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RECEIVED
16 APR 19

Colonization of B.E.A.

1919

previous Paper.

The scheme proposed to form Ceylon
Noble, British subjects from India in the
land. Ceylon being particularly

Mr. Gifford

Advised by E. Fremantle left
this week (the morning of Tuesday
night), & also brought along
the subject for his room (the
nature of the scheme & as known
Ceylon) that he took along

The proposal, which I think
must in any case be postponed
to a serious settlement scheme,
suffers from the critical defect
that it requires the Post. Dept
to give special treatment to
particular section of the population
of a particular part of the Empire.
As Col. Hume pointed out, there
is suitable land in India for a

Schem of the kind.

Also, it is doubtful whether
Ludwig-bred boys (we do not
have Germans) would have
either physical or moral fibre to
make a success of it. ~~It is a
disappointment~~

The important point seemed to be
to see that the Duennle staff
in Navarre should have the
same with the Gov, to whom
it would have to be referred
in later, & it was agreed that a
telegram should be sent

870. ~~handwritten~~

Oct. 17. 1914

This looks like
news of the
I.C.S. W.

Scheme of Colonisation in British East Africa

by Mr. Arthur Fremantle

11th Oct. Fremantle is now at Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa

Letter in reply should be addressed to Mr. Arthur Fremantle, 54, Marlborough Street, S.W.

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DEAR SIR,

I have much pleasure in laying before you for your consideration a scheme in connection with colonisation in British East Africa by youths of the domiciled community.

One of the problems of the present day in India, and one that probably reveals to most of us, is that of the future of the rising generation of this community, more especially those of pure English blood, whose parents are dead, or who are not in a sufficiently good pecuniary position to send their boys to England to complete their education.

It is curious that as time goes on, more and more of the posts in the Empire and Government services will be filled by Indians, and this will also be the case on Government railways, and Industries and Commerce can absorb but a small percentage of the numbers of such youths annually leaving school. It therefore seems very desirable that some effort should be made to find some suitable work outside India where such youths could make a home and gradually form a colony, and thereby prevent to some extent the danger of non-employment and the increase in numbers of this class in India.

The two countries to which one's mind naturally turns when the question of emigration is considered are Australia and Canada, but both of these countries have one great disadvantage, namely that of distance from India.

Canada has the additional drawback of the long severe winter to which such youths are so little accustomed.

There is however one colony which is within a comparatively short distance of India and which (owing to its height above sea level) possesses one of the most temperate climates in the world, i.e. British East Africa, and which is likely to be developed considerably in the near future by the extension of the Uganda Railway to the Uashin Gishu Plateau, and by the management of wheat growing in that area.

The proposal has therefore been made to form a Syndicate or private company which would be managed on combined business and philanthropic lines for the purpose of settling these youths on the land.

The method adopted would be to buy or lease on perpetual lease as large an area as possible in the Uashin Gishu Plateau, which is a large area of very fine agricultural and grazing land, and to gradually bring it under cultivation. Suitable youths would be selected to the number of 5 or 6 per annum, who, after two or three years' training at Headquarters or with other settlers, would be given a suitable area to farm on their own account on lease with the option of purchase.

It is anticipated that it will be necessary in most cases for the Syndicate to find the passage money of the selected youths, part of which might be refunded later, but that after arrival, the work done by them on the farm will pay for their keep.

A considerable capital will be required in order that the scheme may show the best results, as it is most important that an area of land sufficient to allow an expansion should be purchased at the earliest possible moment, the price of land being likely to increase considerably with the extension of the Railway, which is now contemplated. It is proposed to ask the Colonial Government for a grant of land on easy terms and it is anticipated that the price of land would average considerably less than £ 1/- per an acre, which is approximately the present price. Thirty thousand acres is the area which it is considered desirable to take up.

Two-thirds of the total capital invested will be devoted to the purchase of land, the remaining one-third being used for working expenses. It is confidently hoped to raise a total capital of £40,000.

In the event of this amount of capital not being subscribed at once, it is proposed to start the Syndicate on a smaller scale, and when the success of the scheme is assured, to obtain a further amount of capital either privately or by turning the syndicate into a Limited Liability company.

As a business investment there can be no doubt that the scheme is sound and likely to prove remunerative. The security, namely that of landed property in a British possession, is one of the best obtainable. The land in the area selected available for purchase embraces both very fertile agricultural land and land well adapted for stock raising, and its value will inevitably rise with the increase of Railway facilities in the near future. It is confidently expected that the profits of cultivation of land held under direct management together with the rents of lands given out to the young settlers, and the profits on lands subsequently sold to them will be amply sufficient to pay a moderate dividend after the first two or three years.

The undersigned, who is the originator of the scheme, has had nearly 30 years' experience of Indian agriculture and during that time he has also had 10 years' experience of the training of youths, and, if the scheme is taken up, he is prepared to go out to British East Africa, and to start the development of the property as Manager. He will also have the advantage of the advice of a gentleman who is a local expert in British East Africa and is also well known in India, Mr. Christopher Monckton, who is returning to British East Africa shortly.

It is proposed to appoint Mr. Monckton's firm in Nairobi which specialises in Land Agency and Estate Management as Agents to the Syndicate, through whom all financial arrangements would be made and who would advise and look after the interests of the Syndicate. The National Bank of India would be asked to act as the Syndicate's Bankers. It is proposed that

control be vested in a Board of three or four members, consisting of the Manager, Mr. Monckton & a prominent local resident hereafter to be appointed, and possibly a local Government Official. The Manager would, if necessary, visit India for a short period every cold weather for the purpose of attending Meetings of the Members of the Syndicate and making selections of intending settlers.

The undersigned will be glad to hear from any gentleman to whom the proposed scheme commends itself and to furnish any further information on the subject.

Yours faithfully,

W. Monckton

BS to Mr Arthur Kimball's scheme
of Colonisation

In order to start the Scheme at once, it is intended to purchase a small Estate as a Headquarters, for which a sum of at least £ 5000/- is required.

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The writer intends leaving for British East Africa early in May and is therefore now appealing to a few friends in the confident hope that they will subscribe this amount between them: the writer himself is subscribing £ 1000/-

It is proposed to call the Syndicate

"THE EAST AFRICA COLONISATION SYNDICATE"

(For Britishers in India).

and cheques should be made payable to myself for credit of this account, or can be sent to the National Bank of India, Bombay, and in the case of subscribers in England, should be sent to their Headquarters in London for transmission to Nairobi.

Arthur Kimball

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19 April

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