

1930

Kenya

No. 16114

SUBJECT:

CO 533/398

Closer Settlement Scheme

Previous

15514/29

Subsequent

See 16078/30. K.

17068/31.

- 2
1. Overseas Settlement Department. .... 31st March '30.  
Concurs in the amendments to the draft agreement proposed by the Govt. of Kenya, subject to certain obsns. Requests that Kenya be asked to indicate what action they propose to take for recruiting settlers. Submits obsns. on land settlement schemes and suggests they be communicated to Kenya for their info.
2. Gov. Conf. 43. .... 16th March '30.

Submits proposals and comments on the question of expenditure and the limitation of the number of Overseas and Local Allottees under Schemes "A" and "B". Requests telegraphic reply.

*Memorandum with*

*To*

*SARL*

*24/4/30*

*A. C. Gossomiles*

No Allen has dug into this very thoroughly, but it is not possible to be quite sure on all the details.

The local Govt. is very anxious to make progress with its land settlement; and there is certainly less objection to the disposal of land to local applicants who know the country & realize the risks from new men recruited from here. In principle, the Govt. will be prepared to let the Col. Govt. go ahead on the lines now proposed, when I agree that we send telegraph as prepared by Mr Allen - + regard the last sentence of the 3rd tel. as important. But it is wrong writing this.

*Locs.*

Mr. S.P.S. should feel that  
the amendment etc. is responsible  
for some kind of majority &  
to possible native  
requirements. There is  
I gather, a good deal of  
suspicion among the members of  
the C.P. party as to what  
charter of law to govern  
now in Kenya - if the  
recent question about the  
Laikipia question, which  
was however approved by  
the P.S.P. at the same  
time local sentiment  
cannot be altogether  
ignored, & it will create  
great difficulty in the  
colony. If it were ruled  
that all land alienation,  
even within the 4 corners  
of the Colony, must  
be suspended, must be suspended  
for an indefinite period  
in connexion with an  
enquiry into possible  
native requirements in the  
future.

All Parkman

26.4.30.

I agree both that even this  
fully enquiry draft bill, should  
be based on there being no  
insuperable objection on the  
ground of policy and that if there

3

such a small tract of land should  
be allowed off road etc. the answer  
then tell is satisfactory.

Plan 9

- The number ("Tigris Township")  
area of a regime for its consider-  
ation. We learn from the report on  
Kibago land tenure that
- (a) the Kibago European area  
group was often given land  
over which heavy and varying  
rights existed or
  - (b) it adjoins the most densely  
populated part of the Kibago country.

This area is isolated, therefore,  
and its project into  
the Native Reserve  
would be an expensive mistake  
on two counts for future native  
requirements (compensation or  
other), but its area (only some  
900 acres) makes its loss  
reduce its reservation to a  
mere gesture - the area is  
insignificant for future needs  
from a boundary limitation at  
all events. I repeat - proposed  
by

28.4.30.

Sec of State

(through P. White)

I think that if all land alienation is ruled out for the moment it will create a difficult situation for the local government. In the circumstances I would oppose generally the restricted scheme and push forward, and telegraph for further information as on 1st

29.4.30

I would prefer that further land alienation to Europeans should be held up until we get the various conflicting issues at present before us cleared up. If it is thought wise to go on at all, it will be very important to see that no risk is run of allowing doubtful areas which will plunge us into more controversy. I am glad that the Deptt. evidently recognise the importance of this. We cannot be too careful. The telegram does not appear to commit us and we could still keep the question open until we have the

rights D.S. 2.5.30

3 Tel. to Gu. Kya No. 33 vons - 3 May 1930

4 To Mr. King. S.O. .... 12th. May 30.

5. Gov. Grigg. Tel. 158. ..... 9th. May 30.

States as to Schemes B and C and as to  
position of grantees -

*3a* I attach an explanatory note. It now appears that the surmise that the Governor's scheme ~~might~~ was limited to farms etc reserved for local applicants is not correct. He proposes to alienate (a) 30 (or 31) Scheme B farms ~~farm~~ in Trans Kezzi which were originally reserved for applicants from home, (b) 30 (?) Scheme B farms in the Ndaramba and Thomson's Falls area which were reserved for local applicants and (c) 8 small holdings and 10 residential plots Nyeri under Scheme C (i.e. that for retired officials).

The Governor gives an assurance that the ~~also with~~ Nyeri Scheme C areas ~~area~~ ~~area~~ of the Bottomley-Martin Agreement; and that the farms will only be alienated to persons with sufficient capital to run them, independent of the proposed Agricultural Bank.

It is not proposed to make any alienation in Tigray ~~in Tigray~~ Township to which Sir G. Bottomley specifically refers in his note of the 28th April, nor under Scheme A (small holdings) or under Scheme C, apart from the Nyeri plots in question.

The main question, therefore, is whether the S. of S., who, up to the present has merely agreed to a total of twelve settlers, is prepared to agree, and, if so, to what extent, to the Governor's present proposals.

In general, the alienations contemplated are