

1933

3337

1933

3337

KENYA

C0533/439

Sanitary Inspectors on K.U. Rly.

Previous

16264/30

Subsequent

23091/34

Reg 297. 3/11

Room 309. 4/11

Mr Freeston 6

Mr Hood 6

D. O'Brien 9/11

Mr Hood. 9

Room 309 10

298 13/11

297 16/11

R 311 (LFF) 15/11

R 299 14/11

297

Sanitary Inspectors Assoc \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 33

*Draws attention to the unsatisfactory conditions of service & status of Sanitary Inspectors employed on K.V. Ry. Suggests that Ry. Sanitary Inspectors should be attached to Medical Dept. & requests an interview to discuss the matter.*

Mr. Dick's Personal File is attached, but Mr. Campbell has no Personal File. Nor can the Registry find any papers about the transfer of the Railway Medical Officer to the Kenya Medical Dept. in 1931.

The recent representations of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association about the Inspectors employed by the Mombasa Municipal Board will be found on 3168/33. In that case Mr. Jepson, the Secretary of the Association, was granted an interview immediately.

In the present case, there would, prima facie, appear to be some good grounds for the Association's representations that Sanitary Inspectors should not be controlled by Engineers. I think, however, it is a matter upon which it would be convenient, if not indeed necessary, to have the observations of the High Commissioner for Transport before any interview is accorded.

? Subject to C.S.D's and Dr. O'Brien's observations, write to the Association saying that a copy of their letter has been sent to the H.C.T., and that the S. of S. would prefer, if the Assocn. agrees, to postpone an interview till he is furnished with his views. On receipt of the H.C.T.'s reply a further communication will be addressed to the Association.

Send a copy of the Association's letter, and of the reply, to H.C.T. in a short draft asking for his observations.

*Two we 4 Nov*

Del. rec<sup>d</sup>; say that the matters to which attention is drawn are primarily for the concern of the H.C. for T'port, to whom a copy of this letter is being sent. Please for comm<sup>n</sup>: when the H.C.'s comments, which are being invited, have been received.

Copy comp. H.C.  
O.A. Kungu LFF Drain  
info.

*[Signature]*  
6/11

It is of course quite wrong to have sanitary inspectors under anyone but the sanitation branch. In the case of a railway in the tropics the railway is frequently a bad offender.

But I suspect here that the two have been inclined to presume on their position & then make trouble via their ~~super~~ Union. If they have a complaint they should put it up to the High Comm<sup>n</sup> for Transport not here.

As proposed  
J.E.G. Hand  
6-11-33

Hold this up for a day or two as I wished to discuss the matter with D'Gillo. The railway had recently paid the medical department for the services of a medical officer (D'Wallington) who although he belonged to the Kenya medical department was engaged solely on railway

work. These two sanitary inspectors were originally posted for duty under D'Wallington and their salaries are borne on the railway estimate.

As a measure of economy the railway attached the medical officer, who has I believe, been absorbed into the Uganda service. D'Gillo perceives his difficulty when the attachment was made & considers it justifiable that the appointment was not maintained.

He told me that (1) (2) (3) & (4) on page 2 of his report are true and correct statements.

Prior to the appointment of the Railway medical officer there was considerable friction between the medical and railway authorities over sanitation. These difficulties were overcome by the appointment of D'Wallington for Railway duties.

? ~~London~~ Refer his report letter out to the Governor & it is possible that D'Paterson may be able to make other arrangements.

A. J. Wilson  
9/11/33

J.E.G. Hand  
9-11-33

2 To Sanitary Inspectors' ann<sup>n</sup> (London) 13/11/33

3 To Kenya 8666 (u/c 1-2) } A/1  
4 " H.C.T. 121 (- - -) } 15 NOV 1933

Sanitary Inspector Assocn \_\_\_\_\_

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE  
Act. No 2.

? sent by  
R. Ellis.  
16. 11. 33.

S. A. Whittmore  
17. 11. 33  
at. me

C

C. O.

3337/83 Ke

24

Mr. Davies 10/11/33.

Mr. Freeman 1/2

Mr.

Mr. Parkinson.

Mr. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

R : ONOV  
D 107

13 November, 1933.

Sir,

**DRAFT.**

THE SECRETARY,

SANITARY INSPECTORS ASSOCIATION. (1)

I am etc. to ack. the receipt of your letter of the 2nd of November regarding the status and conditions of service of Sanitary Inspectors employed under the Kenya and Uganda Railways Administration, and to ~~inform you~~ <sup>obvise</sup> that the matters to which attention is drawn are primarily for the consideration of the High Commissioner for Transport in Kenya and Uganda, to whom a copy of <sup>your</sup> ~~this~~ letter is being sent.

2. A further communication will be addressed to you when

the

copy Kenya (3)  
K.E.T. (4)

**FURTHER ACTION.**

Copy corres. to H.C.R.,  
L.F. for obsans.  
Copy corres. to O.A.G.  
Kenya, L.F. for inf.

"talking each"

X i.e. NO. 10. 1. 2 dgt.

the High Commissioner's comments,  
which are being invited, have been  
received.

I am, etc.,

Signed) J. E. W. FLOOD

51

THE  
SANITARY INSPECTORS' ASSOCIATION.

PRESIDENT: SIR LEONARD HILL, M.B.E., F.R.S., L.D., HON. M.A.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL "THE SANITARIAN" (Monthly)

SECRETARY,  
W. B. JEPSON  
TELEPHONE  
VICTORIA 4304



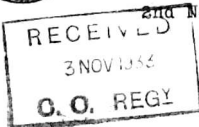
REGISTERED OFFICE:

"MORETON HOUSE", 27 & MORETON STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

2nd November, 1933.

*ackd (2)*

The Secretary,  
Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
London.



ACKD. BY P.C.

*W.C. P.C.*

Sir,

Kenya & Uganda Railways and Harbour  
Administration - Status and conditions  
of service of Sanitary Inspectors.

Representation has been received from members of my Association upon the unsatisfactory conditions of service and status of Sanitary Inspectors employed under the Kenya and Uganda Railways.

The facts as reported to my Association are briefly as follows:-

*copy to Kenya (3) W.C.T. (4)*

Two Sanitary Inspectors are affected, viz: Mr. A. C. Campbell and Mr. D. A. Dick. Mr. Campbell was appointed as Sanitary Inspector to the Kenya Medical Department in February 1929, and transferred in December 1930 to the Railway Administration of Kenya. Mr. Dick was appointed Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Branch of the Railway in October 1929. Both are fully qualified Sanitary Inspectors, and have had practical experience in the discharge of those duties. In addition, Mr. Dick has attended a short course in Medical Entomology at the Medical Research Laboratory, Nairobi. On the latter's arrival at Nairobi he was informed by the Railway Medical Officer that as there was a high incidence of malaria among the railway employees, general insanitary conditions at railway stations, and complaints from the travelling public, the Railway Advisory Council had decided to appoint qualified Sanitary Inspectors, and that he was to carry out the recognised duties of a Sanitary Inspector on the railway.

At the end of 1931, the Railway Medical Officer was transferred to the Medical Department, Kenya, and the Inspectors were transferred to the Engineering Department with headquarters at Nairobi, but for the purposes of discipline they were attached to the staffs of the District Engineer, (See Chief Engineer's Circulars Nos. 1 & 1(A) of 1932, sent herewith).

*S. L. ...*  
This arrangement has proved very unsatisfactory, and the Sanitary Inspectors have experienced the greatest difficulty in carrying out their statutory duties as is evidenced by the following example: On one occasion an Inspector was reprimanded for stopping an Assistant Station Master who was suffering from septic soabies and ringworm from handling foodstuffs, and issuing tickets to the travelling public, and told he was exceeding his duties as Sanitary Inspector. Similar difficulties have been experienced on subsequent occasions as is shown by correspondence in the possession of my Association. The exercise by the Sanitary Inspectors of their powers under the Public Health Ordinances is being constantly challenged by the Engineers, and they are generally restricted in the proper performance of their duties.

It is submitted that the Engineering Department is not an appropriate one to direct and control the work of Sanitary Inspectors for the following reasons:-

- (1) Engineers have little or no knowledge of the duties of Sanitary Inspectors or of matters relating to sanitation and public health.
- (2) Frequently the Engineering Department are the chief offenders under the Public Health enactments, and this being so, they are inclined to pay little attention to matters complained of by the Inspectors. Instances are on record where the Sanitary Inspector is entirely ignored.
- (3) As the Railway Administration do not possess the statutory powers of a Local Authority under the Public Health Ordinances they are unable to proceed against offenders, and as the Municipality exercise no jurisdiction over the Government Railways an anomaly would appear to arise calling for attention.
- (4) Engineers are not in a position to afford expert advice on matters affecting public health such as could be obtained from the Medical Officer of Health.

I should also mention, with regard to salaries, that whilst the Railway Sanitary Inspectors are appointed by the Government at a similar salary to that of other Government Inspectors, their posts are not pensionable, but they are required to contribute to a Provident Scheme less advantageous. Further, no facilities are available for promotion such as other Government Inspectors have.

My Association are informed that the case has been fully represented to the Medical Department of Kenya but no improvement in the conditions has yet been effected. It is respectfully suggested that a possible solution of the difficulty would be for the Railway Sanitary Inspectors to be attached to the Medical Department of Kenya, as is the case with other Government Sanitary Inspectors.

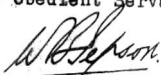
I am to ask that you will be good enough to give these matters your serious consideration. I shall be glad if an opportunity could



● be afforded me to further discuss the subject with  
representatives of the Department at an early date.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



Secretary.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S GENERAL CIRCULAR NO. 1. OF 1932.

DUTIES OF SANITARY INSPECTORS.

The District Engineer is the Supervising Officer of Railway Sanitation within his District, except at wayside stations when the sanitation is dealt with by the Transportation Department.

A Sanitary Inspector is attached to each District in Kenya with headquarters at Kilindini, Nairobi and Eldoret, respectively.

The Sanitary Inspector shall report to and take his instructions from the District Engineer.

The Sanitary Inspector will submit a fortnightly report, in duplicate, to the District Engineer, who will forward one copy of same to the Chief Engineer.

Sanitary Inspectors are expected to deal with minor repairs and improvements to drains, cesspits, and all other works which can be undertaken by unskilled labour.

Sanitary Inspectors are required to carry out periodical inspections of quarters in the terms of Hon. General Manager's Circular No. 1 of 1927. Excerpts from the Circular in question are given below for ready reference:-

"(10) All occupants of Railway Quarters are responsible for the cleanliness and tidiness of their houses and the compounds attached to their houses.

"(11) An Inspector appointed by the Chief Engineer for this purpose has the right to enter any compound or house which he may deem untidy and clean it up. The actual cost of doing this (which shall not exceed Sd.8/-) shall be recovered from the occupant of the house.

"(11a). The Inspector must take care to give as little inconvenience to occupants as the proper execution of his duty will permit, and particular care shall be taken in dealing with Indian houses not to violate the rules of purdah or bona fide religious principles."

The Sanitary and Bush Clearing gangs at his Headquarters stations are under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, who will maintain the muster rolls and submit them to the District Engineer.

NOTE: The Landi Overseers, at Nairobi and Kisumu, will not come under the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Inspector, but will be advised by the Sanitary Inspector when necessary in sanitary matters.

At all other Depot Stations the muster rolls are maintained by the Permanent Way Inspector - e.g. Makindu, etc.

At wayside stations the sanitary labour is under the orders of the Station Master, who is responsible for the cleanliness of his station latrines and platform, and the yard and station area is kept clean by the Permanent Way gangs.

The Sanitary Inspector will be Adviser to the Station Master and Permanent Way Inspector of each station re sanitary matters.

Engineering Sanitary labour has no duties in connection with rolling stock other than the placing of buckets under Inspection Coaches, stabled at Depot Stations.

Officers of the Medical Department may not issue orders to the Railway Sanitary Inspector but must deal direct with the District Engineer in regard to the abatement of any nuisance etc., unless the matter is very urgent, and any orders given must be submitted to the District Engineer for information.

NOTE: Sanitary Inspectors, Nairobi and Eldoret will continue to be in charge of the fumigation of Coaches until the Transportation Department is in a position to take over this work.

Nairobi.  
12. 1. 32.  
KMC.

(SIGNED) V. B. Atkinson.

Chief Engineer.

**CHIEF ENGINEER'S GENERAL CIRCULAR NO. IA. OF 1932.**

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Paras 2, 3 and 4 of General Circular No. 1. of 1932 are cancelled, and the following paragraphs substituted:-

2. Two Sanitary Inspectors are attached to the Department, with headquarters at Nairobi and Eldoret.
3. These Sanitary Inspectors will be responsible for the sanitation on railway property on the C.E.D. & N.E.D. and L.E.D. & U.E.D. respectively, but for purposes of discipline will be attached to the staffs of the District Engineer, Nairobi Engineering District, and District Engineer, Lake Engineering District.
4. They will submit fortnightly reports in duplicate to all of the District Engineers concerned, who will forward one copy of same to the Chief Engineer.

**NAIROBI.**  
**5.2.1932.**

(SIGNED) V. B. Atkinson.

**CHIEF ENGINEER.**