as he goes along I hope everyone present will join in if they wish. I leave it entirely to Mr. Holm to take his points as he wishes.

MR. GARRETT CAMPBELL: Will the minutes of this meeting be dealt with and circulated?

SECRETARY: A shorthand note is being taken and a full transcript will be circulated.

MR. HOLM: Sir Frank Warner and Gentlemen,

Let me say that I am very glad indeed to have this opportunity of meeting the Empire Flax Growing Committee and other persons interested in flax from the Colony of Kenya. I think that very often those on this side, those at home, have few opportunities of realising and appreciating the difficulties which arise in the development of a new industry in a young Colony. The flax industry of Kenya has had considerable difficulties to contend with. Considerable success has already been achieved, but it cannot be said that the industry is already in its stride.

Now I should like, Mr. Chairman, to amplify the statement or report which I presented at the request of the Secretary of State some 18 months ago and which I think has been in the possession of members of this committee. I will endeavour not to repeat it, but during the past 18 months several new aspects have appeared in connection with the flax industry and flax growing in Kenya. Flax was first grown in Kenya at the Government Experimental Farm at Kabete in 1908. As a commercial proposition the first advance was made by Messrs. Wigglesworth & Co., and their first flax mill was erected, I think, about 1911. In 1918, which we may take as a period for the purposes of our discussion, the area of flax sown in Kenya was estimated to be within 8,000 to 9,000 acres. During the last two years agricultural census returns have been compiled and from those returns it is seen that the total area sown between 1st July 1919 and the 30th June 1920 was 33,349 acres. The total area actually sown, that is to say, on the land, at the 30th June 1920, was 24,423 acres. The last

census returns shew that the total area harvested between 1st July 1920 and 30th June 1921 was 26,475 acres. It is very difficult to gather the conditions in which flax is grown in Kenya, or to gear into what may be called seasonal conditions because there is a good deal of overlapping and, therefore, an analysis of these figures of areas, flax sown and harvested, might be rather involved and complicated, but I think you may take it that in round figures about 20,000 to 25,000 acres of flax that have been harvested during each of the last two years in Kenya. The census returns further show in respect of actual production for the year ending 30th June 1921 Flax 37,063 cwts; Tow 49,554 cwts; Linseed 42,000 cwts. It has been somewhat difficult to arrive at figures showing the average yield per acre. The total area harvested divided by the quantity of flax, tow and linseed produced does not give you accurate figures because it does not follow that the area harvested has been converted into flax or tow during the period covered by the census return. You may however take it that on present information the average yield for the whole country including poor yields due to unfavourable conditions is not less than 1½ cwts. per acre in the case of flax; 2 cwts. in the case of tow and 2 cwts. per acre in the case of linseed. On many farms in several districts the yields are much higher. You will notice, gentlemen, that there is a high proportion of tow to flax. I should like to say now and I ought to have said it in the beginning that I do not pretend to be an authority upon flax or flax culture, but perhaps some of the information which I happen to be in possession of, as Director of Agriculture, may be of interest and use to you. I understand that the reasons why there is this high proportion of tow to flax are these. First there is the seasonal condition; there is the factor of drought in certain districts; then there is the effect of caterpillar attack; there is faulty retting, due in the one case to insufficient experience in the handling of the flax and, on the other hand, to unfavourable weather conditions; there is faulty handling in the scutching process. Which, if the flax in Kenya were handled by men possessing, like the experience of the Irish or Belgian growers, I do not doubt but that the proportion of tow to flax would be reduced; I think it but fair to say on the other hand that when one considers that the settlers of Kenya are handling a crop which is new to them - in many cases they have started farming for the first time - and again when one considers that handling and scutching are carried out almost entirely by unskilled, raw, native labour, I think great credit is due to the settlers of the country for the success which they have already achieved. (Hear. Hear).

The first severe check to flax growing in Kenya was in 1919 when that big importation of flax seed from this country was made, flax seed which, in many instances, gave practically no return at all and in other cases only gave from 10% to 33% of crop. Had that importation of seed not failed in my opinion the flax growers of Kenya would have been in a much stronger position today to withstand the drop in market prices. They suffered not only a heavy financial loss direct in respect of the purchase of the seed itself, but it was more than a year's work.

MR. ALBERT CAMPBELL: Was there no other seed available?

MR. LOCH. There was no other seed available. Then it should be remembered that the expenditure on the erection of mills and the purchase of machinery was incurred at a time when costs were at their highest. Then I should like you to appreciate this other point. When flax was selling at £300 or £400 a ton many farmers in Kenya were disposed to grow flax in districts which were not wholly favourable to the crop. Experience has shown that the districts most suited to flax in Kenya are those at the higher altitudes where the climate is coldest and where the rainfall is heaviest. There is no doubt whatever but that there remains awaiting development in Kenya extensive areas in districts highly suitable to the growing of flax and I would express the view that, provided the market recovers and reasonably good prices are procurable, the area of flax grown in Kenya is likely to increase. Individual growers have experienced some difficulty in the handling of the crop itself. Several hundred acres of flax are grown on an individual holding and under one management and it will be seen that inasmuch as the retting and the scutching and the sowing seasons coincide there is a great practical difficulty in carrying on all these different operations at the same time. The hope is that practical farm management will overcome some of those difficulties and that, instead of flax being grown by a comparatively small number of growers, it will be spread among a larger number of growers each growing a much smaller area.

With regard to the Customs returns which some of you have perhaps consulted and which I am sorry I have not got with me here - I did not anticipate any mention of this sort and did not bring with me papers and data referring to flax growing in Kenya. These returns of this part of flax do not reflect the position in respect of flax growing in Kenya because, on account of the slump in the trade and the poor market price for flax, a great deal of flax has been held in the Colony and has not been marketed. A considerable quantity of flax which would normally have been retted and scutched remains in the form of straw. You may say - well, how did it happen that when the market revived and improved towards the end of 1921 that the growers of Kenya did not then market their flax? The explanation of that, I think, is this. In September or October 1921 when that improvement took place, it was not possible to ret and scutch the flax because the seasonal conditions were unfavourable and when the suitable season for those operations arrived, the market price had fallen.

With regard to diseases and pests of flax in Kenya, there are only two which have been causing any trouble. There is "flax wilt" which is undoubtedly present on a good many farms in the country, but I do think there is reason to believe that with good farm management and some rotation of cropping that we shall succeed in combatting this disease. The Flax Growers Association in that connection have advised growers, as the Department of Agriculture has also done, that they should get a guarantee from sellers of seed that the seed sold to them has been produced from a crop which is free of wilt. About two years ago the flax caterpillar caused very extensive and very serious damage. The matter has been under investigation by the entomologist in my department. Until about nine months ago we were under the

[illegible]

> "Generally [illegible] flocks were better [illegible] than the water-retted flocks. The water-retted flocks were all scattered heart and poor. Brittleness of water was hard. With further water the flax would have been much improved."

In that connection I should like to explain that [illegible] two or three years ago it appeared that quite satisfactory results were obtained from water-retted flax, but during the last two seasons the results have in many ways been far from satisfactory, so much so that the flax [illegible] new department has been servicing and doing their best to get water-retting done away with and to rely almost entirely upon dew-retting. I think perhaps the explanation is this: that for a few seasons and up to about two years ago the rainfall in Kenya was comparatively heavy and I take it that the streams and the rivers were charged with what might be called "flood" water, but then, as the drier seasons set in the water possessed different characteristics which were

advised that the cost per statute acre of growing flax in Ireland has been worked out recently at £23.5.0 an acre. I am very glad Mr. Dawson is here today, because he can speak with very considerable experience in this matter; he is one of the largest growers of flax in the Colony. But as far as I have been able to ascertain the cost per acre of growing flax in Kenya and landing that flax in England is from £12 to £14 per acre. I do not think any of us know the future position of flax growing in Russia, but it would appear on all the evidence we have that if it is a question of whether we can produce flax in Kenya in competition with Ireland, Belgium or Holland, I think we shall succeed. As far as can be seen at present I think we can produce and land it in England at a lower cost than either of those countries.

Mr. Chairman, I think perhaps I have occupied your time already long enough, but I should like to say in conclusion that I would very much welcome a discussion upon this subject of flax growing in Kenya and if I can give the Committee any other information I shall be very happy to do so. We want the co-operation of all concerned in order that we may achieve success; the co-operation of the grower, the shipping company, the shipper, the merchant and the spinner. If we have all this, in certain districts of Kenya which are suited to the growing of flax it will become an established and profitable crop. I should also appreciate, Mr. Chairman, in my position in the Colony, any advice which this Committee cares to offer in connection with our work in Kenya.

(Applause).

CHAIRMAN: After the failure of the 1919 seed - where did you get the seed from?

MR. HOLM: It was acquired by the Flax Control Board and its origin was Holland and Canada.

CHAIRMAN: You are using seed grown from that now in Kenya?

MR. HOLM: Yes, and from crops that had previously been grown in the country.

CHAIRMAN: Your yield of 1½ cwt. of flax to 2 cwts. of tow; is that the average yield or only the result of last year's cultivation?

MR. HOLM: I think that can only be taken as applicable to last season's work. There are no statistics bearing upon previous crops.

CHAIRMAN: But there is no reason to believe that the earlier crops resulted in a better return?

MR. HOLM: I think the position is this, that in some districts the yield would be nearly double that and on some farms it would be less. The failure of crops from drought or caterpillar attack and bad retting has all been taken into consideration in those figures. For example, in the Kericho district about 7 or 8 acres will produce a ton of flax and a ton of tow.

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MR. J.R. CAMPBELL: Would you mind giving us an explanation of the question of rotation of crops because that has a very important bearing on the cost of flax growing. It is very often the case that the cost of growing one crop has to be debited to the cost of growing another. I do not think you touched on that question which is very important from the point of view of the owner of the land.

MR. HOLM: A rotation of crops in England, Scotland and Ireland is one thing and a rotation of crops under tropical or sub-tropical conditions is quite another thing. My experience is that an East African farm does not lend itself to the same sort of system of rotation of crops as a farm in a country with a temperate climate where there is a greater choice of marketable crops to be grown. So far as that point is concerned, there are fields in Kenya which have grown several crops, I think up to six or seven crops - up to some, Mr. Dawson says - of flax in succession and the crop has not appreciably suffered. We believe that we shall overcome this difficulty of flax wilt by the introduction - it can hardly be called a rotation of crops, but anyway by the introduction of an interchange of crops. It happens that in the districts suited to growing flax wheat can also be grown successfully and wheat growing is on the increase. Where flax and wheat in rotation have been grown it has been found to be a suitable system of crop growing and the changes can again be rung with maize. But you have not the same choice that you have in Ireland, for example, where flax I believe is only grown once in a seven-year rotation. When again I would mention this. That there is so much vacant land on nearly every farm in Kenya remaining to be developed and to be ploughed up and sown for the first time that there are opportunities for resting the land which has been growing flax for a few years without introducing another crop.

MR. J.R. CAMPBELL: If wheat or maize were grown alternately with flax, would the wheat and maize be grown at a profit, or would there be a loss on the wheat?

MR. HOLM: With the protection which the wheat industry enjoys in respect of customs duties and railway charges into the interior, wheat growing in some parts of the country is fairly profitable but then there is the problem of rust in wheat which is not experienced in this country. Anyway you can take it that on the Uashin Guishu Plateau, for example, wheat has been grown quite successfully on farms which also grow flax.

MR. J.R. CAMPBELL: Have you made any exhaustive tests with regard to the country of origin of the flax seed most suitable for growing in Kenya?

MR. HOLM: We have had seed from Holland, from Belgium, from Canada, from Japan, from England, and I think the best results have been obtained from the Dutch seed.

MR. J.R. CAMPBELL: The blue flower?

MR. HOLM: Yes.

MR. J.R. CAMPBELL: And is it to that country that you rather look for your supplies?

MR. HOLM: We do not intend to import seed in large quantities. That day is past. There is now no need, in our opinion, to import seed in large quantities. What the Department of Agriculture has been doing and what individual growers have been doing is to import these improved strains of flax and so grow their own seed in the country. I should also like to say that some years ago a good deal of Russian seed was sown and Mr. Dawson can tell you that he has been growing for quite a number of years, I think eight or ten years, flax from the original seed obtained in Russia and that flax has remained free of wilt.

MR. J.R. CAMPBELL: Without serious deterioration?

MR. HOLM: And apparently without serious deterioration.

MR. A. WIGGLESWORTH: I should like to ask Mr. Holm two questions. First, he alluded to the area still available to grow flax; could he possibly give us his idea of the extent of that area, and secondly he alluded to the coincidence of the retting, sowing and scutching seasons. I had always understood that, with a few exceptions during the Monsoon time you could more or less scutch and ret throughout the year and it would not mean that they would have to ret and scutch and sow at the same time.

MR. HOLM: With regard to your first question, Mr. Wigglesworth, it is difficult for me to reply without the actual data, but on the Uashin Guishu Plateau, for example, there are over 600,000 acres of land and I think only something like 10% of that land is at the present time being used. Again take to Kericho country; there there are thousands of acres of good flax country awaiting development, as also in the Gilgil district. Then again on the railway line which is being built from Nakuru to the Uashin Guishu Plateau there is an immense area of country which in my opinion is likely to prove highly suitable for flax growing, - the area immediately north of Londiani.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: May I take it then that of this area nearly all the land would be used. We know, of course, that there are rocky knolls amongst that land and that out of the 600,000 acres only 50% might be arable land. What I want to get at, Mr. Chairman, is an idea of the maximum output of flax we may reasonably expect, not today, nor tomorrow, but in the future, from this Kenya colony?

CHAIRMAN: That is when all the land is under culture?

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: Precisely.

MR. HOLM: A calculation of that sort, of course, could be made, but whether it would be very much use just now I should very much doubt. I should hardly think it would be worth while putting such a calculation on record.

CHAIRMAN: I think it has been done for about 100,000 acres.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH. Mr. Holm said 600,000 acres suitable for flax production.

Mr. HOLM: [illegible] I said there were 600,000 acres in the [illegible] guarantee the watch would be suitable [illegible] I should say offhand that there are 100,000 [illegible] in Kenya suitable for flax production.

[illegible] investigation,

[illegible] sample of water [illegible] before us [illegible] analyses give no indication whatever of any dissolved constituent at all which would inhibit human drinking.

Mr. Holm: Mr. Dawson tells me that the chemist took [illegible] the samples of water he sent to him.

[illegible]

Dr. [illegible] [illegible] conditions of [illegible] be maintained, there is [illegible] the development of [illegible]

Mr. DAWSON: [illegible] most [illegible] country. [illegible] water running through [illegible]

[illegible]

Mr. [illegible]

Mr. [illegible]

Mr. [illegible] water varies

Mr. [illegible]

Mr. [illegible] quarter, [illegible] United [illegible] a report [illegible]

Mr. FOLLOWS: [illegible]

Mr. LAYTON: [illegible]

Mr. [illegible] present [illegible] results [illegible] and he would [illegible] information. [illegible] and did not bring the reports of that sort with [illegible]

Mr. LAYTON: I have a great deal of sympathy with Mr. Holm, Mr. Chairman. My firm grew about 3,000 acres of flax in 1919 and we paid for our experience. If we had only got the results Mr. Holm talks about - 12 cwts. - the world have been better, but that would not [illegible] the objects of this meeting [illegible] to give Mr. [illegible]

MR. GARRETT CAMPBELL: I cannot say my firm has used much of it, but we have used a considerable number of different lots. As a member of this committee I went into it more carefully than I had done and I have examined a good deal that we had in the place. I came to certain tentative conclusions which may be entirely wrong, but which seem to me worthy of consideration. Of course I think the progress made in growing flax is very encouraging indeed and I have no doubt that there is a future for flax growing in the country and a great future, but I think that if the flax growing is to succeed as a commercial proposition they have got to find out what is the reason why, as Mr. Lease points out, the flax seems to differ in many respects from any other flax that we know. The general characteristic that strikes me about it is that it is seemingly mixed in quality; down to the smallest piece of flax that you can pull out of store you find a most extraordinary variety of quality. I do not wish to make that a reproach in any way to what has been done. It is the inevitable result of flax growing. You cannot help that. We know full very well that it is a point to which they should direct most particular attention as it seems to me that the principal difference arises first of all through insufficient cultivation. That is to say, that the ground is too carelessly prepared and then perhaps the seed is not quite uniform and it should be with the result that they get a crop of mixed coarse and fine straw. When it is pulled probably no attempt is made to separate the coarse from the fine straw. They are both treated in exactly the same way and if the coarse straw is rotted and retted the fine straw is entirely over-retted. That is what may possibly account for the coarseness and dry of tow. That is to say, that at least 50% of the flax never started in moment to ret sufficiently the other. I think if they could by any means select their flax and made their sizes so that each lot would be more or less uniform in quality and would get the treatment in retting and scutching proper to its own quality, they would probably get a better average result. More than that, the buyers would give them a better price because when a buyer takes up flax and sees that it is badly mixed, he will take up the price of the lowest grade in it. If it could be in some way made a more uniform quality I think they would get a better average price for their flax. I think the future of the industry must depend upon an improvement in quality. As several people have said, the yield at present is very small and we could not possibly grow flax in such quantities of yield. I think that we should try to improve the yield and they should try to improve the quality. I have seen East African flax of a really good quality, and I have seen flax, of course, of a very poor quality indeed. I have never seen water-retted flax that was thought worth growing at all. In speaking of the value of the flax and the cost of production, of course, the present value of money must be taken into consideration and the present value of other products. I do not think they will average more than £100 a ton for export and I think it is very probable they will have to come down in price to compete in the markets, but if they do that, the only way to make it pay is to improve the yield and by turning out better qualities. These are merely the somewhat vague opinions that I have formed from examining the flax, working different lots of flax and hearing what all sorts and kinds of people said about it. These are the tentative

opinions that I have come to; they may be right and they may be wrong. I give them for what they are worth.

MR. HOLM: I should like to say, Mr. Chairman, with regard to what has been said as to the deficiencies of the Kenya flax. I think the best growers admit what Mr. Garrett Campbell has said with regard to the irregularity of the quality of the flax. The Flax Officers of the Department of Agriculture have been doing their best to improve the cultural methods and I think a very considerable improvement has already taken place. With regard to the absence of uniformity in the flax; that was one reason why the system of flax grading was laid down and there is reason to believe that the flax so graded under the old scheme was very much more uniform than any flax which had hitherto been exported from the Colony. I think it arises in this way. There is first irregularity in the seed-bed itself and then there is a good deal of soil irregularity on many of the fields where flax is grown. The land may be stronger in one part of the field than in another; the land may be more fertile in one part of the field than another and then there are the variations which one gets in the straw produced from the seed itself.

MR. BOASE: But if you have that variation occurring, grading wont do much good, will it, unless you grade the straw?

MR. HOLM: I think it ought to begin in the straw; I agree.

MR. LEITCH: Was the seed shipped to your country packed in bags or in barrels?

MR. HOLM: I am sorry to say it was packed in bags, Mr. Leitch; it ought to have been packed in barrels. That is where those of us looking after the interests of flax growers in Kenya formed the opinion that there was something lacking on the part of the Flax Control Board on this side when they did not see that that flax seed was shipped in a proper manner, that is to say, shipped in barrels so that it could get ventilation on the ship.

MR. LEITCH: In our experience we find that seed packed in bags loses 50% of its germinating power so the seed was not fit for sowing.

MR. HOLM: In our case much of the seed lost 80% of its germinating power.

MR. [illegible]: I do not want to trail off in pursuit of ancient controversies, but as this subject is being discussed and it is being suggested that the Flax Control Board is entirely [illegible] rant as a "probable disease or pest of flax in Kenya" it is worth pointing out that the department packed the seed as it was told to pack it by the Crown Agents for the Colonies who purport to know about the Colonies.

MR. GARRETT CAMPBELL: A point about seed. My firm have been growing flax in Canada since the first year of the war. I notice you put the yield of linseed at 2 cwts. per

acre. That strikes me as small. In Canada our average for six years has been 3½ cwts and we are not satisfied with that. I think that that might be very much improved. In Ireland our seed works out at about 6 cwts per acre. Of course that may be unattainable in Kenya, but I think you ought to be able to reach at least the Canadian yield of seed and in that connection some of the work recently done about maturing the seed might be of interest. It is quite possible that the flax might be pulled earlier than is now the practice with advantage both for the fibre and seed.

MR. LEITCH: As far as Kenya is concerned the question of saving seed would hardly be worth considering. The pre-war price for seed for 82 lbs. was only 55/- We bought dozens of bags at that price even last year; it was only a matter of less than £3 and that is compared to £10 and £11 the year before and next year we expect it to be down to £2. You have mentioned yourself that you do not think it is worth saving the seed and with that I agree. You would pay more for the handling than you would make on the seed and the reputation of Dutch and Belgian seed is so good that you would have to sell at a considerably lower price. So that, when looking at the question of flax cultivation for your country, you will have to confine your attention, in my opinion, to what you realise from the tow and flax only.

MR. GARRETT CAMPBELL: Considering that linseed can be brought from Bombay and from Argentine, from the Western Provinces and Canada and bearing out also our experience of Kenya, I cannot agree with Mr. Leitch. I think the seed ought to be quite an important part of your revenue.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: I entirely agree. It is simply a question of freights which are being rapidly brought down to enable seed and other products to be brought home in competition with other countries and freights must be adjusted until they can. I would like to refer to what is the most important question before you and that is the quality of the flax. Now in a country like Kenya (Mr. Dawson will bear me out on this point) where there is not sufficient European control, you never get the same careful cultivation that you can get in Holland or Belgium, nor do you get it in Canada. It is true you have the cheapest labour in the world and the cheapest land in the world. We have always said we could certify that flax could be grown profitably and permanently in Africa when you knew that for three or four years running you would be sure of at least two crops. Mr. Holm will perhaps tell us if he considers we have got past that stage. If we have then flax will remain and continue and gradually improve.

Now there was one very important point raised regarding retting. Water-retting is practically ruled out because the land has a very uncertain rainfall and very small rivers which dry up. Then you are down to dew-retting. There are a great number of flax experts here, more qualified to speak than I am, but the conditions in Africa for dew retting are so different from those in any other part of the world that I would like to call attention to them. In Europe during the season of dew-retting flax you have a night and day temperature which possibly falls from a maximum of 70 to a minimum of 40 and you have rains which possibly have a temperature from 50 to 60, hardly more, perhaps 65, but what have you in Kenya? You have these huge monsoon

Courtrai flax, that was we were treating the flax in the Belgian way; we were pulling the tow out of it and trying to make a really well-finished article for the home market, the result being that we had a very very large proportion of tow after scutching with Belgian blades though we ought to have had a proportion of about one to one. Then another [illegible] is the amount of scutching that has [illegible] during the dry weather. [illegible] produced a tremendous lot of tow [illegible] [illegible] extremely [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the plant [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] it [illegible] Russian flax [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of it. I [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] quite [illegible] average [illegible] before [illegible]. It is possible, and it has been done, to [illegible] a ton [illegible] plus the [illegible] of land. I think [illegible] will bear me out. I [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] parts of the country can [illegible] for a maximum [illegible] that really the average [illegible] [illegible] before [illegible] shows [illegible] [illegible] as a [illegible] country. It is not altogether hopeless. [illegible] the people [illegible] of [illegible] flax [illegible] tow. The proportion of [illegible] [illegible] from time to time and is governed by the good retting, or by the bad or good scutching [illegible] [illegible]. That must take place all the time [illegible] [illegible] out in years which were better [illegible] [illegible] have been.

With regard to seed production, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as the flax figures. I have [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] experimental farm [illegible] [illegible] on small areas and it is my experience on fairly large areas [illegible] again these [illegible] show that it is not [illegible] altogether, the growing of flax in East Africa, but the thing that we, as growers, think [illegible] is information from the spinners as to how we ought to improve the stuff to suit the home market. I do not think anybody expects to produce Courtrai flax in East Africa but if we can grow flax on a fairly large scale which comes up to the quality of the best Russian flax we will be very glad indeed, for the country and for the growers personally and, of course, for the good of the flax industry generally. If we can produce a flax that can be sold as equivalent to Russian flax we would be very glad indeed. We recognise that at the present time we are not [illegible] [illegible] this [illegible] which the spinners speak about

[illegible] by drilling the seed as opposed to broadcasting it is, in our experience, it makes very largely for greater uniformity of straw in the field. It stands up very much better; it is more easy to keep the fields clean [illegible] more easy to pull. It is more desirable in every [illegible] way as far as we can understand. I am not [illegible] the climatic conditions obtaining in Kenya, but it is possible that they may actually increase the [illegible] is somewhat natural if the seed is broadcast [illegible].

MR. PATSON: Do I understand you to mean that the drilling is more [illegible] in this country?

MR. EYRE: Yes.

MR. PATSON: I [illegible] in Kenya. [illegible] are very [illegible] drill machine. [illegible] drill machine. If you have begun with drilling and it has been found very much more successful, I believe that if we drill we will get over the of the difficulties [illegible] stress to [illegible] at the present time to the [illegible] machine. [illegible] bought [illegible] at the time they were the best machines [illegible] purpose. At the present time nobody would be [illegible] machinery because they cannot sell their flax. I believe by drilling the flax it will get over [illegible] a lot of our difficulties.

MR. EYRE: Would it be permitted to throw out a suggestion that the Department of Agriculture for Zonja [illegible] best to [illegible] drilling the seed as opposed to broadcasting [illegible]. It is clear [illegible] see that greater [illegible] would be certainly [illegible].

MR. [illegible]: I have noted that. [illegible] not doubt in the course of time improvements of that work will take place in the [illegible] up to date farms.

MR. [illegible]: If you come to Ireland during the [illegible] can show you that drilled [illegible] flax is broadcast in the same [illegible].

MR. EYRE: There is the question of condition of [illegible] to be considered in Zonja. [illegible] the fields are large [illegible] several hundred [illegible] of flax are grown on the same [illegible]. The farmer's sowing season has [illegible] very restricted and naturally when the suitable conditions prevail the farmer is desirous of sowing as much as he can sown as quickly as possible. By drilling it the seed he would undoubtedly retard [illegible] and it would add to the expense [illegible].

MR. PATSON: It is just as [illegible] to drill it as to broadcast it.

[illegible] sowing with a [illegible]

MR. EYRE: It is as slower to drill than to broadcast.

MR. PATSON: It is only a matter of extra expense and increasing your main costs. The units for sowing with a drill machine are only about 12' wide.

MR. CRAWFORD: 9' wide.

MR. DAWSON: Instead of 18'. It means three expensive machines to put in 50 acres each as compared with our present 18' machine. Are you using special drilling machines for the job?

MR. CRAWFORD: One made by Walkers, near Nottingham.

MR. GARRETT CAMPBELL: We use an ordinary American corn drill.

MR. HOLM: Ordinary seed drills sow flax very well.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: Referring to the withdrawal of some inspectors, is it correct that grading has been stopped on that account?

MR. HOLM: The Press report of a meeting of the Flax Association says:-

"That this meeting appoints a Committee with the Director of Agriculture and the Chairman with a view to arriving at a scheme whereby employees in private employment can be [illegible] the Government the brand to flax and [illegible] Colony."

On the recommendation of that Committee the following scheme was decided upon:

(a) "That the Government should be asked to appoint a Flax Control Board consisting of the Director of Agriculture, the Supervising Grader, five other members from amongst Flax Growers representative of each of the following districts:
(a) Plateau (b) Limbwa and Kericho
(d) Njoro and Eldoret (e) Londiani

(b) That the Board be empowered to [illegible] approved applicants for the grading of flax.

(c) That such licenced graders be under the control and supervision of the Supervising Grader.

(d) That the Board be empowered to fix fees to be charged by licenced graders, to levy a reasonable charge on flax graded to meet expenses incurred in carrying the [illegible]

(e) That the Board be empowered to [illegible] disputes emanating from matters connected with the scheme controlled by them.

(f) That the Government be asked to retain the services of Mr. Scott in connection with the above Scheme.

(g) That a copy of the above recommendation be sent to the Government."

From information obtained during the last day or two it transpires that the use of the government brand is to be

discontinued and another brand substituted under this new scheme of grading.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: There will be no official control now, will there?

MR. HOLM. It looks to me like a sort of mixed official control because it says, as I read it, in this Press account at least, private licenced graders will be under the control and supervision of the Supervising Grader, the Supervising Grader being a government official. These private licenced graders if they are not appointed and paid by the government, will be naturally not quite independent men. It is rather difficult for me to say at this end, with the information I have, how a scheme of that sort is going to work satisfactorily.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: I would like it on record that this is the first instance of a government, here, put its hand to the plough and turning back. The first scheme [illegible] grading started in New Zealand I think about twenty years ago [illegible] that immediately resulted in such an improvement in the condition of the trade that the exports went up by leaps and bounds. That scheme was applied a little later to tow [illegible] is still in existence and is working satisfactorily. The second scheme was a scheme adopted by the Bureau of Agriculture in Washington, for cotton. I had the opportunity of inspecting its working there a few years ago and I found that they actually recorded every year's crop and hold hermetically sealed samples, so that two hundred years hence they will know the standard of a particular crop. Manila hemp was the next [illegible] has not been altogether successful owing [illegible] method of handling. Now Kenya is the last experiment and I believe it is just as essential to grade flax as to grade any other material, [illegible] more. The difficulty that Mr. Holm has pointed [illegible] different districts with different qualities [illegible] as to [illegible] flax perhaps makes the position more difficult because the quantities graded are so small that they are almost unsaleable. You cannot get a spinner to buy readily five [illegible] pounds, not even five or ten tons. He prefers fifty or hundred tons. Now the grading of flax in Russia [illegible] thing was held as the Russian Empire but there was a time they abandoned the grading and put it into private hands. That happened about 1885-1890 when they took [illegible] of the hands of officials and left it to individuals [illegible] result that the quality fell down about 50% and [illegible] people system was thrown back. The same thing will happen in Kenya. I want to put it before this meeting. [illegible] all in favour of the grading being continued, with [illegible] that be done without any expense to the government. You are charging £3 a ton for grading - is that not enough? But whatever you charge you are getting receipts, it is not all dead loss. There must be many officials in Kenya who could be dispensed with apart from these. Apart from the grading it is of immense benefit. During the last two years the flax has improved in quality and the irregularity of which Mr. Garrett Campbell and Mr. Boase spoke is being overcome in certain farms where they have got the skill and knowledge to improve the land.

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: Mr. Dawson's for instance.

MR. A. WIGGLESWORTH: There is no doubt grading is a nuisance to be appreciated, and it would be a colossal blunder to drop it now. It is very vital to the industry in East Africa. I hope it will be possible for the Empire Flax Growing Commission to put forward these views. I hope the spinners will support us in this. It is better for them to know that the flax has been graded by a competent expert and that he has classified it in a way, if they get poor classification, but it is guaranteed and they know that each grade is approximately the same grade.

MR. BOASE: [illegible] in this, that spinners will rely on the grade. They have not done so so far.

[illegible] will [illegible] time. Suppose I bring a parcel of flax to the warehouse and you send an inspector. He opens one bale of each grade, but if it is not graded off he has to open each bale and if he finds one bale of a very poor quality he says the value of the poorest flax for the whole parcel of course he does not [illegible] quantity of inferior quality there may be in the bales [illegible]

MR. BOASE: It is greater advantage to [illegible] than to the spinner?

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: Decidedly. The flax grower is in danger to be [illegible] Otherwise you [illegible] Russian flax there is no doubt about it that [illegible] a very bad time a few years ago; they sent a lot of [illegible] very bad. [illegible]

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: [illegible] that a resolution should be passed by the meeting to the effect that [illegible] "This meeting expresses the strongest possible view against "the abolition of the grading of flax, and passes a Resolution "to be sent to the authorities in Kenya urging that this "retrograde step should be reversed, and that the grading "should be continued as before". The chairman put this vote to the meeting and it was unanimously carried. MR. HOLM: [illegible]

(UNANIMOUSLY AGREED) CHAIRMAN: [illegible]

MR. WIGGLESWORTH: In [illegible] grading, Mr. Chairman, there is the back [illegible] and looking over the flax; [illegible] grower that other people have something better. Is that not so, Mr. Dawson?

MR. DAWSON: Undoubtedly. I should like to endorse [illegible] what Messrs Wigglesworth have said with regard to the actual value of the grading to the East African grower, when the stuff comes home here to be marketed. I think most of the big growers at last do realise that by getting in an outside man who is a government man and getting him to fix it into grades of some sort you get uniformity to a certain extent and by getting uniformity you may get back the confidence of the spinner. From my point of view I think this is the greatest calamity that is threatening the flax industry in East Africa and anything that you as a body of spinners and experts can do to move the government to rescind what they have done with regard to these men will be undoubtedly of very much value, to me personally at

any rate and I know, by association, to practically every big grower in the country. Anything could be done quickly.

MR. HOLM: I am sure [illegible] the wish of the meeting that [illegible] be supported. I should like to say that this [illegible] meeting [illegible] point which has not been mentioned [illegible] now or one of the greatest dangers on the [illegible] doubt whatever that there is a [illegible] from our point of view, as farmers in this country, we want to do everything we possibly can to encourage the growing of flax. There has been there is not going to be [illegible] trade recovery in this country. Even the price of [illegible] of Kenya also. I think that the ordinary [illegible] and the grower of flax [illegible], within a very short time, require financial assistance. Kenya has [illegible] more than many people realise and I am [illegible] believe that the people out there are growing [illegible] believe they will be able to continue to [illegible] and develop the country unless they receive a [illegible] of assistance. I know a great many men out there [illegible] practically on their backs and they do not [illegible] turn for some to go and develop their [illegible] all, it is in the interest of the financial [illegible] country in general that they should be helped and I [illegible] everything. I do not know whether the Minister of Agriculture [illegible] whether he should do it in an [illegible] Growing Commission, [illegible] like there something [illegible] of a Government [illegible] or something of that [illegible] mortgages could be given out there would be a tremendous advantage. I am really very fearful that within the next year or so you will have the success of flax [illegible] unfortunately because people will not have the [illegible] is that correct, Mr. Dawson?

MR. DAWSON: I left in the beginning of March. The general impression is that many people will not be able to stand the strain and if the outlook will improve then there will be able to carry through.

MR. BOASE: Would such [illegible] possible [illegible]

MR. HOLM: With regard to the question of a Land and Agricultural Bank [illegible] that matter has been under the [illegible] of the Government and the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the different departments concerned for some [illegible] the past. It has been estimated that not less than one million pounds would be required to start such a bank. That sum would be required to finance it within a period of two years of the inception of the undertaking. As you may know Kenya Colony has [illegible] loans, the first of five million pounds and then again there is about to be raised a loan of three million pounds both of them principally for railway construction and the deep water pier at Kilindini. Within these loans it was not possible to include a loan for a Land and Agricultural Bank. During the last three months the position has been somewhat [illegible] the situation improved in this way. [illegible] ago the government had the [illegible] price of all the Crown [illegible] therefore came about that [illegible]

If flax growing were successful in Kenya it would be likely to extend to certain areas in Tanganyika. I have seen samples of flax grown in the Arusha district near Kilimanjaro. There are probably areas of land in Tanganyika that would grow flax.

[illegible]

B of J.
31133/22 Kenya

332

DRAFT.

Chairman,
Empire Flax Growing
Committee.

MINUTE.

Mr. Bell July 6
Mr. Ballenbee
Mr.
Mr. Davis.
Sir G. Grindle.
Sir H. Read.
Sir J. Masterton Smith.
Mr. Wood.
Mr. Churchill.

Sec

8 July 1922.

Sir,

I am to ask the sec of your letter of the 29th of June, & to inform you that he is [illegible] to the Com[illegible] for the valuable report of their [illegible] on the position [illegible] growing in Ken[illegible] & the [illegible]

by the Com^tee are being
communicated to the
Govt. of the Colony.

(Signed) H. J. READ.

BOARD OF TRADE,
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
WESTMINSTER,
LONDON, S.W.1.

B of T 31133/22 Kenya.

29 July 1922

DRAFT.

Kenya
No. 1116
Sir Northey

MINUTE.

Mr. Seel 25/7/22
Mr. Bottomley
Mr.
Mr. Davis.
Sir G. Grindle.
Sir H. Read.
Sir J. Masterton Smith.
Sir. Wood.
Mr. Churchill.

Undr 4/8/49

Sir,

I have the to refer to my desp. No 992 of the 6th of July transmitting [illegible] Your [illegible] of the proceedings of a meeting [illegible] Empire Flax Growing Committee, held on the 13th of June, to discuss the position of flax growing in Kenya.

2. I should be glad if, in forwarding any views which you may have to offer upon these proceedings, you will comment in greater detail upon the discussion which took place upon the abolition of the official flax graders. It would seem that the temporary expedient of enabling flax growers to arrange for the grading of their own produce, is not a satisfactory substitute for official gradings, and if, as I

2 Enclosures
[illegible] 22 Kenya

B of T 31133/22 Kenya.

29 July 1922

DRAFT.

Kenya
No. 1116
Sec Northey

MINUTE.

Mr. Seel 25/7/22
Mr. Bottomley
Mr.
Mr. Davis.
Sir G. Grieve.
" H. Read.
Sir J. Masterton Smith.
Mr. Wood.
Mr. Churchill.

Unsd 28/7/22

Sir,

I have the to refer to my desp. No 922 of the 6th of July, transmitting the Government Gazette containing the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Flax Growing Committee, held on the 13th of June, to discuss the position of flax growing in Kenya.

2. I shall be glad if, in forwarding any views which you may have to offer upon these proceedings, you will comment in particular upon the discussion which took place upon the abolition of the official flax graders. It would appear that the temporary expedient which flax growers arrange for the grading of their own produce, is not a satisfactory substitute for official gradings, and if, as I

2 Telegraphed on 3230/22 Kenya

fear will be inevitable in the crisis.

An example of bad grading is brought to light in this country. The reputation of Kenya flax will be seriously prejudiced. I consider that it would have been possible, if the advantages of an authoritative flax grading system had been put to the growers of flax, to have arranged for a scale of fees for grading which would have covered the expenditure entailed.

3. On the question of a principal Agricultural Bank which is discussed on page 23 of the Proceedings, I have little doubt that, although there has been no change in position as regards ~~[illegible]~~ fertilisers, seeds, implements, stock, etc., [illegible] 30502/41. Kei

You have not touched in [illegible] the ~~[illegible]~~ possibility of some form of financial assistance to settlers.

(SIGNED) WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

with regard to them
and I hope to forw
by the lists which
the Queen first had
been asked to furnish
. Write to Kings a
proposed above,
and see the S.L.
that we are doing
writing after (?) in
they might also
speed to the last
para. of this letter

Yours
Br. Em. Ve

Yours as regards
Wyndham
(Wd) 31/8/2

I agree but add at the end
a further letter will be addressed
to you as regards the preparation
of these lists by the Union

RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR FROM INDIA.

NO.	NAME.	DATE OF REPATRIATION.
4190.	Braun. R.	12. 5. 19.
4192.	Reeg. H.	12. 5. 19.
4597.	Gross [illegible]. Dr.	12. 5. 19.
4[illegible]	[illegible]. J.	12. 5. 19.
4305.	Friedlich. R. E. A.	[illegible]. 5. 19.
4626.	Siebenschein. R.	[illegible]5. 19.

were transferred to South Africa
for rehabilitation. particulars regarding
them will be found in the lists which
the Govt of the Union of S. Africa have
been asked to furnish. [illegible]
letter will be addressed [illegible] as soon as
the preparation of these lists by the
Union Govt.

(Signed) [illegible]

Copy.

Wigglesworth & Co., Ltd.,
82, Fenchurch Street,
London. E.C.3.

10th October, 1922.

343

S.E.J.Brady. Esq.,
Board of Trade,
St. George Street,
Westminster S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

RE: FLAX GROWING COMMITTEE.

I am much [illegible] your letter of the 9th inst. enclosing copy of [illegible] received from the Governor of Kenya reporting his observations [illegible] questions raised at the Meeting of the Flax Growing Committee [illegible] the 13th June last.

With regard to paragraph 3, [illegible] believe that a scheme [illegible] grading could be made self-supporting [illegible] were [illegible] that possibly it could be arranged that [illegible] Growers' Association could relieve the Government [illegible] responsibility should a loss be incurred on the system of grading.

We [illegible] the Governor's remarks in regard to inconsistent selling prices in London, and we believe this inconsistency is solely due to the fact that flax is being sent to this market through firms who are not accustomed to dealing in fibre brokers, who [illegible] tunately sell at prices much below the market value, thus preventing legitimate flax [illegible] from obtaining full prices for the Kenya product.

In regard to paragraph 5, it [illegible] stated that the financial position does not admit of any action by the Government at present, as it is entirely due to the general financial position that the necessity for the establishment of a land bank is most urgent, and any delay in establishing [illegible] may have very serious consequences on the Colony. We feel confident that some urgent appeal should be made to the Governor to obtain Government assistance in the establishing of a land bank, if the settlers are to be tided over the present financial crises.

Yours faithfully,

for WIGGLESWORTH & COMPANY LTD.

(Signed) Edwin Wigglesworth.
Director.

the Shipping Compan

at present

Committee.

the Defendants

not [illegible] in that

passing [illegible]

23

I was [illegible] yesterday that [illegible] and [illegible] passengers but lost [illegible] goods [illegible]

that may be expected [illegible] they

foreign competition. [illegible]

might well fear that if [illegible]

left the foreign lines unprotected [illegible]

the E. A. fleet their competition

would [illegible] to South Africa

I imagine that they will make

a determined effort to overcot the

foreigners before they [illegible]

W. C. S. 2.1.23.

at once

H. J. R.

3/1/23

we may not take a

about the

Pliscan do

letter

point in

Yours sincerely

W. C. Faulkner

No. 8.

Castle Hawk

Mr Southwell

Company while

of the

attached at the suspension of

~~Capt, a letter stating~~

it.

it has been ascertained
~~that the main thing that~~
from the Board of Trade
~~emerged from the inquiries was~~

that the Mail & Passenger

Service is still being worked at

a loss; ~~in fact the loss is a serious~~

and that unless some improvement

occurs in the next ~~two or three~~ few

months ~~there is a danger that~~ the ~~Company will be forced~~

Companies concerned (fear that they) will ~~have~~ find it necessary to reconsider whether they ~~shall~~ can

maintain the direct Service. ~~or not.~~

In these circumstances it would ~~appear to be~~ appears to be ~~Mr Chamberlain thinks it~~ ~~very~~ undesirable

(E. African Dependencies themselves)

in the interest of the ~~Colony~~ ~~to take~~ (that) any active

should be taken)

which might ~~have~~ cause the ~~Union Castle Steamship Company to~~ (Steamship Company would otherwise discontinue the service)

consider ~~it~~ the question of the direct service of the

Service ~~and it is for consideration whether some part of~~

~~should be~~ ~~taken action of a similar character~~

Ed

The importance of your

letter is beyond Communication

3 [illegible]

Steamship Companies

to reduce the passage

rates between

Boston & the U.K. & Europe,

and

~~I have~~ &c.

that I do

any us

would b

approac

in the

not prec

(Signed) DE

Dear Park[illegible]

instant as [illegible]
Superinte[illegible]
rule as to [illegible]
is that it [illegible]
to the ext[illegible]
it. Prim[illegible]
Sanitary I[illegible]
assumptio[illegible]

note
of case in [illegible]
rule is adm[illegible]
ols service be[illegible]
ishment together, one man
has been pr[illegible]ugh merit to go on to a
higher grade than his fellows. It is obviously
inequitable that this man should not get the
privilege of counting his earlier service
in the lower grade, which is enjoyed by his
inferiors who have never left that grade.

If

[illegible] on file
[illegible] 3/1/22

If the [illegible] of the Reformatory is part of the military service and food was put into it on account of special merit at the time when it was not an established post along with the rest of the military posts, it is possible that the same [illegible] also the [illegible] of [illegible]. But the [illegible] do not appear to have [illegible].

Yours etc.,

(Sgd.) [illegible]

Mr Doyle
Mr Hunter

You have still to see this paper (& so have members of Room 17) Mr. Hunter has seen.

As regards amendment to Afr. 839, it is suggested is an addition from 3 as follows:

"Only service which is ~~[illegible]~~ pensionable in itself or permitted to reckon towards pension on ultimate retirement from a pensionable post may be reckoned towards the period of 20 years East African service after which retirement on pension is allowed."

I don't ~~think~~ it is necessary to prepare a ~~list~~ for insertion in the present edition of Afr. 839.

Note for next revision

Mr. 3.7.
GP 3.3.22
3/3/22
Mr 4.3.22
4.3.22
3/22.

Mr Doyle
Mr Hunter

You have still to see this paper (& so have members of Room 17) Mr Hunter has seen.

As regards amendment to Afr. 839, it is required is an addition para. 3 as follows:

"Only service which is [illegible] pensionable in itself or permitted to reckon towards pension on ultimate retirement from a pensionable post may be reckoned towards the period of 20 years East African service after which retirement on pension is allowed."

I don't think it is necessary to prepare a Minute for insertion in the present edition of Afr. 839.

Note for next revision

C.J.J. 2.3.22. H.J. 2/3/22

Eng 2/3/22 [illegible]

[illegible] Mr. 3.3.
[illegible] GP 3.3.22
[illegible] 3/3/22
[illegible] Mr 4.3
[illegible] 4.3.22

3/3/22.

Extract from Section 7 of Nigerian

Pensions Ordinance of Sept., 1921.

[illegible] officers who [illegible] these services [illegible] pensionable office in the [illegible] opinion [illegible] retrospectively from a date [illegible] the commencement [illegible] of which appeals [illegible] lower opinion [illegible] date of [illegible] right [illegible] not less than [illegible] years [illegible] have been [illegible] shall be regarded for the purpose of this section as having attained the age of fifty years."

[illegible] shall be [illegible] to [illegible] pension;

Any reply to this letter should be addressed to—
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
SUPERANNUATION DIVISION,
TREASURY
WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W. 1,
and the following number quoted.

P. 3889/22.

TREASURY CHAMBERS.

17 January, 1922.

C O
2489

17TH JANUARY 1922

337

17 JAN 22

SUBJECT

towards

unless it is pensionable

to reckon to

Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

privilege of

voluntary retirement under the age of 50 is not to be

accorded to

countenance

countenance any further extension of retirement privileges to the officers of the East African Dependencies.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R.R. Wu

countenance any further extension of retire[illegible] privileges to the officers of the East African Dependencies.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

R.R. Jul

Kenya Conf. S/
for Northey
Uganda Conf. S/
DAG
Nyasaland Conf. S/
DRAFT.
Rec.
J. Conf. S/
Secretary of State
MINUTE

T. 2489/22. E.Af.

8th Feb 1922

358

Sir

I have the honour to refer to your Confidential despatch of the [illegible] February [illegible] I promised to inform you further as to the question of [illegible] upon the question [illegible] service only [illegible]

The 20 years service [illegible] in the case [illegible]

[illegible]

Should be reckoned towards the

period of twenty years, unless

it is pensionable in itself, or is

permitted to be reckoned

[illegible]

pension on alternate

[illegible] pensionable post

1922 ~~-22~~

E. AFRICA

C O
3050
REC'D
REC. 20 JAN 22

FROM
TREASURY

DATE
19TH JANUARY 1922

FOR CIRCULATION:—
Mr. Parkinson
Mr. Bottomley
Mr. Shaughnessy
Mr. Grindle
Sir H. Lambert
Sir H. Read
Sir J. Masterton Smith.
Mr. Wood
Mr. Churchill

SUBJECT

PASSAGE ALLOWANCES 359

FOR WIVES AND FAMILIES

Sanctions extension up to 31st March 1923 existing arrgts for allowances to officers. Would see grave objections to raising or abolishing the £700 a. limit.

Previous Paper

CO/1827

MINUTES

Satisfactory so far as the present concessions go. We are certainly not in a position at present to take up the abolition of the limit.

? Inf. all E. A. Govts. & C. A. of the extension of the present concession for a year; & let all members of E. A. Depts see & note.

C. J. J. 20. 1. 22.

Subsequent Paper

Sent to Kenya 124, Uganda 54, Tanga 23, Zanzibar 16 — 25 Jan 22
Sent to all — 25 Jan 22
Sent to all — 26 Jan 22
Sent to all — 26 May 22
Sent to all — 11 Jan 23