

EAST AFR. PROT.

C. O.

31287

23rd 1910

31287

Col. R.

1910

11 Oct.

Previous Paper

26300

Desperate European Children

Cannot make any useful suggestions without some further info on points specified.

Mr. Fiddes

I think that the answer to these enquiries are as follows:-

- (1) The term may be taken to apply to children both of whose parents are of European nationality, as meaning between Europeans & natives is unknown.
- (2) Proposals are to restrict to children of two subjects - It is not likely that there will be many cases of subject of other European parents, & I think that we sh^d. deal with them if & when they occur.

(3) Yes

(4) Yes

H. J. R.

12/10

Subsequent Paper

2811

have been making further enquiry on this subject.

I have been to the L.G.B. and find that the idea at the back of their minds is that nothing should be done which may result in the State children of the E.A.P. (or any other Colony or Protectorate) becoming a burden on the resources of the U.K. This is a reasonable attitude. The U.K. has a serious problem on its hands in the shape of its own destitute children. Apart from the national question, the L.G.B. point out that the relief of the poor is managed by local authorities out of local rates, so that even if there were some ground for asking the Imperial Govt. to look after the destitute children of the E.A.P. it would not be fair to put (say) Battersea or Reading into the position of having to do so.

This objection is of course ^{largely} met if the E.A.P. children are placed with an institution in this country which will not only train & educate them up to a certain age but will also see them established in life afterwards. Such an institution is, as you suggest, Dr. Barnardo's

[+ not, etc because it is unwise E.A.P. child in employ in the U.K. and some person who on to be

and that ex. the homes probably the annual ex. (allow) to be paid.

Homes. They never let go a child they have trained, if they can possibly help it. But go on assisting & finding employment with unflinching patience. I have made informal enquiries (we are in pretty close touch with the Homes at the E. J. O.)

I find that they would not regard themselves as debarred from accepting children of British parentage on both sides from the E.A.P. provided that they were really destitute. They would not say whether children of mixed ^{European} parentage would be accepted, the father, I gather would have to be British in any case.

It would be necessary from the point of view both of the L.G.B. and Dr. Barnardo's Homes to guard against the sending of mentally deficient or vicious children. ~~the Homes acceptances~~ ^{Contract children}

I think it is necessary in the first instance to get from the Govt. information on points 1 and 2 raised by the L.G.B. The answers may be

as you suggest in your minute of the
12th Oct, but we should be quite
sure of it before we frame any proposals.
I should like at the same time
to make one or two further enquiries
of them what number of destitute
children have the Kikuyu Mission looked
after? what was their nationality?
In what circumstances were they left
destitute? Has any effort been made
to make ^{the} parents contribute to their support
& what powers have the ^{the} Cpt. in
this respect?

I should like also to ask the
Cpt. how, if the children were educated
at the Nairobi Boarding School at
Cpt. express ^{as he suggests}, they could be disposed of
eventually, off the training at the
School fitted men to take up some
of the subordinate clerical & technical
posts for which Europeans are wanted
of which we have so much trouble
in filling from his country it would

an
ent
letter
H. J. R.

be a great gain.
On the whole my feeling is that
the S. A. P. should bear locally its own
burden of destitute children unless
the difficulties in the way are insuperable.
But that failing this, the idea of Dr
Barnardo's Homes is practicable, at a
price. I would therefore make first
the enquiries of the Cpt. suggested
in this minute without saying anything
about Dr Barnardo's Homes, & reconsider
the position in the light of the reply
of any thing to be done event
ually, it will be necessary to consult
the Treasury.

Start
Oct. 27.

Mr. Fildes, I quite agree that we
ought to act with great caution in
this matter. Proceed as proposed by
Mr. Kitter?
H. J. R.
27/5

If the question assumes practical
importance, it seems very awkward one.
Passed in last quarter papers.
Can you name some to which aspect
of the law the papers are
L. responsible. Considerably that of any
legal remedy, could an abandonment of father
who might be liable to the courts?

28/10

I do not think there would be
any remedy. The offence if the man was
proceeded against here would have
been committed in a foreign country or
not within the jurisdiction of the C. J. If
proceedings were taken in S.H.P. or the
man came over here no means
that I am aware of as to the
the order of the S.H.P. Court.

H.P.C.
28/10

W. Piddles

We can proceed as Mr. Butler proposes in
the first instance. But whatever the reply
I do not anticipate real difficulty in seeing
that these little people are properly looked
after in this country. Logically the position is
extraordinarily difficult, but in practice the remedy
will be so small that the logical dilemma will

28/10
E.S.

107,906 A. 1910.

to be convenient if correspondents will—
(1) Give the Name, Address, Letter, and Date of each letter to which they reply; (2) Let communications on different subjects, or relating to different places, form separate letters; (3) Use paper of uniform size; and (4) Address all communications to The Secretary.

C. O. 31287
REC'D
OCT 10 1910

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD,

Whitehall, S.W.

15 October, 1910.

Sir,

I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to Mr. Widdes' letter of the 5th ultimo, 2639/1910, with reference to Government responsibility for pauper children of European descent in the East Africa Protectorate, whose parents have abandoned them, and I am to state that the Board regret that they are unable to offer any useful suggestions without some further information on the subject.

In particular, the Board would be glad to be informed more precisely on the following points:—

1. As regards the expression "children of European descent", does the term refer to children both of whose parents are of European nationality, or to children of a European father and a native mother?
2. Assuming that the children referred to are of pure European descent, is it suggested that the proposals of the Secretary of State should apply to subjects of any European Power, or be restricted to the children of British subjects?
3. As regards the suggested arrangement with

Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

223

Dr. Barnardo's Homes or similar Institutions "for the reception and ultimate disposal of the children", is it contemplated by the Secretary of State that the payments for defraying the cost of travelling, outfit and maintenance of the children, should be made by the Colony direct to the Managers of any Institution to which children may be sent under the arrangement?

With reference to the term "ultimate disposal of the children" is it intended that the arrangement should bind the Managers of the Institutions receiving the children to place them in employment when their schooling is finished? If so, is any guarantee to be obtained from the Managers that the employment will be of a reasonably permanent character?

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Assistant Secretary.

L. G. B. / 31287

S. A. P.

329

Reached in today

Recd

kept it, hoping
to find time to draft
but failed miserably
to do so. S. A. B.

DRAFT.

E. A. P. No. 690

Gov. in R. G. Mason

MINUTE

Mr. Gashin 10/11

Mr. South 10

W. Reed 11

Mr. Justice

Mr. Cox

Sir C. Lucas

Sir F. Hopwood

Col. Seely

Lord Crewe

W. C. L.

November 18/00

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your dispatch

dated 4th of the 4th August
relating to the disposal of
the subject of Capt.

responsibility for further

children of European

descent in the S. A. P.,

whose parents
have abandoned them

to inform you that,
with a view to giving more
before coming to any
detailed consideration to the
decision on this matter

are of pure European
descent, would you
suggest that the
Brit Government should
accept responsibility
for subjects of any
European provenance
that, only the children
of British subjects
should be considered?

(c) What is the
number of destitute
children taken
charge of by the French
Catholic Mission at
Kikuyu, to which
you refer in the 2nd
page of your dispatch?
What was their
nationality? In what
circ. were they left
destitute? ... and the