

EAST AFR. PROT
69047

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APR 4 EC 3

EA Disabled
the Colony

194

Purchase of Flax-Seed

1919
Dec

at previous Paper
6825

Requests that, owing to high price of seed, deferred payment may be sanctioned. Understands that Board of Agriculture is prepared to deliver seed in accordance with the proposal

copying made
copies sent 21. 7 June 20 1405/19

for members
Mr. B. B. B. B. Mr. G. G. G.
~~Mr. H. H. H.~~

An official of the Board of Agriculture called with Mr. Kaufman & saw Col. Stacey about this. It is the fact that the Board of Agriculture has the seed & are quite prepared to advance it if the Treasury authorize them to do so. But the Board will not approach the Treasury, as they think it is for the T.O. to do so.

Still as matter how much the book-keeping nature of the proposed transaction may be explained, there is no one denying that this is an appeal for financial assistance. That is very disappointing at the early stage, especially after the explicit warning given on 50416/5 AP that

at subsequent Paper
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5072

either H.M.G. or the ~~Y.E.A.P.~~ ^{Y.E.A.P.} would give financial help.

Floax seed is now about £116 a ton. They have reduced their demand to 100 tons, which assured me that, even if this, other members did not get early passages, the 15 members already in E.A.P. would, with the aid of their steam tractors etc. have to be able to prepare sufficient ground to plant 100 tons of seed by March. They originally asked for £ 250 tons.

The different estimates for the scheme submitted by Col. Ridge are dismissed in my minute on 32082/E.A.P. It seems fairly clear that Col. Ridge must have been counting on getting his floax seed free, as the sums provided for cultivation & clearing, viz. £7,500 in 1st estimate and £15,000 in the 2nd, are quite inadequate. In my estimate, based on Mr. Dale's letter, I raised the figure to £25,000 which is much nearer the mark.

In any case the position now is as follows. Of the total capital of £45,000 £1,000 member is not called up, so the amount now available ^(is) £37,500. They are already finding that their provision of £11,000 for machinery etc. is inadequate & that the cost will be at least between £15,000

and £20,000. They say that it is quite
impossible for them to pay a lump sum, like
£11,76,00 for flax seed. These I am inclined to
agree with, then it is fair that unless they get the
seed as an advance the scheme will collapse
at the start. Of course my own view & I gather
that generally held here has always been that
the odds were against the scheme succeeding,
but nevertheless it would be disastrous if
the scheme were not ^{not} given even a chance.

The views of the ex-officers members were
made plain to me. The Colonial Office approved
this scheme, so having reasonable prospects of
success on a capital of £45,000 & as that capital
is inadequate for the purchase of flax seed
Col. Ridge's view that he would get his flax
seed free must have been accepted. This
course all round has been greatly increased
by the long delay of the C.O. in approving the
scheme. There is great talk about assisting
ex-officers & Govt. is urging that as employers,
yet the Govt. will not advance ^{100 tons} the flax seed
from the huge quantity it holds to enable these
ex-officers to get a start. Even although they
offer to pay interest on the advance and to
pledge their machinery etc. as security. The
ex-officers in the scheme are chiefly embittered

views of
approach
to Govt. of
1894
50416.

to Govt.
to Govt.
to Govt.

who have scraped together their last penny
to put up this capital and now we
cannot get Dept after another says that
the proving this first essential is not
its business.

The position is a bad one for every
point of view but I am afraid we can hardly
stand by without an effort and see the scheme
ruined at the start. We must I think write
officially to the Treasury, but unofficial
representations will also be necessary. The
matter is very urgent as the need should
be shipped within the next two or three weeks.

H.C.
4.12.19

By all means let us write other
Treasury as to unproductive investments
in letters from 20 to 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

W.C. 4.12.19

H. J. R.
4/24

Col. J. R. (bad start, has not as well
surprising, to find as prepared, and a
word from for to be shared might help

Rem. diff. in a not found
W.C. in S. D. D. D.

W.C. 4.12.19

British East Africa Disabled Officers' Colony, Ltd.

Registered Office: 10, OLD JEWRY CHAMBERS, LONDON, E.C.2

TELEPHONE:
CENTRAL 13225C O
69047

3rd December, 1919

Ref. 1/277

RECEIVED
4 DEC 1919The Secretary,
Colonial Office,
S.W.1.

Sir,

I have the honour to request the following matter concerning the above Colony be placed before the Secretary of State for the Colonies for his favourable consideration.

Owing to the very high price of Flax Seed at the present time it has been found that to pay cash for the same would seriously hinder the development of the above Colony inasmuch as the funds which it was contemplated using for the purchase of machinery and erecting mills, etc. would have to be devoted to the purchase of seed unless some system of deferred payment is sanctioned by the Government. I am to point out that the necessary seed (100 tons) is available for our use and can be shipped forthwith by the Board of Agriculture which only awaits either the cash with order or the sanction of the Treasury to a deferred payment scheme.

This would not entail an advance from H.M. Treasury as it would be one Government Department dealing with another and would therefore only be a booking transaction.

If the Secretary of State for the Colonies considers that it is necessary to pay the current rate of interest for this concession to the Disabled Officers, the interest for the first ^{year} ~~order~~ will be paid immediately the sanction is granted.

I understand that the Board of Agriculture is quite prepared to deliver the seed in accordance with this proposal and see no difficulties in carrying out the suggestion, as the Treasury would have the first charge on the assets of the Disabled Officers Colony.

I have the honour to ask that this matter may be treated as very urgent as seventeen of the Members have already proceeded to Lunenburg to the necessary machinery to get 1600 acres planted at the end of March, and I would point out that as the training grant only lasts for two years, it is imperative to get a return from the development of the land as speedily as possible to enable the Members of the Colony (many of whom have put in all they possess) to have a livelihood not only for themselves but in many cases, wives and children, at the expiration of the training grant.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



ASSISTANT MANAGING DIRECTOR

~~Handwritten signature~~

DRAFT.

R Dec. 1919

The Assistant Managing Director
East African Disabled Officers' Colony Ltd.

Sir,

I am ^{pleased} to acknowledge

MINUTE.

the receipt of your letter of the
2nd of December applying for
an advance of 100 tons of
flax seed on a guarantee of
deferred payment.

It is regretted that such
an application should have been
necessary in view of the explicit
warning when the scheme was
sanctioned that no financial
assistance, in addition to the

- Mr. *McG. 12*
- Mr. *Bottomley 10.12.19 19*
- Mr.
- Mr. Grindley.
- Sir H. Lambart.
- Sir H. Road.
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Col. Amory.
- Lord Milner.

(For Wilson.)

3 drafts
→

special terms for the lease
of the land, could be granted
in any circumstances. The
difficulties which the scheme will
encounter at its inception if
flax seed cannot be obtained are,
however, realised, and the letter is being sent to the
Treasury and being communicated
with the subject.

A further letter will be
addressed to you on receipt
of the Treasury reply.

Lord
Treasury

12 Dec. 1919

DRAFT.

The Secy.
Treasury

MINUTE.

- Mr. J. H. 9.12
- Mr. B. 10.12.19
- Mr.
- Mr. Brindle
- Sir H. Lambert
- Sir H. Rock
- Sir G. Fiddes
- Col. Amery
- Lord Milner
- (for com.)

20.5/19
70.5/19

Sir,
I am directed to transmit
to you, to be laid before the
L.C. of the Treasury, a copy
of correspondence with the British
East Africa & Madagascar
Company Limited regarding an
application for an advance of
1000 tons of flax seed on a guarantee
of deferred payment. Copies
of the letter to the Col. W. Hughes
Ridge offering the scheme
of the Rules of the Society are
also enclosed.

To Lt. Col. W. Hughes Ridge 23rd Dec. 1919
(500 100/EAP)

Enclosure (190) (EAP)

2. It will be observed

that the total capital of the Society is about £45,000. Of that capital £7,500 (£100 per member) has not yet been called up, and it is undesirable that these ex-officers concerned should be required to pay that up now, or soon after they have paid £500 each into the Society. The remainder of the capital available will be required for ^{planting} machinery, for sowing seeds, oxen, native labour etc. until the first returns are received. Flax seed costs at present about £11 4 per ton, and it is clear that the Society is not in a position to meet a projected outlay of £11,400 on that item.

3. It is understood that the Board of Agriculture have a plan of flax seeds will be prepared to make the advance of Treasury sanction is granted. The Society will be prepared to pledge its machinery etc.

as security 4. It is most desirable that these ex-officers concerned should be relieved at the inception of this scheme, it is hoped that the Board will consent to show their support as the seed should be supplied in the next week for the March year.

M/1/69067/EAP

200

[A quote for Col. Amery's signature]

John D.

18 Dec 1917

DRAFT.

Mr. Winston KCB

MINUTE.

Mr. H.C. 9.12

Mr. B. 10.12.17

Mr. W. 11.12.17

Mr. Grindall

Sir E. Lambert

Sir H. Ross

Sir G. Fiddes

Col. Amery

Lord Misher.

(For canvas.)

3 drafts

Dear Sir George,

Am. Special letter is sent

to the Secretary of the Treasury

regarding about an advance of

100 tons of flax seed on a

system of deferred payment to

the British Trust Officers Limited.

These officers belong to the Treasury

and it seems clear that the

75 ex-officers, many of whom

have invested all they possess in

the Society, will be ruined at the

start unless they can get this

seed. It appears to be the fact

that the Board of Agriculture have

ample supplies of seed, grown on the
Board's flux stations, and are prepared
to make the advance if your request
is granted. As the ex-officers are prepared
to pledge their assets as security & pay
interest on the value of the seed, it will
look bad if this scheme is ~~ruined~~ ^{about} at the start
through the failure of Govt to assist in the respect.

We recognise of course that it is most
unfortunate that this assistance should be necessary,
after the warning given to the Society from the
Govt at its inception. The matter is
complicated by the fact that Lt. Col. Ridge & 15 others
have already sailed for East Africa, & that he
appears to have told those left in charge here that
some one at the Board of Agriculture told him
arrangements could be made for paying for
the seed by deferred payment.

The matter is very urgent as the Society
must get the 100 tons planted by the 1st Nov in
East Africa in order to get an early return on its capital.
I sincerely hope you will be able to sanction the application.