



M.A.

Kennon P.M.

Priority Passage for Mr. [illegible]

1920

10 June

Last previous Paper.

Believed to be...
but cannot...
permanent...
process...

Sir

After your
communication...

It is
not
possible
to...

to say that unless we can
produce a... that...
a... regularly repaired...
the work in... contemplates
cannot be carried on...
without him, it is regretted...

Yours
[illegible]
14.1.20
at once

at present Paper.
454

HOURS: 10 AM TO 1 PM.
AFTERNOONS BY APPOINTMENT.
TEL. ROYAL
ADBE/
4284

RECEIVED
12 JAN 1920
COL OFFICE

337

T. JAMES' ROAD,
RODNEY STREET

C. O. L. R.
2066
LIVERPOOL.
REC'D 12 JAN 20

22 Queen St, Castlefields 10th January, 1920.

re. Mr. C. Perry, P/O 11488/1111, Shrewsbury; Applicant for
Special Priority Passage to East Africa.
Medical Examination of

Sir,

I have the honour to report in conformity with your
letter of 21st November, 1920, 8539/1919 and enclosures, that I have
to-day medically examined Mr. C. Perry of Shrewsbury. He brought with
him a certificate from Dr. R. O. Smyth, 9 College Hill, Shrewsbury, that
he has been attending Mr. Perry for Chronic Rheumatism since his
discharge from the Army and recommending him a change of climate
to such a place as East Africa.

I understand from Mr. Perry that he is at present working with
the Great Western Railway in connexion with "gas and water" which
involves much railway travelling; that he has to be helped in &
out of carriages &c. and that on many occasions "collapsed"
his heart is normal; he is muscularly well developed
and of good physique. The pains are chiefly referred to his
thigh regions and knee and ankle joints. There is some enlargement
of his ankle joints of a chronic nature. His knees show no signs
present of rheumatic affection. I believe he suffers from chronic
rheumatism, but I am unable to certify that there is a real risk
of death or permanent injury if he is not allowed to proceed to
East Africa.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, W. 1.

R. H. ...

Sir E. Northey points out that there is no kind of force whatever employed by any Govt. in forcing labour under the Circular. The point that arises is whether the native Chief employs force to make his natives work. Sir E. Northey has no information which tends to show that this is done, but, of course, it is always possible that the Chiefs might be tempted to employ force. In any event, as Sir E. Northey observes, you are bound to work through the Chiefs in native administration, and should there be any abuse of this kind it will undoubtedly come to light and can then be dealt with.

No action would appear to be required except possibly as to presenting to Parliament a copy of the Circular if the S. of S. desires this to be done.

ackd
23.3.20

Sir H. Glad

For a decision as to A. As W. Chamberlain has told Sir E. Northey that the agitation is dying out, so that perhaps we could drop it alone.

If the agitation is continued I expect most trouble will be the women & children, and as a matter of fact, it is said that the work (coffee picking etc) is broken up with them, so that it may not be necessary to use any Govt. influence on that point.

W.C.S. 8/3/20
Prof. Fuller

Cl. G. Jones We need not continue H. J. Jones
leaving the Circular will be got it with the
O.C. report
P.S. 3 Jan 1/3

Official Report
25 February 1920

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

NATIVE LABOUR.

78 & 79. Lord HENRY CAVENDISH BENTINCK asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, (1) whether his attention has been drawn to the protests published by the bishops of British East Africa against a circular recently issued instructing administrative officials to stand the legitimate anxiety of the Noble exercise pressure upon the natives in Lord and other hon. Members of the order to force them to labour for private House that no illegitimate pressure interests outside the reserves; and should be put on native chiefs which whether he proposes taking any action in would cause them practically to force the matter? (2) Whether the circular issued in British East Africa instructs administrative officials to encourage labourers to work in the interests of private persons, including women and children; whether this circular was submitted to the Colonial Office before being issued; and, if not, whether he will give instructions for its withdrawal pending consideration by His Majesty's Government?

Lord H. CAVENDISH-BENTINCK: Does my hon. Friend not agree that it is a very grave departure from precedent, so far as our Colonial Administration is concerned, that any pressure should be put on the natives to work for private interests?

Lieut.-Colonel AMERY: I quite understand the legitimate anxiety of the Noble House that no illegitimate pressure should be put on native chiefs which would cause them practically to force the natives to labour for private employers, but I should have thought it was quite in the interests of the natives and the country generally—

Lord H. CAVENDISH-BENTINCK: That they should be forced to go out!

Lieut.-Colonel AMERY: And not unreasonably that it should be explained to His Majesty's Government that they can labour for private employers so long as no force or illegitimate pressure is applied.

The UNDER-SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES (Lieut.-Colonel Amery): I have only just received a copy of the circular referred to in the Noble Lord's two questions. I will certainly give the matter my most careful consideration. I am not, however, prepared pending such consideration, and before ascertaining in what spirit the instructions have actually been carried out, to direct the withdrawal of the circular.

Colonel WEDGWOOD: Is the hon. and gallant Gentleman not aware that this circular does bring pressure?

The representations of the bishops are directed mainly against the use of native chiefs and headmen to induce natives to work outside their reserves and against influence of this kind being used at all in the case of women and children. They recognise that in present circumstances a supply of labour is essential to the country and desirable in the interests of the natives, and they actually advocate the adoption of the principle of compulsion under certain safeguards.

Colonel WEDGWOOD: Was the issue of this circular inspired from home, from the Colonial Office, and can we have it laid upon the Table of the House?

Lieut.-Colonel AMERY: A quite under-circular was certainly not inspired from home. As I explained just now, I have only seen it within the last few days, but I will consider the question of laying it