

43702

31



Governor's Office 43702
Nairobi
14 DEC 07
November 1907.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 494

My Lord,

In obedience to the instructions contained in paragraph 2 of Your Lordship's despatch No. 530 of September 24th, I have the honour to report that the general lines of the procedure it is proposed to adopt with regard to concessions for the collection of fibre are as follows:

When an application is received for an area of fibre producing land, an Officer of the Agricultural Department and if forest land is concerned a Forestry Officer will be deputed to inspect and report on the quality of the land. If this is found to be suitable for fibre only a lease for 25 years of not more than 50 square miles will be given on the terms laid down in Your Lordship's despatch No. 190 of March 27th last. A lease of 25 years is thought advisable because

H. M. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

the

No. 323

the working of these concessions entails considerable expenditure in machinery and plant, and no one would embark capital on an undertaking of this nature if only a short lease were allowed.

3. If on the other hand the inspection shows that the land will produce cultivated fibres, rubber, cotton &c. it is proposed to reduce the area and to grant the concession on the general terms for agricultural land.

4. I am strongly of opinion, however, that it will be advisable to consider each case as it arises on its merits and while keeping to the general lines laid down to suggest any proposed modifications for Your Lordship's approval.

5. Mr. Huschins' report on this question will be forwarded shortly.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

Henry Buller