

DOMESTIC

EAST AFR. PROT.
GENERAL
No. 32348

C O
32348
Rec'd
PL 9 SEP 35

1905
Sept
Special Paper

(Subject)

Veterinary Assistants

Time offered not good enough to have suitable persons Suggest terms of necessity in a developing country for obtaining men of superior knowledge of their profession

Dr. Allan Kenton (Mimote)

There is nothing in vacancy for which we have two candidates - Henry (just qualified - paper with P.S.) and Vincent (1892 born) neither has any experience knowledge of tropical vet. pathology & bacteriology

This letter is the outcome of an interview between the Chief V. O. of the Board of Agriculture & the Fieldian at which I was present. The Board seems that the settlement of the present questions raised in it should await his return. The application of the Board's recommendations with to E. A. P. will be a different matter, neither the Chief nor his staff are the sort of man to be placed in charge of a Vet. Dept. of the kind outlined here, and the C. O. told me that, even if we were to offer to attend postgraduate courses during leave - which seems desirable they would not be worth the salary of \$1000

See Com. Case No. 11

down here. They are both on a permanent footing
and at salaries of £550 & £500

It follows that we cannot hold out to
candidates any prospect of a rise to £600
after three years. I've told this out to the CVO
who was not able to suggest any way out of
the difficulty, but thought that the system of
offering a substantial bonus after ^{9 or 10} 9 years
service which exists in the U.S.A. has would
be an attraction in the prospect of an increased
salary.

If we could get Treasury approval to this
idea (and the chief immediate objection of
this latter is that it strengthens our hands
with the Treasury), require all newly appoint-
ment to attend a post-graduate course at
Camden Town before appoint, and all present
officers to attend such a course during
leave, we should at least pass the way
towards securing a proper test, but as
the time indicated in L. letter when the
present senior posts become vacant.

In any case, if we are to make any progress
towards the Board, but I think we ought not
to send out anyone who is not qualified in
the special requirements of hospital practice
before we do. It is of course a somewhat
speculative but it is undesirable that the senior
posts should have more than the chief and
senior staff. I think we ought to have if we
can make a leading staff of all general &
specialist members the same. I think therefore
that we should first of all telegraph to
the Treasury referring to last para. of last
letter of 21st of June. That in view of
the fact that we are by the Board of Officers that

Mr. Hutton is strongly of opinion that
no more Assistant Vet. Officers should
be sent out who have not undergone
instruction in preventive hospital
veterinary medicine & ask whether
Com. can ever wait for its third
man until a candidate has undergone
a post-graduate course?

(There was a course at Camden Town in October
last year and will probably have this year
also. I understand that the course
was well supported.)

Mr. Antistone

He shall have ^{initially} ~~initially~~
contribution in our the heads of
the present Veterinary Officers
of the Petitioner's group in
influence as a result of deep
breeding country.

Present as proposed by
Mr. Antistone
M.A. 1/14

I agree. If the present
heads of the Dept are not
up to the work they must
make way for others
at once

32348
Rec^d
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SEP 25 1905

Any further communication should be addressed, not to any individual by name, but to—

THE SECRETARY,
BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES,
4, WHITEHALL PLACE,
LONDON, S.W.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES
4, WHITEHALL PLACE,

LONDON, S.W.

8th. September, 1905.

A.8855/1905

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to advert to Mr. Antrobus' letter of the 26th ^{July last} inst., No. 25545/1905, inviting the Board to recommend two qualified Veterinary Assistants for appointment to the Veterinary Department of the East Africa Protectorate, and in reply I am to say that the Board are divided that the terms of service, and of remuneration which it is proposed to offer are not such as would secure the services of veterinarians who could be regarded as being suitable for the appointments in question, although there are, doubtless, many veterinary surgeons who would be prepared to accept such appointments if opportunity were given to them.

In the opinion of the Board, the general question of obtaining the services of veterinary surgeons well qualified for the performance of the duties which would be required of them in the Colonies and in India, is one of considerable importance and they desire to take this opportunity of laying before the Secretary of State for his consideration, the following general observations upon the subject:

(1) In a new country which is to be developed into a colony, agriculture, in which animals play even a greater part than in older countries, is the industry in which the majority of cultivators engage in settling;

(2) It is therefore one of the primary duties of Veterinary Officers appointed in such a Colony to obtain at the earliest

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
S.W.

possible moment an accurate knowledge of the animal plagues indigenous to the soil, and to take steps to guard against the introduction of fresh diseases by means of imported stock: 17

(3) Inasmuch as these indigenous diseases are often more or less local, the ordinary education obtained at home does not qualify a Veterinary graduate to deal with them, unless he has had a supplementary training as an investigator;

(4) In a new colony where the services of a few veterinary surgeons are secured at the outset to deal with thousands of animals, the practice of veterinary medicine is not simply that of the healing art in the ordinary acceptation of the term. It means rather that the veterinarian must be skilled in legislative and preventive medicine, possessing such an intimate knowledge of the subject as to be able to apply such knowledge to the exigencies of knowledge or legislation which will be applicable to the diseases of the country.

(5) The fact that the majority of services generally entitles to hold the most responsible posts, requires it of importance that a Veterinary service in a developing country should not be commenced with mediocre men, as it is probable that when the more advanced condition of affairs demands greater talents, the only posts which would attract the right type of officer are already occupied.

(6) It must be borne in mind that when once a man leaves home for service abroad, it is seldom he has an opportunity of returning. Before he can be induced to go abroad, therefore, he expects that the terms of service will open up a life long career, and that a reasonable increase of remuneration commensurate with the length of his service will be offered.

(7) In the circumstances above mentioned it appears desirable to encourage some of the best qualified men to accept service in the Colonies, a step which, under existing conditions, they are unwilling to take by reason of the fact that financially their

opportunities are better at home.

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(8) It will be seen, therefore, that the essential point to be considered is the initial training of candidates for the Colonial Veterinary Service and the cost of such training in this country at the present time, and in this connection it is to be borne in mind that London alone of the Veterinary Colleges in this country, has been able to provide anything in the nature of a practical course in what may be termed the Imperial pathology of animals.

(9) The provision of suitable training in this country, for candidates for veterinary appointments in the Colonies would be of great economic advantage, but under existing circumstances financial assistance would require to be given from public funds.

As regards the proposed appointment to the East Africa Protectorate I am to say that the Home Secretary that a maximum of £500 per annum would be a fair and attractive remuneration for a suitable Chief Veterinary Officer and that the services of well qualified specialists might be obtained on the same scale. I enclose herewith a letter in reply, provided that the salary referred to be increased, after a suitable probationary period of three years, to a maximum of say £600 per annum by annual increments.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. W. Anstruther

Assistant Secretary.

opportunities are better at home.

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(8) It will be seen, therefore, that the essential point to be considered is the initial training of candidates for the Colonial Veterinary Service and the cost of such training in this country at the present time, and in this connection it is to be borne in mind that London alone of the Veterinary Colleges in this country, has been able to provide anything in the nature of a practical course in what may be termed the Imperial pathology of animals.

(9) The provision of suitable training in this country, for candidates for veterinary appointments in the Colonies would be of great economic advantage, but under existing circumstances financial assistance would require to be given from public funds.

As regards the proposed appointment to the East Africa Protectorate I am to say that the Board consider that a salary of £2000 per annum would be a fair and attractive remuneration for a suitable Chief Veterinary Officer and that the services of well qualified candidates can be obtained on the terms stated in the enclosed letter under reply, provided that the salary offered is increased, after a suitable probationary period of three years, to a maximum of say £2600 per annum by annual increments.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A.W. Anstruther

Assistant Secretary.

M.F.O.
32348

E.A.P.

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Sent 6¹⁶ Indexed
Mm September 1919
15/11
12/19
Referring to my despatch
dated

DRAFT Telegram

Stewart

and 36120

Nairobi

24949

347

last paragraph

MINUTE.

- M. B. 12/9
- M. S. 12/9
- M. A. 12/9
- M. C.
- M. L.
- M. G.
- M. H.
- The Duke of Marlborough
- Mr. Lyttelton.

in view of representation
Sunderland petition

Board of Agriculture
advising

strongly recommended that
parquet

no more Assistant
Lieut

Voluntary Surge
Lieut

should be anti who has not
protection sparingly

undergo instruction in
headland