



E.A.S.

61908

61908
SECRET

61908

Governor
Belfield 705.

1916

PLAGUE IN NAIROBI.

20. Nov.

Last previous Paper.

Forwards copy of resolution passed at Public Meeting protesting against apathetic attitude adopted by Govt with regard to epidemic and suggesting measures to be taken, together with copy of correspondence on the subject.

402/54454

Mr. Read.

This trouble arises out of a recent outbreak of plague in Nairobi. When we last heard from the Governor on the subject, in the middle of November, there had been 45 deaths, including two Europeans.

It would seem that a certain number of the European residents took alarm and convened the meeting, described in these papers, by means of very alarmist advertisements in the newspapers. At the meeting, which was representative only of Europeans, and not of Asiatics as was originally claimed, a series of resolutions was passed, excellent in theory, but ignoring entirely the essential questions of time and expense. The resolutions call, for instance, for the "immediate cessation of the existing overcrowding" and for the "immediate taking of really effective measures to disinfect and render innocuous the Bazaar and other districts."

Somewhat

Next subsequent Paper.

402/25140/14

Somewhat inconsistently, another resolution claims that the building rules and regulations already in force, have been so strict as to prevent the demolition and replacing of a number of offending buildings.

The Municipal Committee, which is by no means an entirely official body, is satisfied that the Government is doing all that it reasonably can. This is the only line that we can take in reply.

Acknowledge receipt, and ask the Governor to inform Mr Udall that the resolutions have been received by the Secretary of State, and that the Secretary of State is satisfied that the local authorities are taking all possible steps to combat the epidemic, and that the larger questions of the health of Nairobi and of the future planning of the town are constantly under consideration with a view to taking such steps as may be practicable from time for permanent improvement.

I must confess that I am glad that the Governor has had this shake-up from the European community. There has been a painful delay in carrying out Professor Simpson's recommendations for the improvement of the health of Nairobi, and, in particular, in drafting a public health law in the lines which he advised. The Governor is inclined to be a little less for too rigid an adherence to Professor Simpson's recommendations. We are inclined to blame him for his failure to evade some of the requirements which, at the time he agreed with Professor Simpson, he was considering.

It is plain that we must have a conference on the subject as soon as possible after the Governor arrives. Professor Simpson is eager for it, and I see no other way of coming to a decision on the outstanding questions.

*The Gov. Secy
is at the
with modern
development
concerned
concerning
the usual
against
who he
L.A.P. 4
had such
of fever
nearly*

*Yes
H.D.R.*

H.B.

H.D.R.

2/11/17

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

No 708.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

211
1908
20 DEC 1916

1916-10
AFRICA
NO 708

November 10th, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward to you the following:-
 1. A copy of a Resolution passed at a Public Meeting of the Residents of Nairobi on the 10th ultimo. I enclose also copies of subsequent correspondence with Mr. Udall as noted in the margin. I forward also, at the request of the Indian Association of Nairobi, a copy of a communication received from that body.

2. The Meeting in question was, I understand, convened because of the fact that a fatal case of plague had occurred amongst the European.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
 ANDREW BONAR LAW, P.C., M.P.,
 SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
 DOWNING STREET,
 LONDON, S. W.

Resolution
 For Mr. Udall
 15-10-16
 For Mr. Udall
 20-10-16
 For Mr. Udall
 30-10-16
 Secretary
 Indian Association
 with encls.
 24-10-16
Advertisements
 Report by
 Insp. of Police
 8-11-16
 Town Clerk
 25-10-16

3 215
2.
Rec'd
filed 20 DEC 5

European population. It was conveyed by means of advertisements in the daily press, copies of which I enclose, and by posters put up in the town.

3. I enclose further a copy of a report on the Meeting prepared by the Superintendent of Police who attended on instructions from the Commissioner of Police.

4. The Meeting does not appear to me to have been as representative as claimed, and I gather from Mr. Udall's letter of the 30th ult. that the Resolution, which had been prepared in advance, was carried without amendment, and possibly without due consideration by those who voted in favour of it. This Resolution was not, so far as I am aware, circulated before the Meeting.

5. With regard to the matters complained of I have the honour to enclose a copy of a Memorandum from the Municipal Committee to whom I referred the Resolution for comment.

6. I do not think it is necessary for me to refer at length to the various complaints beyond stating that every possible step are being taken by the Medical and Sanitary Authorities

Authorities for combating the present epidemic, and that the nature of the major works and expenditure which would be entailed. The reply to place the township of Nairobi in a thoroughly sanitary condition have for many years past, and are still, receiving the careful consideration that of yourself and of the local Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Alfred D. ...

GOVERNOR.

held at 4 p.m. on the 10th day of October 1916 at the Theatre Royal, Nairobi, to consider the dangerous and critical state into which the sanitary conditions of Nairobi have fallen, and the advisability of taking steps to have the matter brought to the notice of His Britannic Majesty's Imperial Government.

81308
26 DEC 1916

RESOLUTION:-

This Meeting of Residents of Nairobi, being fully representative of the African and Asiatic interests, desires to place on record its indignation at the apathetic attitude adopted by the Government in regard to the epidemic of Asiatic Cholera which broke out from time to time; and also that the following facts are believed to be true:-

(a) There is excessive overcrowding in several localities of residents in what ought to be non-residential localities. (This is particularly true of the bazaar and other districts.)

(b) There are in occupation of different places many dwellings and other structures which are filthy and incapable of being kept clean, being dilapidated, ill-planned and ill-constructed, which harbour and encourage the breeding of rats and other vermin, with resultant disease, and which dwellings are totally unfit for human occupation.

(c) There are in different parts of the Town numerous places (some of them being ill-constructed drains) which - for longer or shorter periods - hold up and maintain quantities and considerable areas of stagnant water. These form asylums and breeding-grounds for mosquitoes, and are a real menace to Public Health.

(d) The

(d) The Sanitary Administration of the Township is extremely ineffective, and methods have been adopted which would not be permitted in a small village in temperate regions and which, in tropical Africa and with a large population of many races (some hardly raised above the stage of savage ignorance and barbarism), seriously threaten the continued expansion and advance of the town. The bad and ineffective methods of sanitation referred to are errors both of omission and commission.

(e) The building Rules & regulations have, in many instances, had an effect the reverse of that intended, and a number of the old buildings would have been demolished and replaced with good and substantial ones had it not been for the harsh - and sometimes impossible - conditions attaching to the creation of new buildings.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that His Majesty's Imperial Government be urged to require the carrying-out at the earliest possible date of (inter alia) the following suggested ameliorations of Nairobi's Public Health, viz:-

(1) The immediate cessation of the existing overcrowding, and the establishment of the necessary provisions and machinery to prevent the possibility of any recurrence in the future.

(2) The immediate taking of really effective steps to disinfect and render innocuous the buildings in, and the localities of, the Bazaar and other Districts, which steps must - to have a permanent beneficial effect - be repeated at regular intervals.

(3) The

(3) The immediate drafting and early promulgation of a Public Health Act, comprising effective powers for the compulsory demolition of any buildings declared to be unsuitable for the purposes for which they are used.

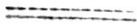
(4) The immediate provision, and - from time to time - increase of provision of suitable and sufficient accommodation for the anticipated influx of Asiatics and African Immigrants in Nairobi.

(5) The carrying-out without further delay of the Drainage Scheme prepared by, or partly by, Mr. Bransby Williams.

(6) The Bazaar to be made into a "lock-up" place of business only; the inhabitants thereof being entirely removed to a suitable residential area outside the actual town.

(7) ~~All~~ buildings and floors to be made rat-proof, either of brick or of concrete.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; His Excellency the Governor, the Town Clerk, and the local press.

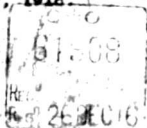


INCLOSURE No. 2.

In Demand by 744 of Form at 1/6
Nairobi,

13th October, 1916

239



The Hon. The Chief Secretary
to the Administration,
The Secretariat,
Nairobi.

Sir,

In forwarding you the enclosed letter with enclosures I have the honour to furnish the following explanation:-

This letter was written on the 11th instant but addressed and posted direct to His Excellency the Governor. In this morning's "Daily Standard" I notice the correct method of procedure to be adopted in communication with Government, and have therefore addressed this letter enclosed to you.

I have, etc.,

Sd/- Charles Udall.

Chairman,

Nairobi Chamber of Commerce.

15218/6.

ENCLOSURE
ENCLOSURE No. 2

In Register No. 706 of Nov 9th 1916

20th October, 1916. 221

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 15218/6 of the 16th instant I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to furnish me with the names of some of the more influential residents of Nairobi who attended the Meeting on the 10th instant. It would be useful if such a list could be divided into three parts, viz: Government, Municipal and Commercial.

2. I notice that the Resolution adopted states that the Meeting was fully representative of the European and Asiatic interests, and I should therefore be grateful if the list referred to above were to include names of Asiatics as well as Europeans.

3. I gather from a conversation I had on the telephone with Mr. Moynagh yesterday that the Meeting was not convened under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce as would appear to be generally believed to be the case. If this is so, I presume you would wish me to delete the words "Chairman, Nairobi Chamber of Commerce" which appear under your signature on your letter of the 13th instant.

I have, etc.,

SD/- C. C. BOWRING.

CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT.

UDALL ESQ.,

NAIROBI.

INCLOSURE No. 4

In Despatch No. 208 of Nov 9th 1916

N a i r o b i,

30th October, 1916.

222

The Hon. The Chief Secretary
to the Administration,
The Secretariat,
Nairobi.

Sir,

Further to my letter of the 23rd instant I have the honour to inform you that my reply to your letter of the 20th instant is as follows:-

(1) No roll was taken at the doors of the Theatre Royal in which the Indignation Meeting of the 10th instant was held,

I should not have thought it necessary for the Government to ask for a list of people present as Police and other officials were there; nevertheless, as you have asked, I attach a list of a few of the people who were present, which I think you will find amply sufficient.

This list will give you a perfectly clear idea of some of the most influential residents of Nairobi who attended the Meeting.

(2) It was a mistake to say in the Resolution passed at the Meeting that the Asiatic interests were fully representative. Such an elaborate Resolution as was passed had to be drafted before the Meeting, and to be strictly accurate the words "and Asiatic" (in the first paragraph of the Resolution) should be deleted.

In this connection I attach a copy of a letter received from Mr. Hussin Suleman (of Messrs. Suleman Virjee & Sons) dated the 10th instant, which states that the Indian Community were under the erroneous impression

impression that it was exclusively a Meeting for Europeans, and that they had not sufficient time in which to consider their attitude.

The Asiatic attitude is therefore simply negative, and up to the present there has been no genuine comprehensive and collective expression on their part.

3. The reply to the third and final paragraph of your letter is the Resolution passed by the Nairobi Chamber of Commerce as recently as last Thursday, when the Chamber emphasized its unqualified acceptance of the Resolution passed at the Indignation Meeting. I cannot, therefore, accede to the suggestion that a part of my signature should be deleted.

4. I shall be obliged if you will kindly inform me of the date upon which the Resolution passed at the Indignation Meeting was forwarded to London.

5. Further, in addition to the Resolution passed at the Indignation Meeting, I have the honour to request that you will kindly forward to the Colonial Secretary immediately a copy of your letter to me dated the 20th instant, together with a copy of this my letter in reply, for which purpose I enclose the requisite copy in triplicate.

I have, etc.,

Sd/- Charles Odall

President,

Nairobi Chamber of Commerce.

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Residents of Nairobi present at the Indignation
Meeting held at the Theatre Royal on
the 10th October, 1918.

Messrs

Watson, J.A.	Town Clerk.
Ridout, W.W.	Municipal Engineer
Dennett, -	Sanitation Inspector
Ewart, H.W.	Superintendent of Police
Burkitt, Dr.	Medical Practitioner
Mackinnon, Dr.	do.
Seymour, Dr.	do.
Udall, C.	President, Nairobi Chamber of Commerce & Chief Engineer and Manager, Nairobi Electric Power & Ltg. Co. Ltd.
Toogood, J.J.	Manager, Standard Bank of South Africa.
Bunter, W.C.	of W.C. Hunter & Co., influential Estate Agents, etc., and now elected to the Legislative Council.
Henderson, H.E.	Architect of Messrs Tate Smith & Henderson
Barry, A.J.	Advocate and Lawyer
Shapley, W.T.	Solicitor, of Messrs. Shapley & Schwartze.
Johnstone, J.W.	do. do.
Moynagh, W.J.	Estate Agent, & Secretary to Chamber of Commerce.
Cearn, G.W.	Proprietor, Messrs. Cearn & Co. Outfitters.
Jacobs, S.	Managing Director, the Dustpan, Director Caxton Press, & Theatre Royal.
Mackinnon, F.	Director, Mackinnon Bros. Ltd.
Mackinnon, J.	do. do.
Medicks, A.	Director, Theatre Royal Ltd.
Ferguson, G.	of Macdonald & Jameson, Coffee Exporters etc.
Marshall, G.C.	do. do.
Raphael, P.A.	Hotel Proprietor.
Levatus, J.	Furnisher.
Hill, A.	of Maxwell, Brady & Co. (Outfitters).

Gabriel, H.

Commercial Agent.

Stark, J.H.

do.

Wagner, J.M.

of Nairobi General Agency; an influential member of the Goan Community.

Woods, A.E.

Contractor (Goan)

Nair, G.S.

of Nair, Shanker & Co., Furnishers.

Shanker, S.

do.

do.

And over 100 other residents.

Suliman Verjee & Sons.

Mombasa & Nairobi,

Nairobi,

10th October, 1916.

To

The Chairman of the Meeting

to be held at the Theatre Royal Ltd.,

Nairobi.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the interview Mr. Udall had with me today as regards the participation of the Indians in today's Meeting I have to inform you that the impression created upon the leading Indians by the advertisements in the Press until this morning was that the Meeting was meant purely for the European Community and that the intimation to me was also too late to make the fact publicly known to the Indian Community.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/- Hussein Suleman.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

227

Nairobi,

E. E. AFRICA,

24th October, 1916.

Sir,

With reference to the resolution passed by the European Community of Nairobi on the 10th instant with the intention of remedying the evil of plague I am directed by my Association to lay the following facts before His Excellency:-

(1. That the resolution referred to above and submitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, His Excellency and the Town Clerk, was passed by the European Community only and not by the European and Asiatic (Indian) Communities of Nairobi as stated therein.

2. From the advertisements and posters circulated by the conveners of the meeting it was evident that it was a meeting to voice the opinions of the European section only.

(3. That Mr. Udall approached Mr. Hussein Suleman Virjee at the eleventh hour and invited participation of the Indian Community but the latter addressed a letter to Chairman of the meeting (a copy of which is enclosed herewith) which however was not read at the meeting.

4. That my Association entirely disassociates itself from the resolution passed at that meeting.

I have also to request His Excellency to forward the accompanying letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have, etc.,

SD/- M. A. DESAI.
SECRETARY, INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

Chief Secretary
to the Government
of the East Africa Protectorate,
Secretariat, Nairobi.

14

Nairobi, 10th October, 1916.

228

Dear Sir,

With reference to the interview Mr. Udall had with me today as regards the participation of the Indians in to-day's meeting I have to inform you that the impression created upon the leading Indians by the advertisements in the Press until this morning was that the meeting was meant purely for the European Community and that the intimation to me was also too late to make the fact publicly known to the Indian Community.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/- Husain Suliman.

Chairman of the Meeting

to be held at the Theatre Royal Ltd.,
Nairobi.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION

NAIROBI,

E. E. Africa,

24th October, 1916.

Sir,

Referring to the Resolution passed by the European Community of Nairobi on the 10th instant with the intention of remedying the evil of plague I am directed by my Association to invite your kind attention to the following facts:-

- (1) The Resolution referred to above and submitted to you, His Excellency the Governor for the East Africa Protectorate and the Town Clerk of Nairobi, was passed by the European Community only and not by the European and Asiatic (Indian) Communities of Nairobi as stated therein.
- (2) From the advertisements and posters circulated by the conveners of the meeting it was evident that it was a meeting to voice the opinions of European section only.
- (3) Mr. Udall, President of the Chamber of Commerce and one of the conveners of the meeting approached Mr. Mussimbehai Suleman Virjee at the eleventh hour and invited participation of the Indian Community but the latter addressed a letter to the Chairman of the meeting (a copy of which is enclosed herewith) which however was not read at the meeting.
- (4) That my Association entirely disassociates itself from the resolution passed at that meeting.

I have, etc.,

ED/- R. A. DEBARI.

Secretary, Indian Association.

Right Honourable A. Bonar Law,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Through H. E. the Governor for the E. E. Protectorate,
LONDON.

Nairobi

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1916

PLAGUE I PLAGUE II PLAGUE III

PUBLIC

MEETING OF PROTEST.

An indignation meeting will be held in the
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOMS,
on Tuesday, 10th October, 1916,
 at 4.0 o'clock.

It is the duty and to the interest of every European in Nairobi and district to attend this meeting. Please be punctual.

Plague! Plague!! Plague!!!

AN

Indignation Meeting

WILL BE HELD AT THE
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOMS

TO-MORROW**TUESDAY, 4 p.m.**

Plague! Plague!! Plague!!!

AN

Indignation Meeting

WILL BE HELD AT THE

THEATRE ROYAL

TO-DAY

TUESDAY, 4 p m.

11
Sc

IRISH STANDARD

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1910.

PLAGUE I PLAGUE II PLAGUE III

PUBLIC

MEETING OF PROTEST.

An indignation meeting will be held at

THE THEATRE ROYAL,

TO-DAY (Tuesday), Oct. 10th, 1910,

at 4.0 o'clock.

It is the duty and in the interest of every Socialist to attend and
actively assist this meeting. Please be punctual.

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ENCLOSURE 2/7

IN DEPARTMENT No. 709 of Nov 9th 1916
Office of the Supdt. of Police,

P. O. Box No. 155, Nairobi,
8th November 1916.

No. H. 114/2/16.

From,
The Superintendent of Police,
Nairobi.

231

To,
The Commissioner,
K. A. Police,
Nairobi.

Sir,

- Flaree indignation meeting held at the Theatre -
Royal Nairobi on the 10th. October 1916 -

In compliance with your instructions to report on
this meeting, I have the honour to inform you that there
is very little to add to the account given in the Weekly
East African Standard of the 14th. October 1916 which is
a very true account.

The meeting in my opinion was only representative of
the European inhabitants of Nairobi. Neither the Indians
nor other coloured races resident in the town and district
were represented. The conduct of the meeting and those
present both on the stage and in the Auditorium was very
calm and even the speakers who were only four in number
viz., Messrs. Burkitt, Udall, Jacobs and Clark, with the
exception of the latter, showed no excitement or indignation
of tone.

Mr. Clark who was in the Auditorium became rather ex-
cited while voicing his opinions, and I think that if chosen
as a leader he is capable of inciting the people.

There was nothing in this meeting in my opinion
worthy of report from a Police point of view.

The persons seated in my vicinity during the meeting
appeared to be more amused than indignant.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

8/11/16

Sd. W. B. Dutton

[Signature]

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES,

Nairobi.

25th October, 1916.

232

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter No. S. 18218/S of 16th instant transmitting copy of a letter from the President of Nairobi Chamber of Commerce respecting the incidence of Plague at Nairobi.

2. The questions of overcrowding, insanitary dwellings, prevention of malaris, building rules, Public Health Legislation, zones for Africans and Asiatics, completion of drainage scheme, Indian Bazaar, and rafteroofing of buildings have all as you are aware been the subject of constant attention and of repeated representations from my Committee for many years. My Committee recognise that their representations have been most sympathetically received by the Protectorate Government and that the delay in rectifying existing conditions is almost entirely due to two causes (1) the lack of funds which as regards the last two years is a direct result of the war; and (2) the situation caused by the fact that the views upon the town-planning of Nairobi held by the Municipal Committee and the Protectorate Government on the one hand, and Professor Simpson, the expert adviser of the Colonial Office on the other are in several vital points at variance, and that a final decision between the conflicting views has not yet been arrived at, to the serious detriment of sanitary conditions.

3. On the fundamental question of the apportionment of zones for the various races, a

Hon. the Chief Secretary,
Nairobi.

number

40

number of Committees and Commissions from time to time Submitted recommendations to Government. Of these the following may be mentioned, on all of which my Committee was strongly represented:-

- (1) Special Committee on proposal to expropriate the Embarras 1912.
- (2) Nairobi Sanitary Commission 1913.
- (3) Special Committee on Native Location 1914-15.

4. In addition my Committee in 1915 submitted to you an exhaustive report upon Professor Simpson's proposals to which report His Excellency was pleased to accord his approbation.

5. As regards Public Health Legislation, a special conference including representatives of my Committee has recently reported at great length to Government. Their recommendations include more stringent provisions for the ratproofing of all new buildings, though the existing rules have been the object of criticism on account of their severity.

6. As regards drainage it is only right to mention that the Public Works Department has during the past 6 months laid down over 3000 yards of concrete drains, and is actively engaged on constructing more, and that my Committee is at present using every effort to arrange for satisfactory flushing.

7. The specific resolutions of the Public Meeting are all covered by the reports of the various Committees above referred to except No. 7 as to which my Committee are of opinion that it is unreasonable and that its enforcement would encounter the strongest opposition from the persons who voted for it. A wooden floor laid at a suitable height is quite as sanitary as a stone or brick floor. The resolutions submitted to the meeting were not published beforehand, otherwise

my Committee do not believe this resolution would have been passed.

8. As regards the statement made by Mr. Udall that the meeting was attended by "men holding responsible Government positions" and a further statement contained in a letter to myself that "the meeting was fully representative of European and Asiatic interests", I have addressed a letter to Mr. Udall asking for information upon the subject and a copy of his reply will be forwarded when received. I was present at the meeting and saw no Asiatics there, and no Government officers with the exception of the two Health Office Inspectors whose presence cannot be taken as inferring any sympathy with the procedure adopted.

9. My Committee while in full sympathy with their aims deplore the methods adopted by the promoters of the meeting which they regard as illjudged and inappropriate to the present time of national stress.

I have, etc.,

Sd/- Walter W. Ridout.

For TOWN CLERK.

14908
1915 60



Downing Street,

17 January, 1917.

DRAFT.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE
CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNOR

SIR H. CONWAY BELFIELD, K.C.M.G.
&c., &c. &c.

Sir,

In my despatch No. 54

(affirmative)

of to-day's date, I have acknowledged the receipt of the Resolution on the subject of the public health of Nairobi passed at a meeting of the European residents on the 10th of October last, and I have directed what reply should be sent to Mr. Udall, who forwarded the resolution to the Government.

MINUTE

Mr. Butler 9/1/17

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle.

Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Read. 10/1

Sr G. Fiddes. 1/3

Mr. Steel-Maitland. 13

Mr. Honor. 10/15/17

2. I regard the method of

summoning the meeting, and the resolution passed as unduly alarmist in character, but I cannot disguise from myself that the feeling shown by the European residents may have its origin in the delay in carrying out the measures

Further minute

measures recommended by Professor Simpson for the improved sanitation of Mairabi.

I am well aware that there have been ^{good} reasons for delay.

Some of Professor Simpson's proposals have proved impracticable of immediate adoption on the ground of expense.

The — expropriation of the Bazaar, for instance, though altogether desirable in principle, has had to be deferred for future consideration on this ground. The exigencies of a state of war have, in addition, deprived you temporarily of the services of many valuable officers, and the pressure on those left has been so great that the consideration of large questions, even though of great importance, has necessarily had to be postponed.

But I doubt whether these reasons suffice to explain the whole of the delay.

4. It would appear from the fifth

17/11/14

... ^{the second sentence in} paragraph of your confidential despatch No. 179 of the 24th of November, 1914, that, short of the expropriation of the Bazaar something might have been done by means of Township Rules to force the owners of insanitary property in the Bazaar to reconstruct the property at their own expense. Such a step would have been very useful as an interim measure, until it was found practicable to deal more drastically with the question of the Bazaar, but I am not aware that anything has been done in these lines.

5. Another important recommendation on which there has been delay, is the allocation of the Asiatic residential and commercial quarter on the north side of the river in order to separate it from the European commercial quarter. Professor Simpson's recommendations on this head (with the exception of the expropriation of the Bazaar) were accepted in their entirety in your confidential despatch No.

179 of the 24th of November, 1914, after

consultation

17/11/14

consultation with the Medical
Municipal and Sanitary authorities.

Subsequently, however, in your

confidential despatch No. 97 of the 22nd
of September, 1915, you identified

yourself with the view of the Municipal

Committee that the Asiatic commercial
quarter should remain on the south side

of the river, in an area which Professor

Simpson holds will eventually be required

for the expansion of the European commer-
cial quarter. This unfortunate divergence

of opinion, which is not yet composed, has

lead to much correspondence, and has had

the result of delaying until very recent-

ly any beginning of the opening up of

the Asiatic quarter on the north side of
the river.

6. Similarly, Professor Simpson's
draft provisions for the regulation of
the town planning were assented to in
their main outlines in your confidential
despatch No. 179 of the 24th of November,

1914, and the memorandum by the Attorney
General

General enclosed in that despatch.

I have not yet received any draft

Ordinance based on these provisions.

I assume that the Government is still

without any legislative authority to

divide Nairobi into racial zones, and to

control the erection of buildings in such

zones in the detail recommended by

Professor Simpson.

7. My predecessors have been

reluctant to approve ~~without good~~

~~cause, such as has been shown in the case~~

~~of the Indian Bazaar, of any serious~~

departure from the recommendations made

by so eminent a sanitary authority as

Professor Simpson, after detailed

personal study of the local conditions

I share that reluctance. The question

at issue involves the whole development

of Nairobi, and mistakes made now cannot

be retrieved in the future, or can only

be retrieved at the cost of inordinate

trouble and expense. I welcome your

approaching period of leave as an

opportunity

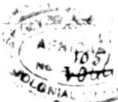
opportunity for personal discussion
with you and Professor Simpson of
the main points at issue, and I trust
that the result will be to remove any
misunderstanding which may have arisen
and to obviate any further delay in
this important matter.

I have, etc.,

(3D)

Downing Street,

17 January, 1917.



Sir,

DRAFT.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

ERROR
SIR H. CONWAY BELFIELD, K.C.M.G.
&c., &c., &c.

MINUTE.

Mr. Butler

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle.

Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Read.

Sir G. Fiddes.

Mr. Steel-Maitland.

Mr. Bonar Law.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 708 of the 9th of November, forwarding at the request of Mr. Charles Udall a copy of a Resolution passed at a meeting of the residents of Nairobi on the 10th of October, on the subject of the sanitation of the town.

2. I have to request that you will inform Mr. Udall that I have received the Resolution, that I am satisfied that the local authorities are taking all possible steps to combat the epidemic of plague, and that the larger questions of the health of Nairobi and of the future planning of the town are constantly under consideration with a view to taking such steps as may be practicable