

EAST AFR. PROT.

45744

No. L 3 11/11



Governor's No. 1061, 53

1908

9 Nov.

Last previous Paper.

6 dis
39+24

Tour in Narivaka + 1908 Despatches

Submits report on tour made to District
Agro & Prod. Comm. Narivaka. Report contains
of farm visit, stock sale at Narivaka, labour
supply, wheat & food deliveries from, big factory
of Highlands & L. Highlands. Proposes to visit farm
& produce exp. (Minutes) at the Rift Valley & along
Highlands as soon as he can. Can have time after
Council meeting.

Mr. Read

See 43445.

This is the most satisfactory
account of development in
the Highlands which we have
yet received. I hope it will
soon show its effect in the
exports of the produce, which
at present are quite insignificant.

See per. 15 as to the Officers
of the Africa Sudafrica

770

To Mr. Goldmann, 12 Dec
4 44 11/11 11/11 11/11 11/11 11/11 11/11 11/11 11/11 11/11

NEW

Not on subsequent Paper

Beacon Factory. We might also
them up as the Gov suggests,
and ask receipt in writing on
4/3/45

~~11/12~~

Mr. Arthur

~~Mr. Arthur~~
I am glad to hear that you
are preparing a report for the
Mr. Goldmann saw you recently &
is pleased that the whole had
rights over large areas of the
land on the coast which it is proposed
to give to the Government & that it
would be well then while
to take up the remainder. He
no doubt consulting with his colleagues
with a view to submitting a fresh
scheme, but it would be no harm to
show them up on the question of
the Beacon Factory

H. J. R.

1/12

Oct. 2

Lord Cross

4/3/45

This is a very interesting report. Note the unanimous
testimony that a moderate employer has no
difficulty whatever in obtaining labour. J.S.R.

See report. Lord Haldane told
me that the story was a lie. 2/3/45



5744

Governor's Office,

Nairobi,

November 23rd 1906.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 534.

(Inst. 11)

My Lord,

I have the honour to submit a report on a tour I lately made with the Director of Agriculture and the Provincial Commissioner Naivasha in the Naivasha and Molo districts.

2. My principal object was to visit the farms, note the progress and development made, study local conditions and ascertain the views of the individual settlers on general questions affecting their interests.

3. Starting from Nairobi on the 18th ultimo I halted for a day at Naivasha to transact business with the Provincial Commissioner and then proceeded to visit some of the farms on the West of the Naivasha lake. On one farm of 10,000 acres there were 180 head of cattle, besides an equal number belonging to other farmers, a substantial stone house and stock for 1000 stocks, the owner has been fifteen months on his land and has worked strenuously to improve his property. The house built on the slope of a hill commanded a beautiful view of the lake, and altogether it struck me as being a charming homestead. On another farm

H. H. Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Whitehall Street,

London, S.W.

of 10,000 acres there were 40 head of cattle. The owner, who has means, has not yet decided as to the lines on which to proceed. The house was a fairly comfortable one of wattle and daub, but being situated too close to the lake was exposed to the mosquitoes which are prevalent on the lake shore, but neither he nor his wife and children ever suffered from fever. Two farms were just starting. On one of 2,000 acres there were two young Englishmen lately arrived in the country who were living in tents, and engaged in building a cattle boom with their hearts full of the work and life before them. On another farm of larger dimensions the son of a well known South African stock farmer was building his house, working himself on the roof, having already provided his cattle with the necessary sheds.

4. On none of the farms visited were there any complaints as to difficulty in getting labour.
5. The hills to the west and south of the lake provide excellent grazing for cattle and sheep, and ostriches should thrive, as besides good running ground lucerne can be easily grown which is not the case on the Athi plains without the help of irrigation.
6. Being due at Naivasha for the stock sale on the 16th I had to leave the farms to the South and the East of the lake for another visit. The sale of the surplus stock from the Government farms at Naivasha and the private sale on the following day were a great success: there was keen competition for the government stock, the quality of which was well known and prices ran high, the proceeds reaching over £150 more than anticipated. The sale was

an important one as marking the effect now established of the introduction of pure blood from home and the up grading from the native stock, and the keen desire on the part of the pastoral farmers to obtain stock of good quality. After a parade of pedigree bulls I presided at a lunch given to the settlers at which about 100 sat down having Lord Delamere on my right and another leading settler on my left. After the lunch I made a short speech fitting to the occasion which was well received and we adjourned to the yard. The details of the sale are given in the enclosed cutting containing the report of the auctioneers.

7. As Messrs. Newland and Parlon remark these sales may well be said to mark an epoch in stock breeding in the Protectorate both in respect of prices and quality.

8. Leaving Naivasha on the 17th I proceeded to Kisumu with Sir H. Bell who had lately been staying with me at Nairobi and Sir David Bruce whom I was anxious to consult with regard to the measures to be taken to deal with sleeping sickness.

9. Returning to Molo Station I proceeded on the 20th to visit the farms of the Molo Settlement Area. This extends to the South east of the railway line for a distance of twenty miles to the Setik Forest which separates the settlement from the Setik reserve. The country is a series of rolling downs interspersed with forest lands and well watered at an elevation in parts equalling and

in others but little below the 8200 feet which mark the
 Neu summit where crossed by the railway. The quality of
 the pasturage and richness of the dairy produce are
 probably unequalled in the Protectorate. The temperature
 is European, falling at times below freezing point, and
 to new comers unpleasantly cold when the rain falls.
 Residents however, soon get accustomed to the climate, the
 free open air life is conducive to health and malaria
 and chills seem unknown. Whether the high altitude will
 tell in the long run on constitutions accustomed to a lower
 level is a matter upon which opinions differ, but the
 conditions here struck me as the most favourable for
 permanent occupation by white race.

10. The settlers are one and all of the right stamp
 exclusively devoted to the work on their farms, not
 interested in local politics and determined to make their
 ventures a success.

11. I note below the progress made on the various farms
 visited, which with but few exceptions are of 10,000 acres,
 and particulars as to length of residence

(a) In occupation since May last. Has a few cattle
 and sheep - a cattle boma; engaged in finishing wood and
 iron house.

(b) Two in partnership now separating - two years -
 hundred and eighty head of cattle of which 45 half breeds -
 one imported pedigree bull, 500 sheep, of which two thirds
 are half bred merinos, eight imported merino and Lincoln ewes,
 two merino rams. Seventeen buildings on the farm of which
 four are iron, two living houses; remainder log or bamboo

and

and grass, exclusive of the labour of the occupants, the buildings are estimated to have cost £280. Hope to build in stone when profits come in, all profits at present put into stock - neat flower and vegetable garden.

(c) Four years in residence - cattle 257 including one imported bull, and 30 half and quarter brede - sheep 780 including 37 merino pure breeds and 150 half breeds, 3 rams, 9 ostriches. Buildings 12, of cedar log and grass, 3 miles of fencing estimated cost £300. When farm pays will build in stone, all profits now put in stock.

(d) Two in partnership - occupation 2 years - cattle 289 including one imported bull and two heifers and 40 half breeds - sheep 250 including 26 pure bred merinos - 5 ostriches. Buildings 12 of sorts all log. Estimated cost at £500, which I consider too high.

(e) Two brothers - occupation 3 1/2 years - 2 short horn pedigree bulls, 27 oxen, 52 cows - 160 native sheep, 15 imported Romney Marsh rams and ewes. Buildings living house, outhouse and cattle sheds.

The Romney Marsh sheep are an experiment; coming from the market of Kent they should prove particularly immune against foot rot.

(f) 3 partners on 5000 acres - Occupation since January last - Cattle 550, including three imported bulls and two heifers - sheep 1500 native, 100 imported; pigs pure breeds 28, mares thorough bred 7, mules and donkeys 20. Living house and 7 log buildings and fencing

fencing valued at £300.

(g) Occupation eighteen months - 50 cattle and 500 sheep and living houses and five buildings including large cattle shed. Value £300. In place of iron one of the living houses was roofed with thatch, a preparation of petroleum prepared on sheets and easily manipulated.

12. I was careful to look into the buildings on the various farms in connection with the development required for the lease under the new Land Bill. Both the Director of Agriculture and myself were of opinion that the development shown on these farms was sufficient for the purpose, and the settlers themselves, whilst anxious in their own interests to put up the necessary accommodation for their cattle and sheep were much opposed to spending money, at first beyond actual requirements, which would yield a return by being invested in stock. None of the settlers had any pending question with the Land Office, and with the exception of the new comers who required further workmen, they ridiculed the idea of any difficulty in obtaining labour. The universal opinion was that once a man is known as a considerate employer he can get as many workmen as he requires. This district is chiefly supplied with labour from Kaviranda, the number of men required being of course less than in an agricultural district.

13. I was altogether very favourably impressed with what I saw on the Mole farms. On my return the train was halted near Njoro where I was met by Lord Selkirk and taken to see his farm of 300 acres of wheat, the reaping of which by machinery was proceeding. The sight

of

of this area of wheat, large for a new experiment, was a fine one; the crops, of the Gluyas rust proof variety, was close, in full ear, and as level as a billiard table: the experiment conducted on this scale should establish the success of the wheat industry in this part of the Protectorate. There were about 200 acres also under mesquites, and the Manager, Mr. Wood told me he hoped to have some 1000 acres under cultivation on this farm next year. A flour mill in connection with this farm is being established at Nairobi. After Lord Delamere had lunched with us in my Railway carriage, I proceeded to Nakuru to look into the question of the water supply for this rising township, which I shall visit again in January to open the Agricultural Exhibition organised by the Pastoralists Society.

14. During my halt at Nakuru I took the opportunity of visiting the estates of Messrs. Flommer and Chamberlain, situated nine and sixteen miles respectively, from the Station.

15. Returning to Nairobi on the 30th, I halted near Limuru to inspect the pig factory of the Uplands of East Africa syndicate in charge of Mr. Prosser. The factory has not been built but a good deal of work has been done by Mr. Prosser during the six months he has been on the land in clearing and building; he is purchasing pigs but tells me his instructions are to go ahead, for which he has the necessary funds deposited in the Bank, when he gets the lease for the Limuru land. Unfortunately this

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lease is part and portion of the lease for the whole concession on the Coast, the limitation of which have not yet been finally determined. Steps will be taken by the Commissioner of Lands to give the Syndicate either a provisional lease for this limoru land, or a letter notifying the terms of the lease. Both Mr. Prosser and the settlers are anxious that the work of the factory should proceed, and as the land has been demarcated by a surveyor, and there are no questions left for discussion, I think the Syndicate might be requested to hurry on with the business. I may add that a sample of bacon cured by Mr. Prosser with local materials proved to be of excellent quality.

16. Thus ended a very interesting tour; I propose to visit the farms under the Aberdare range and others in the Rift Valley and along the Mole river as soon as I can spare time after the next Council meeting.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

J. Hays

(J. Hays Esq)

lease is part and portion of the lease for the main concession on the Coast, the limitation of which have not yet been finally determined. Steps will be taken by the Commissioner of Lands to give the Syndicate either a provisional lease for this inland land, or a letter notifying the terms of the lease. Both Mr. Prosser and the settlers are anxious that the work of the factory should proceed, and as the land has been surveyed by a surveyor, and there are no questions left for discussion, I think the Syndicate might be requested to hurry on with the business. I may add that a sample of bacon cured by Mr. Prosser with local materials proved to be of excellent quality.

16. Thus ended every interesting tour, I propose to visit the farms under the Mandara range and others in the Rift Valley and along the Molo river as soon as I can spare time after the next Council meeting.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble servant,

John A. Prosser

(John A. Prosser)

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No. 42744 S.A.P.

151

12 Dec '08

C. F. Garamba

SIR,

With ref. to previous corresp. *regarding*
~~subject of~~ the proposed concession to
the Bishop of East Africa Syndicate,
I am ~~pleas~~ to inform you that the Gov. of
the S.A.P. has addressed me on the sub-
ject of the bacon factory to be erected
by the Syndicate at Limuru.

Handwritten note:
2nd 4592

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11/12
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Mr. Ellis

Mr. Deane

The Gov. states that he is prepared
to give the Syndicate either a provis-
ional lease for the land at Limuru, or
a letter notifying the terms of the ~~the~~
lease, without waiting for the execution
of the general lease to the Syndicate.

In these circumstances, Lord Cromer
will be glad to hear whether
~~the~~ the Syndicate ~~is~~ prepared
to ~~proceed~~ with the erection of the
factory.

(SIGNED) R. E. ANTROBUS

Handwritten: 369-11

Handwritten notes:
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4/1. 64. 10...