

EAST AFR. PROT

31236

C. O.
31236
REC.
REC. 8 JUL 15

Commons

Deportation of L. W. Ritch

1915

7 July

Previous Paper 111

30529 29

Mr. Pringle. — To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies, if he will say under what Order in Council Mr. L. W. Ritch, barrister-at-law, was arrested and deported from British East Africa in November last; what were the nature and details of the charge; by whom was it preferred; and by what evidence was it supported. [Monday 12th July.]

Mr. Paisley
Sir G. Fiddes.

To oral reply

Mr. Steel. Scotland has spoken to Mr. Paisley + myself about this.

? Reply :-

Mr. Ritch was not deported under any order in Council but under martial law which was proclaimed in British East Africa on the 5th of August. For the information asked in the concluding part of the question I would refer the Hon. the member to the answer

Reply

Subsequent Paper

29909

answer from by the Under Secretary for H. J. P.
of State for War on May 11th 1915 2118

H. J. P.

8/7/15

JR
8/7/15

But the last sentence, plus
the main reply, is not an answer to
the point who will shoulder the
charge. It might be well to add:-

"I may say that at the request of the
C. of S. I have found the Under Secy. of State
for the War has made careful personal
enquiry into the matter, and is satisfied
that there were sufficient grounds for the
action taken. It would not be in the public
interest to say more." Dec. 9 15

LA 9.7.15

I think Sir G. P. is right.
But as Mr. R. T. is both
a professional agitator and a
clever fellow, and as the case
has its weak points, it will be
well for me to let you know
them. Also show W. O. before reply.

AS. N. 9.7.

also on attached sheet

answer from by the Under Secretary for H. J. R.
of State for War on May 11th 2118

H. J. R.

8/7/15

J.R.
8/7/15

But the last sentence, plus
the former reply, is not an answer to
W. O. who will doubtless return to the
charge. It might be well to add:-

"I have read that at the request of the
W. O. who has found the letter. While
for the purpose has made careful personal
enquiry into the matter, and I am satisfied
that there were sufficient grounds for the
action taken. It would not be in the public
interest to say more."

Dec. 9 7 15

Dec. 9.7.15

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But as Mr. Ritchie is both
a professional agitator and a
clever fellow, and as the case
has its weak points, it will be
well for me to let you know
them.

Also show W. O. hope reply.
A.S.R. 9.7.

reply on attached sheet
+ quote

Reply

145

Mr R was not departed under a letter
in Council but under the letter which
was produced in B. E. 4 in the
Court. The grounds on which this action
was taken have been submitted to
me by the Authorities and see a request
to direct the making of the order
course taken.

Wm 9.7.75

See substituted reply on
attached sheet.

Wm 9.7.75

P.T.O

Official Report

Monday 12 July.

The SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES (Mr. Bonar Law): Mr. Ritch was not deported under an Order in Council but under Martial Law, which was proclaimed in British East Africa on the 5th August. He was deported in the interest of the peace and security of the Protectorate, and I see no reason to doubt the wisdom of the course taken.

MR. PRINGLE: Is the right hon. Gentleman not prepared to state more definitely the reasons, and to say whether there was anything in his conduct to justify the action taken?

MR. BONAR LAW: The fact that Martial Law was proclaimed was in itself proof that it was considered necessary to take steps beyond the ordinary law. I do not think it would be in the public interest to state the grounds.

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389. Mr. Pirbright. — To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies, if he will say under what Order in Council Mr. L. W. Ritch, barrister-at-law, was arrested and deported from British East Africa in November last; what were the nature and details of the charge; by whom was it preferred; and by what evidence was it supported.

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For Oral reply.

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