

1938

38092

CO 533/493
KENYA

38092

Native Agricultural Instruction.

(Financed by Carnegie Corporation Funds)

Previous

1937

su 1658/A/36
evnd.

Subsequent

297. 17/1

309. 2A-b

Mr Howard 297b

Mr Dawe 1

298 2/2

297

at Agric
Carnegie

to Harrigan s/o
Ref. 8 on 10/58/10/36 cont. - finds copy of reports
on schemes relating to Agric Instruction &
soil conservation financed by the grant from
Carnegie Corporation.

(1) the documents referred to
in (i) there is available a
library copy of the EAST SUIK
RESERVES report.

Mr. S.M. Smith has kindly obtained
a copy of the UKAMBA (MACHAKOS) RESERVES
report which can be spared
from his office.

This leaves only the UKAMBA (KITUI)
RESERVES report, of which we
have only one copy (see (16) on
38184/3/37 Pt II).

I think the only thing is to
take in file copy & ask

Kenya to replace it as
soon as they can

I attach 2 other copies

Mumtaz
20/10

I wonder if
we really want
it. We can
get one later
if we do.

A 34

A. M. ...
25.6

2 To Sir D. Chadwick s/o 27/10/8
(original copy)

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

2 of 2 *Chadwick*
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Put by
CW Gray

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11/1

C. O.

Mr. MacDougal.

Mr. Howard

Mr. Davis

Sir H. Meers.

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

1/6/38

Handwritten signature

For Mr. Howard's signature.

DOWNING STREET.

June, 1938.

2 JUL 1938

DRAFT.

SIR DAVID CHADWICK, C.S.I., C.I.E.

Dear Sir David,

You will remember

that, in my letter of the 21st of March about reports for the Carnegie Corporation Trustees in respect of works financed by them in Kenya, I promised you a further letter as soon as we had heard from the Colony.

I am now sending you

separately for the information of the Trustees three reports on the anti-erosion work in Kenya, and one dealing with the

activities.

(7) m
1659/A/38

Soil Erosion and Land Utilization in the Ukamba (Kitui) Reserve - Parts I, II and III.

Soil Erosion and Land Utilization in the Ukamba Reserve (Machakos).

Soil Erosion and Land Utilization in the Kamasia, Njemp and East Suk Reserves.

Reports of Kenya Marketing Offices for 1937 & 1937 - under (1).

FURTHER ACTION.

Kenya Seashore Circular 20 Dec 1937
Under (1) &

C. O.

Mr. Macdonald.

Mr. Howard

Mr. Davis

Sir H. Moore

Sir C. Tomlinson

Sir C. Bottomley

Sir J. Shuckburgh

Perms. U.S. of S.

Party, U.S. of S.

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Reports of Kenya Marketing Office for 1936-1937 - under (1).

FURTHER ACTION.

Kenya Searchlight Circular 20 Dec 1937. Under (1) & (2).

*(17) m
1659/A/38*

activities of the Marketing Officer
charged with instruction in, and
supervision of, the organized marketing
of native agricultural produce.

The original grant was, with the
concurrence of the Trustees, devoted
to helping these two schemes.

see (4) in 38092/35

The Trustees may also be
interested to see a copy of a Kenya
Secretariat Circular of the 20th of
December, 1937, so I am sending that
along also.

YOURS SINCERELY

H. J. HOWARD

Reports of the Marketing Officer which should meet the requirements of the Carnegie Trustees in so far as this scheme is concerned.

As regards the work against soil erosion, copies of the following reports by Maher (who is the officer seconded in this connection) have been furnished to the Colonial Officer:-

17800
folio

Soil Erosion and Land Utilization in the Kamasia, Njempu and East Suk Reserves.

} under Kenya despatch No.551 of the 18th September, 1937.

Soil Erosion and Land Utilization in the Ukamba Reserve (Machakos)

} under third personal note of the 27th November, 1937.

Soil Erosion and Land Utilization in the Ukamba (Kitui) Reserve

It would be appreciated if the copies of these reports already furnished to the Colonial Office might be made available to the Trustees, as we have no spare copies at present.

I enclose also copies of Secretariat Circular No.23 of the 20th December, 1937, which may be of interest to the Trustees.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. Anglin

adjacent better portions of the drier types of grazing. The former would be used during the dry weather and the latter during the rains under controlled migration.

A more detailed account of these surveys is to be found in the report of the Grassland Officer in Volume II.

SOIL EROSION

Much has been written in the past concerning the dangers of soil erosion and the methods by which it can be prevented or arrested and it is not proposed to enter this year into details.

The subject has received the constant attention of all field staff and active propaganda and instruction accompanied by demonstrations relating to soil control, has been given to natives in all districts. Land conservation and utilization committees have been formed in certain areas and local districts co-ordinate the work.

Projects of reclamation must for large operations await substantial funds, but small projects have been undertaken in the Central and Nyanza Provinces and in addition the re-afforestation which is taking place by plantings in individual native holdings is most gratifying, particularly the wattle planting in the Central Province which may now be said to have more than made up for the deforestation by natives which has occurred since their occupation of this land.

NATIVE PRODUCE

Inspection and Marketing Service

The Carnegie Trust made a grant early in the year for the specific purpose of the appointment of a Marketing Officer for native produce. Mr. C. D. Oates, Agricultural Officer in Kenya, was appointed to the post which is a purely temporary one, his place being taken by a local appointment. This action on the part of the Carnegie Trust is very much appreciated by the Department. The report for 1936 which follows under this heading has been prepared by Mr. Oates.

The appointment of the Marketing Officer was made as from the 1st March, 1936. The duties of the post cover both the Native Produce Inspection Services and the Native Produce Marketing Services, but additional work has been taken on, as will be related in this report. Headquarters for the services were established at head office in Nairobi.

In the Central and Nyanza Province there has been a rapid change from this state of affairs in the last few years with the introduction of compulsory central inspection.

At the inspection centres all produce of specified kinds which does not meet the rules forbidding the sale of inferior produce is rejected, and the native is given an opportunity of re-sorting the produce and offering the sound portion for a second inspection. This is having a highly educative effect, not merely in inducing the native to sort the produce at his own home before bringing it to the inspection centre, but in teaching him the necessity of planting the best available seed.

All potatoes brought to the inspection centre are sorted mechanically into the export grades. Maize is put through a sorter and cleaner, and if the parcel shows an excessive percentage of discoloured grains the native is made to pick these out before re-submission for inspection. In almost all cases of the individual load it is the woman who brings the load for inspection, and the assemblage of native women, sitting down on the clean floors provided (not mud or clay, cement floors) is a happy gossiping one; their visits to market are infrequent, and they enjoy the opportunity of a long and leisurely conversation.

Beans are passed either as green varieties or as dried varieties, the option being given to the native who is informed of the higher price offered by traders for the green variety. (The information is now no longer necessary.)

A ticket is given for produce which has passed the inspection, and no person may consign the specified produce out of the declared area unless he is in possession of this inspection ticket.

In the Central Province, with the institution of marketing organization, the traders who buy the produce at the fixed market centres away from the inspection centres require the sellers to sort the produce before purchase, as the produce has to undergo the inspection when brought in, for sale by the trader to the wholesale buyer. The inspection centres are situated at all distributing points through which the produce must pass for consignment out of the area.

Central Province

In the Central Province an opportunity for the inception of the system was provided in 1933 in conjunction with the strong efforts to improve the quality of native produced wattle

Rift Valley Province

In this Province inspection is at present confined to maize and to the Nakuru district, and is linked up with organized marketing, each inspection centre being a fixed market centre as well. The native maize is produced entirely by squatters on European farms and in forest reserves. The service was instituted only at the end of the year, after the harvesting of the 1936 crop. Here, again, the Kenya Farmers' Association has become a large buyer of native maize.

AMOUNTS OF NATIVE PRODUCE PASSING THROUGH THE INSPECTION CENTRES IN 1936, IN THE CENTRAL AND NYANZA PROVINCES

	Central Province	Nyanza Province
	<i>Bags</i>	<i>Bags</i>
Maize and Maize Meal	180,406	209,293
Legumes	32,951	34,210
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Potatoes	5,436	
Simsim		2,938
Rice		250
Wattle Bark (Dry)	11,979	
Wattle Bark (Green)	8,309	

Marketing Services

The Native Produce Marketing Ordinance was enacted in August, 1935, and, amongst other provisions, gave authority for the organization of marketing of native produce by the creation of fixed market centres in declared areas and prohibiting the sale of specified produce (save for local consumption) except at the fixed centres.

Earlier efforts for the marketing organization consisted in inducing Local Native Councils to erect godowns and to appoint an agent for the purchase of produce brought to the godown by natives at a price which represented fair market value less a 5 per cent commission and cost of purchasing. For some years this was confined to the Central Province, and ten godowns were erected at principal distributing centres in the Province. It has now been extended to the Nyanza Province. These Local Native Council godowns have become a valuable aid to the marketing organization in the Central Province. In Nyanza, the Native Produce Marketing Ordinance has not yet been applied; nevertheless, the godowns are proving most useful, by permitting, as in the Central Province, a large buyer to purchase direct from the individual native.

Rift Valley Province

The Native Produce Marketing Ordinance was applied to the Nakuru district of the Rift Valley Province late in 1936 with the institution of the inspection services in that district. The marketing organization, as with the inspection, is confined to maize produced by native squatters, of which some 200,000 bags are sold annually.

On the western side of the district a number of trading centres provided a fairly ready outlet for the disposal of maize. On the eastern side, however, there are no trading centres, and maize had been bought by itinerant traders, often at night. In many cases the natives were badly cheated, and when farmers heard lorries transporting maize at night they became suspicious, by no means without reason, that their own maize was also being sold. The establishment of several market and inspection centres has given the squatters definite places to which to bring their maize, where they know a fair price is paid and where competition is strong.

Nyanza Province

The Native Produce Marketing Ordinance has not yet been applied to Nyanza, and marketing organization for the staple crops is confined to the provision of Local Native Council godowns and the appointment of an agent to purchase produce in competition with other traders. Three of these godowns exist at the present time, at Yala, Luanda, and Broderick Falls, but at the last the godown is rented by native maize-growers who sell their maize collectively to one buyer on the somewhat unsatisfactory system of an initial and a final payment. The factor in the Province which may for a time require more modification of the general system of organized marketing to that of the Central Province is that of a large class of native trader (except in a very thickly settled part of North Kavirondo) to purchase at fixed centres at numerous points within the reserves.

In connexion with the small pioneer tobacco industry in the Butere area, the marketing of the leaf was organized in 1936 by confining purchasing to one fixed centre and to two purchasers, competing with each other.

Old and New Methods Compared

Under the old method the native producer either waited for a buyer to come to the village, or was intercepted on the

In the Rift Valley Province the inspection and marketing of native squatter maize has also been running quite smoothly, although there have been some evasions by lorry-owners who appear determined not to give up their practice of former years without some resistance; the detection of this is giving a good deal of trouble to the inspectors, who are also supervisors of the markets.

Nyanza has been awaiting the results of the marketing system in the Central Province before the application of the Native Produce Marketing Ordinance to the Province. A great deal of work has, however, been done by Administrative and Agricultural Officers in preparing the way for the application of the Ordinance, particularly by the creation of a larger number of ordinary native marketing centres. The inspection service in Nyanza has been exceptionally successful and, as in the Central Province, has been warmly welcomed by the purchasers of native produce. The produce in Nyanza was, before the inception of compulsory inspection in the Colony, somewhat superior in quality to that of the Central Province, due to rather better climatic conditions for the particular crops, so that Nyanza had not so far to go as the Central Province in bringing the quality up to a high standard.

The system of compulsory central inspection was begun before the organized marketing under the Marketing Ordinance, and the former service alone had a remarkable effect in improving the price to the native, for the large export buyers of produce were able to purchase native produce with confidence that the deliveries to them would be of sound, exportable produce of uniform quality. Previous to the inspection services, no native maize was exported beyond African ports, for none of the large buyers would purchase it for export due to the unsound or irregular quality. As soon as it became clear that native maize leaving the reserves was uniformly dry and of an adequate standard of purity, the Kenya Farmers' Association, which exports over 90 per cent of the country's surplus maize, set up organizations in the native areas, assisted by this Department and the Administration, for the purchase of native maize, and in the first season exported 50,000 bags. Similarly, the purchase of potatoes for export was considerably increased, buyers being both the Kenya Farmers' Association and certain large Indian exporters to Bombay. The demand from South Africa for Kenya native-produced beans became greater with the improvement in quality and uniformity, and a more or less

type, whilst Malta, which imports large quantities of beans, will only take the broad bean type. In the main, native grown beans in Kenya are of the French type, being originally used on the advice of produce merchants. As a result of investigations, broad beans will be given a trial, and if successful will be encouraged as well as the French type. It is felt that the Kenya Farmers' Association handles the export of beans, but there is always with marketing problems of one kind or another.

The major crop of Kenya is coffee, which is the main source of foreign exchange. The area under coffee is about 100,000 acres, which is about 10 per cent of the total area. The coffee is grown in the highlands, and attention is being given to the marketing of coffee, with a view to increasing the price of coffee. The Kenya Farmers' Association is also working on the marketing of coffee, and is also working on the marketing of other crops, such as maize, wheat, and cotton. The Kenya Farmers' Association is also working on the marketing of other crops, such as maize, wheat, and cotton.

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	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Maize	100,000	120,000	150,000	180,000	200,000	220,000
Wheat	50,000	60,000	70,000	80,000	90,000	100,000
Cotton	20,000	30,000	40,000	50,000	60,000	70,000
Other	10,000	15,000	20,000	25,000	30,000	35,000
Total	180,000	225,000	280,000	340,000	390,000	440,000

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NATIVE PRODUCE SERVICES.
REPORT OF THE MARKETING OFFICER FOR 1937.

The following report has been prepared by Mr. C.O. Gates, who acted as Marketing Officer throughout the year: His headquarters continued to be in Nairobi but 137 nights were spent on safari.

During the year the main work undertaken was:-

- (a) Consolidating the inspection services, increasing their efficiency and revising the legislation for that purpose;
- (b) Generally supervising the enforcement of the rules under the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance, assisting in the organization of markets, and advising officers as to market sites;
- (c) Conducting correspondence with the object of exploring overseas markets;
- (d) Investigating the local markets;
- (e) Conducting the publicity side in head office with particular reference to overseas exhibitions.

Mr. Gates also assisted with the promotional work at head office and acted as secretary to the Kenya Agriculture and to the Kenya Fruit Growers' Association.

INSPECTION SERVICES.

Considerable progress was made with these services during the year and all areas in Kenya where native crop produce is grown in bulk are now served by inspection centres. Most noticeable improvement in native produce occurred during the year in the areas served in 1936 and this may be attributed largely to the fact that cultivators are now taking

great pains to plant good seed, having learnt their lesson by the rejection of bad produce at the inspection centres. In most areas the produce now arrives at the centres clean and very little picking over is done, all this having been done at home; the native women, however, still make a pretence of picking their produce over whilst sitting down to exchange news with friends, and it is unlikely that this practice will die out quickly.

A pleasing feature to report with regard to these services is the increasing trust placed in them by merchants all over the country. District Agricultural Officers and the Marketing Officer are very quickly informed if any particular centre passes bad produce.

As funds become available the equipment of inspection centres is being improved, particularly by the provision of concrete sorting floors and shaker sieves. These latter have been evolved by experiments in design made by the Marketing Officer and District Agricultural Officers in the Central Province and a type has been made which is being used at centres all over the country.

Inspection tickets have been improved by the institution of an omnibus ticket which the transporter of produce obtains when moving produce from the place of inspection, thus obviating the necessity for him to carry a large number of small tickets.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Owing to the failure of the 1936 short rain crop there was not a great deal of produce moving until September when the long rains crop became available.

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In this province inspection is carried out by the examination of crops at centres situated at the ^{exits} ~~exits~~ from the districts. The produce is brought to these centres by traders who have generally purchased it at markets in the district. It is the duty of the native staff to visit these markets and point out what is good and what is bad produce. These educative visits are, however, rapidly becoming less necessary.

Great improvement was made in 1937 in the inspection services of the Embu and Kiambu districts, the standard of the produce leaving these areas reacting accordingly. In the more remote Meru district the produce is not up to the standard of the rest of the province and a considerable amount of outside inspection work has had to be undertaken. By outside inspection is meant the inspection at markets in the district rather than at the inspection centres situated at the outlets.

The main problem during the year was that of wattle bark inspection. A big increase in the price of bark and extract took place at the beginning, and again in the middle, of the year. Agricultural officers anticipated that there would be an increase in bark submitted for inspection and augmented the staff at inspection centres. The increase in supplies was, however, far greater than had been anticipated and in many cases inspection centres were swamped. The unfortunate aspect of this increased cutting of bark was that numbers of immature plantations were stripped and the bark offered for sale. This cutting of immature trees was aggravated by the

fact, that, owing to the wet weather in the middle of the year, the price of charcoal went up to Sh. 5/- per bag in Nairobi. Many Africans in Kiambu and Fort Hall districts cut their plantations and burnt the timber for charcoal, caring little if the bark which they stripped was mature or not, but taking it to the inspection centre to try to get it through. All this put a tremendous strain on the inspectors, large quantities of immature bark were burned, but also owing to the amount submitted quantities of bad bark passed the inspectors and were taken into the factories. The factory owners protested against the quality of the bark and said that the whole name of Kenya wattle bark and extract would suffer. The cutting of large numbers of immature plantations upset the wattle rotation in the districts, trees being cut in 1937 which should not have been cut until 1940. Yields were considerably less because of this and in many cases the plantations were cut so young that the seed was not viable and no regeneration occurred.

In order to prevent this trouble caused by price increase becoming universal, the situation was reviewed and the following steps taken:-

- (a) The wattle inspection fee was increased from 50 cents per ton to Sh. 1.25 per ton;
- (b) with this extra provision, the staff of inspectors was increased to enable any native desiring to cut a plantation to obtain advice on short notice as to whether it was ready for stripping.

This has now developed to such an extent that before cutting wattle plantations natives obtain a skin from the nearest inspector or instructor to say that the bark is believed to be mature. This system has proved successful in greatly improving the quality of the bark offered for sale and has naturally decreased the quantity. This will help the industry greatly and ensure an adequate amount of good bark in years to come.

NYANZA PROVINCE.

In this Province the inspection system still rests on the individual load examination of produce at markets, to secure the educative effect to the individual cultivator. This system naturally needs a considerably larger number of centres than the Central Province system. It is expected that in the near future it will be possible to give up load inspection and confine the work to the exits from the production areas.

During the year under review the services were increased to include rice, the raising of which is expanding, and a first-class quality of rice has been turned out, particularly from Kusa in Central Kavirondo.

Groundnuts are now of such high quality that it is a matter for enquiry as to whether the standard achieved is not too high for the use to which the product is put. This is a matter which is being investigated. Simsim is also of such quality as to be outstanding when compared with other East African simsim.

With the posting of a District Officer to Kericho it was possible to inaugurate services in the South Lumbwa district and for squatter maize at Londiani, Hedowa and Lumbwa railway stations. The produce at these places has for a long time been much lower in standard than that of the rest of the Province; the institution of inspection should do much to improve this state of affairs.

The maize in North Kavirondo is of first class quality and is much superior to that grown by natives elsewhere in Kenya. During 1937

a great deal was sent down to the Central Province during the period of temporary local shortage in the middle months of the year following the failure of the short rains.

PRODUCE INSPECTED IN NYANZA.

		<u>Amount.</u> <u>tons.</u>	<u>Value.</u> <u>£.</u>
Maize	...	24,600	291,000
Simain	...	2,958	32,318
Groundnuts	...	3,755	28,478
Rice	...	511	2,861
Beans	...	522	4,849
		<u>33,346 tons.</u>	<u>219,506</u>

RIFT VALLEY PROVINCE.

Makuru District.

The inspection services in this area for squatter maize are more a charge on the time of the Marketing Officer than other parts of Kenya, as the Agricultural Officer, Njoro, who serves a large European area, cannot give the time to supervise the centres adequately.

Inspection was started as an experiment and as is usual in the case of experiments, it has been necessary to revise many previous ideas as to the best way to carry out the work.

The centres were kept open all the year, but it was only during the early months of the year and during December that any considerable volume of maize was offered for inspection.

It is proposed in the future to open the centres each day for the earlier months of the year and when the main crop is over to open them only on certain days of the week. This will enable a

considerable saving of money in wages to be effected.

Towards the end of the year Rules were introduced making compulsory the inspection of native ~~green~~ potatoes before removing them from the district. These rules were chiefly to stop bad potatoes leaving Elburgon. Fresh seed has been issued to the Forest Department's squatters in that area to enable them to grow potatoes of a good type.

40, 260 bags of maize were inspected in 1937.

COAST PROVINCE.

Steps were taken during the year to improve the produce at the Coast under the first part of the Native Produce Improvement and Inspection Rules. Maize has been the chief crop dealt with.

The question of the proper inspection and grading of copra is being considered and it is likely that legislation will be introduced during 1938 for this purpose.

Other crops will also be dealt with in the near future, when it is hoped that marketing and produce inspection will be introduced together.

MARKETING SERVICES.

These consist of services to implement the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance as well as services given to areas where the Ordinance has not yet been introduced.

The former areas are:-

- (1) Central Province;
- (2) Rift Valley Province (Nakuru District);
- (3) Coast Province.

The chief area under the latter category is the Nyanza Province.

The Central Province has the complete scheme working, as also has the Nakuru district in the Rift Valley Province, but up to date the Coast Province has only had the Ordinance introduced in order to make use of the Weights and Measures Rules which have been promulgated under it.

In Nyanza Province a considerable amount of work has been done on market organization and it is hoped to introduce the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance during 1938. This could probably have been done in 1937 but for certain small local problems which it was thought desirable should be settled first.

A big step in marketing organisation during the year was the introduction of the Marketing of Native Produce (Weights and Measures) Rules. These Rules make the use of the half-bushel measure and its smaller units compulsory for certain produce when purchased in amounts smaller than two hundred pounds. It can be said that no more popular piece of legislation has been introduced amongst natives. Agricultural Officers have been gazetted as deputy inspectors of Weights and Measures and in most cases the measures are tested and stamped by them before issue.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

The main work of 1937 was in consolidating the work done in 1936 and in the light of experience gained, putting right matters which had not at first run smoothly.

The actual introduction of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance in 1936 was not done until, with the will of the people and the assent of the trading community its provisions had been put into practice at a number of centres without legislative sanction. Some districts went further ahead than others; Fort Hall and South Nyeri in particular. Kiambu district lagged and this was chiefly due to the fact ^{that} the natives of the district are very progressive and had started buying produce at their own stores all over the reserve before the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance was introduced; consequently when it was desired to establish the buying of produce at centres it was found that many stone built stores existed at unsuitable sites, whilst owners were naturally not keen on abandoning these to go to proper market centres. The clearing up of this position is naturally one that takes time, but great progress has been made and by the end of the year all buyers of produce were established at buying centres. At the commencement of the year Embu district was not altogether satisfactory. A great deal of work was, however, put in during the first three months of the year and the position was soon changed; the district is now as good as any other in the Province.

The market needs of the producer vary greatly from district to district, depending largely on the amount and type of produce grown and of the educational standard of the natives growing it. In Kiambu district for instance the very broken nature of the terrain and the fact that the inhabitants, particularly the women, have

been educated up to a higher standard than other districts, makes it necessary to have markets at much closer intervals to meet the objection of the producer to carrying his produce long distances. In the remote Meru district there are up to date no large number of markets such as exist in say Fort Hall and Kiambu, the inhabitants still relying on the trading centres which are filled with Indian traders.

The buildings owned by native traders at the markets throughout the Province were greatly improved during the year and the general tendency is for the occupant of a plot at a market centre to seek to build a better building than his neighbour.

The introduction of the Marketing of Native Produce (Weights and Measures) Rules was a great step forward and one that has been more appreciated by the illiterate native producer, and the old woman in particular, than any marketing legislation introduced by Government. Any suggestion of removing the "mitungi" as the half bushel measure is called and reverting to the old type of "debi" would cause something in the nature of a riot.

The Ordinance is now working efficiently and smoothly in the Central Province and with the inspection service, has been the salvation of the native produce trade. The aim of the future should be for better market buildings.

A note of warning should, however, be sounded about the native trader before the

introduction of organised marketing, these were numerous throughout the kikuyu tribal Reserves and their operations were by means of the legislation confined to the fixed market centres, not excluding trading centres. As long as they are performing their correct function, that is buying produce in small quantities at markets in the reserve, bulking it and transporting it to rail head or some large centre for sale, they are of use to the community. When, however, they start trading at these large centres and buy produce to sell to the European and Indian firms in the same centres they become additional and unnecessary middle men.

RIFT VALLEY PROVINCE.

Nakuru District.

The marketing system in this district is quite different from that in the Central Province. In the latter Government is endeavouring to help the natives to market the produce grown on their own land in their reserves. In Nakuru district the scheme is to help the native squatter to market his maize which he has grown on a European farm on which he is working. Here the organised marketing of the native squatter-grown maize has caused considerable controversy. It is said that:-

- (a) by the provision of good marketing facilities it has encouraged natives on European farms to grow more maize;
- (b) during the marketing season it takes native labour away from farms; and
- (c) it has also encouraged theft.

On the other side, however, it may be said

that:-

- (a) if maize is grown by natives it is the duty of Government to see that they grow good maize;
- (b) as long as European settlers keep large numbers of natives who grow maize it is the duty of Government to the community to see that they grow a type of maize that will not deteriorate the quality of the European maize in the area through crossing;
- (c) the natives here as elsewhere should be given an opportunity of obtaining full market value;
- (d) by the opening up of market centres and confining buying and selling to daylight hours, Government has stopped the former road-side buying of maize which, taking place at night, encouraged theft from the European crops; now maize has to be marketed at certain centres and it should be easy for an owner of an adjacent farm, who suspects that his maize is being stolen, to keep an eye on these centres;
- (e) the provision of a number of buyers at each market centre insures competition; The Kenya Farmers' Association are represented at most places and their presence has a stabilising effect on prices.

The working of the Ordinance during this season varied in efficiency according to the location of the markets. On the western side of the district the natives have been used to taking their produce to the established trading centres, such as Elburgon, and no trouble has been experienced

in getting all the produce sold at the proper places.

On the eastern side of the district there are no established trading centres in the maize areas and natives in the past have been used to selling their maize either to farms, local shops, or to Indian lorries touring the district. Last season permission was obtained from the Nakuru District Council to establish maize markets in the road reserve. These road-side markets were first established near shops but as this gave the shop-owner a virtual monopoly it was decided that market centres should be as equi-distant from these shops as possible and that buying should only take place at such centres. This has been found to be a satisfactory arrangement.

This marketing scheme is admittedly an experiment and must be subjected to changes from time to time. There is no doubt, however, that it is performing a most useful service.

CONCLUSION.

This Province will not for some time be dependent on a marketing of produce point of view. It has, however, certain big problems the chief of which is the difficulty of seeing that the native is paid cash for his produce. It is proposed to introduce the Marketing of Native Produce Rules in 1938 and these to other with Marketing of Native Produce (Weights and Measures) Rules and the establishment of proper market centres for crops such as coffee, rice and maize should go a long way towards ensuring that

the old advances system is broken.

There are precedents in the Coast Province for organisation of marketing, since cotton markets have been established there (as elsewhere in the Colony) since the industry began and the legislation for the control of the cashew nut industry has led to organised marketing for this crop. In respect of the latter, this has proved most popular with the natives, with the facilities provided for ready sale for cash, and the planting of the cashew nut tree is increasing rapidly.

NYUNYA PROVINCE.

This province grows more native produce than any other province in Kenya. Production is in the main confined to the three Kavirondo districts, and it is in these that market organisation has developed. The original dealers in native produce in Nyunya were Indians and until recently they predominated in all districts. During the last two years, however, native traders have made their appearance particularly in North Kavirondo. In this district they became a distinct problem and a menace to fair trade in that they picketed the trading centres making the women who were on their way to market sell their produce to them at low prices; they then took this produce into the trading centre and sold it to the Indians. This has been dealt with by the legislation providing for inspection before sale within three miles of an inspection centre and native traders are no longer able to buy produce at large. It will, however, need the Marketing of Native Produce Rules to put this matter on a proper basis, to take in areas outside the three-mile radius.

The native traders in North Kavirondo also tried to operate a Co-operative Society at Broderick Falls, against the advice of this Department, but this was a failure. (A further reference will be made to this later in this report). Much work was done in North Kavirondo during the latter half of the year in closing market centres at unsuitable situations and transferring them to better sites; and in opening completely new markets.

The native trader is not yet so numerous in Central Kavirondo, whilst in South Kavirondo he has only just appeared. In this latter district experiments were made towards the end of the year in the erection of buying centres for groundnuts at Kendu and for simsim at Sare. These buying centres will be watched with interest.

There is no doubt that the introduction of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance, to be ^{enforced} ~~established~~ in 1938, will be of great assistance to Nyanza Province in co-ordinating and completing the work that has been done up to date.

NATIVE COUNCIL MARKETING SERVICES.

This section deals with the help that the local native authorities have given their people, by the provision of facilities for the disposal of produce by the erection of godowns. This was begun before the organization of marketing under legislation, at the instance of this Department to provide the competition of large buyers.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Godowns have been erected at the following centres in this Province and all are leased by the Kenya Farmers' (Co-operative) Association:-

<u>District.</u>	<u>Centres.</u>
<u>South Nyeri.</u>	Karatina Kamakua
<u>Embu.</u>	Sagana
<u>Fort Hall.</u>	Fort Hall Maragua Thika.
<u>Kisumu.</u>	Thika Limuru.

The main produce which is being dealt with is maize, with potatoes at Karatina and Limuru. Approximately 20,000 bags of maize were purchased or about 12 per cent of the total crop. The Sagana godown was opened in January.

NYANZA PROVINCE.

The following godowns have been erected in Nyanza and all are leased to the Kenya Farmers' (Co-operative) Association with the exception of the Broderick Falls godown:-

<u>North Kavirondo.</u>	Broderick Falls. Butere. Luanda.
<u>Central Kavirondo.</u>	Yala.

The main crop dealt with is maize of which the Kenya Farmers' Association purchased 22,000 bags or 11 per cent of the crop. Simsim was also dealt with.

The Broderick Falls godown was leased by the Local Native Council to the Native Co-operative Society which joined the Kenya Farmers' (Co-operative) Association as an individual member. Despite the fact that these natives were given every assistance by the Kenya Farmers' Association in keeping books of account etc., their affairs quickly got into the most hopeless mess and every evidence was given that without European assistance the Co-operative Society was

not competent to look after itself. In 1938 the godown will be run by the Kenya Farmers' (Co-operative) Association.

INVESTIGATION OF OVERSEAS MARKETS
FOR EXPORT CROPS.

The problem of the best markets for Kenya native produce continued to take up a certain amount of time, samples of produce being sent all over the world.

Potatoes.

During ~~xxx~~ 1937 native-grown potatoes were exported to the following places in the following amounts:-

<u>Destination.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>
Aden	3,003
Bombay	23,915
Colombo	686
Calcutta	300
Dar-es-Salaam	8,264
Lindi	783
Mozambique	6,413
Mauritius	3,778
Majunga	364
Mikindani	91
Port Amelia	1,293
Tanga	658
Zanzibar	7,338
TOTAL:	57,898 cwts.

After considerable amount of correspondence it has been definitely established that Kenya's biggest market, Bombay, definitely prefers a white round potato, and sea issues will take place with a view to supplying that demand.

During times of shortage there is no doubt that pink-tinted potatoes will sell well but during times of glut they are difficult to dispose of at a good price, being only taken at cheap rates after the white varieties are finished.

Beans.

The incidence of bacterial blight, anthracnose, and the presence of the bean beetle, coupled with two adverse seasons, have prevented the export of native grown beans from making the progress it was anticipated would be made. In fact there was a big drop in the exports in 1937.

Samples of white haricot beans were sent to Canada and England and encouraging reports have been received.

The difficulty will apparently be to keep the beans free from beetles and retaining a good colour. The heat treatment provided by the Department at the Coast, which is compulsory for all bean exports kills the beetle but certain important markets do not like the evidence of weevil injury. The possibility of a polishing machine is being investigated.

The free export of beans from the long rains crop into the Union of South Africa was considerably interfered with towards the end of the year owing to veterinary restrictions enforced on importations into South Africa. The success of the representations which were made by the Department to the Minister of Agriculture for South Africa came too late in the season for export to re-commence.

Peas.

Samples of Victoria peas were sent to Canada and from reports received there is little doubt that a good market should be available when there is sufficient quantity to export. This crop is now being increased rapidly.

Maize.

No native maize was exported in 1937, as it was all needed for the internal market, in which it realised higher prices than export value, on occasions of excessive premiums due to speculative competition by Indian buyers who feared there was to be a shortage in the Colony; this shortage did not materialise, but it became necessary for the Government to prohibit further exports of maize as over-export was threatened.

COO/HMD

VALUE OF KENYA NATIVE EXPORTS: 1937

	<u>₤</u>	<u>₤</u>
Cotton	5,850,360	191,518
Potatoes	350,066	16,505
Wattle Bark	909,667	45,485
Wattle Extract	1,515,116	50,500
Hides - sundried	1,754,228	196,070
Shade-dried	2,167,178	
	} 5,921,401	
Skins - <u>Sheep</u> - <u>sun</u> dried	85,194	106,389
shade-dried	91,054	
<u>Goat</u> - <u>sun</u> dried	1,752,505	
shade-dried	178,989	
<u>Other</u>	42,169	
	} 2,127,789	
Groundnuts	578,251	28,912
Oils - sesame	525,961	16,198
		2,681,578
	TOTAL:	

COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF KENYA

S/C. AGR. 25/1. V.

CIRCULAR No. 23.

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THE SECRETARIAT,

NAIROBI, KENYA.

20th December, 1937.

SOIL CONSERVATION

The attention of all officers of Government is invited to the problem of soil erosion and to the methods which it is proposed to employ in its solution.

2. Soil erosion, in so far as it is caused by human agency, is the result of excessive or improper use of the land for cultivation or grazing. In other countries such as the United States of America and the Union of South Africa, where the problem has come into prominence in recent years, millions of pounds are being spent in the endeavour to redeem mistakes, to stem the tide of erosion and protect the soil against destruction by the forces of nature to which it has become exposed. In Kenya the problem resolves itself into two parts: (a) that of reclaiming areas which may be called devastated; and (b) that of protecting from erosion, by preventive measures, those areas which are in danger of devastation but are not yet seriously eroded.

3. In the first category are the two Native Reserves of Machakos and Kamasia, and parts of Kitui. In the second is almost all the remaining land in the Colony.

4. The proposals in view for dealing with the situation in Machakos and Kamasia are explained in later paragraphs of this circular. In the rest of the Colony, generally speaking, the stage has not been reached where drastic remedial measures are required. The danger, however, is such that prevention of those practices which destroy the fertility of the soil and assist erosion must now be generally enforced.

5. With effect from the 1st January, 1938, a Soil Conservation Service will be established for the purpose of carrying out and co-ordinating the policy of Departments engaged in anti-erosion work. The Service will comprise in the first instance an Agricultural Officer, a Soil Engineer and an Assistant Engineer (water supplies) of the Public Works Department. Apart from taking over the technical direction of anti-erosion measures in Machakos and Kamasia, under the supervisory control of the District Commissioner in each case, the Service will be available to give advice to Government officers, farmers and others on all matters relating to soil conservation. All enquiries on this subject should be addressed to the Officer in charge, Soil Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, Nairobi, who should be consulted in advance regarding soil conservation measures proposed to be carried out on any substantial scale.

6. The Service will continue the work, begun by Mr. A. C. Maher, of preparing soil erosion and land utilization surveys of all native reserves. Surveys of Machakos, Kamasia, Kitui and Embu have been completed. The purpose of these reports is not only to measure the danger from erosion in each district and to determine methods of dealing with it but also to provide economic surveys correlating the various factors such as water supplies, distribution of population, afforestation, and stock carrying capacity into a development policy for the district.

meat extract factory erected by Liebig's (Kenya) Limited at Athi River. The factory opens at a time when cattle prices have risen. If these prices are generally maintained, it will be impossible for the factory to obtain supplies by voluntary purchase. The Government is under no legal obligation to the Company in this matter of supplies, but it is obvious that in the general interests of the Colony all possible steps should be taken to facilitate the Company's buying operations and to avoid the possibility of failure of the factory. No compulsion is to be exercised to bring supplies of cattle on to the market except through the medium of public auction sales of cattle to be removed from controlled areas under the provisions of the Crop Production and Live Stock Rules, and then only with full opportunity given to other possible purchasers to bid. It is the Government's policy to see that such auctions are held and developed, so that cattle to be disposed of under the Rules can be sold quickly and so that the price level can be reduced to the equilibrium at which full advantage can be taken of the opportunity afforded by the meat extract factory, for which prices are fixed not by the local but by the export market.

14 Once the practice of selling cattle to the factory has become well established, it will have the effect of stabilizing both cattle numbers and cattle prices. Violent fluctuations in numbers and prices, such as have occurred during the last eight years, are symptoms of the absence of a steady market for surplus cattle. The circulation of money among pastoral natives will make possible the progressive economic development of their reserves on a scale that could not be contemplated without this market.

15 The native pastoral areas are not generally suited to dairying. They are suitable for development as ranching propositions with beef cattle. They constitute the largest part of the land of the Colony, the economic future of which depends largely on the proper management of these valuable grazing lands. Such management will eventually bring part of them under plough and should gradually raise the status of all grazing lands. The natives' own methods of stock-farming have already resulted in extensive denudation of pastoral lands, and this process cannot be allowed to continue. If further wastage and expenditure on reclamation is to be avoided, it will be necessary to accelerate natural evolution by forcing the more conservative pastoral natives to accept western ideas of stock husbandry and land utilization.

16. It is recognized that European stock control officers will be required to enforce the provisions of these Rules in any area to which they are applied. For the Machakos district this staff is included in the estimate of expenditure towards which assistance has been granted from the Colonial Development Fund. This Colonial Development Fund Scheme is divided into two parts:—

(a) the complete reclamation of one fertile area of 100,000 acres by methods which include the employment of a tractor-terracer unit, adjustment of land holdings and the breaking up of fragmentation with a view to placing agricultural development on a permanent and sound foundation, and

(b) the rapid treatment of the rest of the Reserve by such methods as tree-planting, grass-seeding and gully-stopping, using large gangs under area supervisors. The work also includes a large programme of dam construction.

17. It is proposed that in area (a) opportunity should be given for the training of natives from other parts of the Colony in proper anti-erosion methods. The lesson learned (not only in this country) from amateur efforts in protective works is that such things, inexpertly planned and executed, do much more harm than good. Moreover, in this country their inevitable failure destroys confidence. Some tribes understand their own, fairly effective, methods of soil protection, and it is preferable to develop and extend these rather than introduce new ideas where the old ones suffice.

5
APPENDIX I

A Bill to Provide for the Preservation of the Land and Water Resources of the Colony and for Matters incidental Thereto

(DRAFT)

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the Colony of Kenya, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Land and Water Preservation Ordinance, 1938. Short title.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires:— Interpretation.

"river" includes any stream, canal, creek, or other channel, natural or artificial, in which water flows either continuously or intermittently;

"tree" includes palms, bamboos, stumps and brush-wood;

"vegetation" includes any tree and any part thereof, any bush, shrub, brush-wood, undergrowth, grass and any other vegetation.

3. The Governor may appoint a Soil Conservation Officer and such other officers as may be necessary for the carrying into effect of the provisions of this Ordinance. Appointment of Soil Conservation Officer.

4. The Soil Conservation Officer may, with the approval of the Director of Agriculture, delegate or assign to any other officer appointed under section 3 or to any honorary soil conservation officer all or any of the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon him by this Ordinance. Delegation of powers.

5. The Governor may by notice in the Gazette appoint any person to be an honorary soil conservation officer. Such appointment shall be for a period of five years unless sooner determined by the Governor before the expiration of such period. Appointment of honorary soil conservation officers.

6. No person shall, except with the written permission of the Soil Conservation Officer granted in accordance with the proviso to this section— Prohibition of removal of trees and vegetation.

(a) remove, cut down or destroy or cause to be removed, cut down or destroyed in any manner whatsoever any live tree, or vegetation growing within a distance of ten yards of any river; or

(b) cultivate or disturb the soil within a distance of twenty yards of any river:

Provided that the Soil Conservation Officer may grant permission in writing for the removal of trees and vegetation or the cultivation of the soil within such distance from a river, if he is satisfied (a) that such removal or cultivation is necessary for farming operations, for communications, for seed nurseries or for gardens or for any other sufficient reason, and (b) that adequate measures are being taken to prevent erosion.

7. The Governor may from time to time, by notice in the Gazette declare any area surrounding the source or headwaters of a river or stream to be a catchment area. Catchment area.

- (D) the protection of slopes and catchment areas;
- (E) the construction of contour banks, terraces and dams;
- (F) generally for the better carrying out of the purposes of this Ordinance.

(2) Any Rule made under sub-section (1) of this section may require acts or things to be performed or done to the satisfaction of the Soil Conservation Officer, an administrative officer, a forest officer, or any other officer appointed by the Governor in that behalf, and may empower such officer to issue orders either verbally or by notice in writing to any person requiring acts or things to be performed or done, prohibiting acts and things from being performed or done, imposing conditions and prescribing periods and dates upon, within or before which such acts or things shall be performed or done or such conditions shall be fulfilled.

12. In any prosecution for an offence against this Ordinance the Soil Conservation Officer and any District Officer may, subject to any directions of the Attorney General, exercise all the powers of a public prosecutor appointed under any law for the time being in force in the Colony.

Soil Conservation Officer may prosecute.

13. Any person who is guilty of an offence against this Ordinance or who acts in contravention of any of the provisions thereof or of any Rules or order made thereunder shall be liable on conviction for each offence to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Penalties.

SCHEDULE

- (a) The prevention of destruction of forest, bush or grass by fire or by any other means;
- (b) the reforestation or planting with grass of denuded areas;
- (c) the construction and maintenance of dams and water supplies, and the regulation of the use thereof;
- (d) the stopping of gullies and the construction and maintenance of terraces and contour banks."

of the owners of cattle and the number of cattle permitted to be kept by each owner in the controlled area.

6. No goats shall be depastured in any of the areas set out in the Second Schedule hereto except with the permission of the District Commissioner.

7. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep—

(i) any bull which in the opinion of an inspector is over fifteen months old, unless such bull shall have been approved for breeding purposes by such inspector and branded in that behalf in a manner to be prescribed by the Director of Veterinary Services:

Provided that approval of a bull for breeding purposes may be withdrawn at any time by an inspector for reasons which to him seem sufficient and thereupon the approved brand in that behalf shall be cancelled in such manner as shall be prescribed by the Director of Veterinary Services:

(ii) any ox which in the opinion of an inspector is over five years old, unless such ox is required and is used for draught purposes, or is required for the purpose of bleeding for food:

(iii) any cow which in the opinion of an inspector has not produced a live calf within three years of inspection;

(iv) any cow which for any reason is considered by an inspector as suffering from any incurable disease or injury.

8. The District Commissioner of a District in which a controlled area is situate may on the advice of the Director of Veterinary Services, order all cattle owners within such controlled area to present their cattle for immunization against rinderpest and to pay fees for such immunization in advance.

9. Any person who fails to comply with any order issued under the provisions of these Rules shall be deemed to have committed a breach of these Rules.

10. Any cattle which have been confiscated in consequence of a conviction for a breach of these Rules shall be sold by public auction and the proceeds, less any fees incurred in the sale thereof, shall be paid to the person so convicted.

11. The Crop Production and Live Stock Rules, 1928, and the Yatta Plains (Grazing Control) Rules, 1937, are hereby revoked.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

Nairobi,

This

day of

1937.

Clerk to the Executive Council

FIRST SCHEDULE

SECOND SCHEDULE