

X.F. 8130

KENTA

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7 DEC 1926

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C0533/363

Date

8th. November 1926

From

Lyggy

965

Blue Books.

CLOSED  
UNTIL

~~1927~~

Previous paper

(Minutes within)

Apr 5<sup>th</sup> 21

KEA

Subsequent paper

10.16.27

Mr. Allen 9/12  
Mr. Allen 10/12  
Mr. Allen 11/12

Mr. Wilson 11/12

Mr. Allen 12/12

Mr. C. Strachey 12/12

Mr. S. Wilson 12/12

Mr. B. Jones 12/12

Mr. [unclear] 12/12

NOT TO BE TURNED INSIDE OUT.

1. Gov. Grigg. 965. \_\_\_\_\_ 8th Nov. 1936.

Gives reasons for delay in publishing, and reports serious congestion in Govt Press owing to inadequate machinery etc. Hopes to improve matters by certain reorganisation and will endeavour to publish 1933 Blue Book at earliest opportunity.

W. J. Watkins  
Mr. Allen.

It is hoped that by the amalgamation of the Govt & Railway presses etc the printing will shortly be established on a more efficient footing. The present state of affairs is certainly very unsatisfactory.

This might be brought up say in 2 months to enquire how matters are progressing, unless we get a further report in the meantime?

G. H. Hastings  
10/12/36.

I believe in some cases in the U.S. such wastefulness in arrears was arranged but they do not try to estimate them, but start afresh. I should think the most practical thing for us to do would be to complete 1933, not publish at all for 1934 right, but ~~start~~ concentrate on getting out a B. Book for 1936 as

possible after the close of  
they relate: in that case (i) the comparative  
financial statements under (D) should cover  
the three year period 1924/5/6 (ii) the  
particulars similar those shown in pages  
BB1-4 of the <sup>BOOK</sup> 1927/8 should cover the 3 year period  
also if they are readily available (iii)  
the returns on pages BB5-9 should be  
completed <sup>or at</sup> as far as for 1925 (iv) reference should be  
made to the issue of 27 Oct 1925 which  
had the return for 1926 should be sent  
home separately if ready before the issue of  
the 1927 BOOK in which it should of course be  
~~included~~ <sup>included</sup> [There seems no need to ask  
for abstractive copies in this case].

Finance  
New Grants  
Labour

(Delayed to look at  
Darwin Meteorological  
returns but no certain  
figures with bomb)

J. Allen 27/1/27

The plain fact is that Kenya has produced no  
Blue Book for 10 years, that we were told in  
Dec. '25 that the one for 1923 was in the hands of the  
Printer & that there seems little prospect of our getting it.  
Also when we write on April 30, simply asking the position  
as regards the 1923 (& 24) books, we get no answer till  
Nov. 8. It is typical of the way things are done  
in Kenya, & they no doubt know that they will not be  
asked to produce the answers if they delay long enough.

we should not suggest that the  
C.A. should consider in what  
way the amount of fact printing  
might be curtailed by omitting  
all unimportant matter from  
reports & so on. Every speech  
the chairman makes is issued  
in a separate print!

I found both in Trinidad & Jamaica  
that a mass of stuff could be  
omitted from the Annual Reports,  
that had been the custom previously,  
without detracting very much  
from their value.

B.H.G.

3.1.27.

The value of these blue books is mainly  
historical, & I am not sure whether the  
time & labour spent on them is of much  
value. I would be opposed to any curtailment  
of the annual departmental reports, especially  
of the agricultural, medical, Public works, Veterinary,  
Education, & Railways. Here the great thing is  
to get the reports out. The colonial reports



possible after the close of the year to which they relate: in that case (i) the comparative financial statements under D should cover the three year period 1924/5/6 (ii) the particulars similar those shown in pages

Finance

and Grants

BB1-4 of the 1915/76 <sup>Book</sup> should cover the 3 year period also if they are readily available (iii)

the returns on pages BB5-9 should be completed <sup>or at</sup> least as far as 1915 (iv) reference should

be made

made to the issue of 27 Oct 1925 <sup>series</sup> that the return for 1926 should be sent soon separately if ready before the issue of the 1926 Book. In which it should be <sup>included</sup> ~~included~~ [There seems no need to ask

(Delays to look at Darwin Meteorological returns but no certain figures with points)

in the above <sup>series</sup> ~~series~~ <sup>is</sup> in this case.]

JH Allen 27/1/27

The plain fact is that Kenya has produced no Blue Book for 10 years, that we were told in Dec. 25 that the one for 1923 was in the hands of the printer & that there seems little prospect of our getting it. Also when we write on April 30, simply asking the position as regards the 1923 (& 24) books we get no answer till Nov. 8. It is typical of the way things are done in Kenya; & they no doubt know that they will not be asked to produce the answers if they delay long enough.

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J.H.C.

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The value of a new blue book is mainly  
historical, & I am not sure whether the  
time & labour spent on them is of much  
value. I would be opposed to any curtailment  
of the annual departmental reports, especially  
Agriculture, Medical, Public works, Waterways,  
Education & Railway. Here the great thing is  
to get the technical reports out early. The "Colonial" reports

as far as possible. How can it be?

J. Allen

13/12/26

Mr. Allen

The British Honduras case is

probably the one you had in mind <sup>Gov. 16587 B.H. 22</sup>

The course you propose seems the most practical. There are Trade Statistics available for 1924-5,

but in view of the importance of the <sup>and</sup> question you may think it desirable to

ask the Gov. to include in the 1925 Blue

Book particulars for 1925 also in respect of <sup>(a)</sup> expenditure, cultivated + unimproved lands or <sup>(b)</sup> Grants <sup>(c)</sup> and

unless you advise that as regards <sup>(d)</sup> the <sup>1925</sup> <sup>1926</sup> <sup>1927</sup> <sup>1928</sup> <sup>1929</sup> <sup>1930</sup> <sup>1931</sup> <sup>1932</sup> <sup>1933</sup> <sup>1934</sup> <sup>1935</sup> <sup>1936</sup> <sup>1937</sup> <sup>1938</sup> <sup>1939</sup> <sup>1940</sup> <sup>1941</sup> <sup>1942</sup> <sup>1943</sup> <sup>1944</sup> <sup>1945</sup> <sup>1946</sup> <sup>1947</sup> <sup>1948</sup> <sup>1949</sup> <sup>1950</sup> <sup>1951</sup> <sup>1952</sup> <sup>1953</sup> <sup>1954</sup> <sup>1955</sup> <sup>1956</sup> <sup>1957</sup> <sup>1958</sup> <sup>1959</sup> <sup>1960</sup> <sup>1961</sup> <sup>1962</sup> <sup>1963</sup> <sup>1964</sup> <sup>1965</sup> <sup>1966</sup> <sup>1967</sup> <sup>1968</sup> <sup>1969</sup> <sup>1970</sup> <sup>1971</sup> <sup>1972</sup> <sup>1973</sup> <sup>1974</sup> <sup>1975</sup> <sup>1976</sup> <sup>1977</sup> <sup>1978</sup> <sup>1979</sup> <sup>1980</sup> <sup>1981</sup> <sup>1982</sup> <sup>1983</sup> 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Report on ...

C.S. 27/11

I have added the annual Report for 1925 - with  
[some remarks - but just-out.]

... by force

You will be interested to see.  
I am inclined to <sup>suggest to</sup> ~~write~~ the ~~summary~~ <sup>of Kenya</sup> ~~of Kenya~~ <sup>not to try to overtake</sup>  
to ~~write~~ <sup>try to get</sup> the Blue Book  
Reports for 1946 completed.  
leaving it to him to decide whether  
the 1943 Blue Book should be  
finished or not.

A  
(2)

There is a great tendency in all  
Colonies etc to put too much  
in the annual Reports & similar  
papers and I am not  
sure that in writing to Kenya

we should not suggest that the  
P.A. should consider in what  
way the amount of fact printing  
might be curtailed by omitting  
all unimportant matters from  
reports & so on. Every speech  
the chairman makes is issued  
in a separate print!

I found both in Trinidad & Jamaica  
that a mass of stuff could be  
omitted from the Annual Reports,  
that had been the custom previously,  
without detracting very much  
from their value.

J.H.G.

3.1.47.

The value of our blue books is mainly  
historical, & I am not sure whether the  
time & labour spent on them is of much  
value. I would be opposed to any curtailment  
of the annual departmental reports, especially  
Agriculture, Medical, Public Works, Veterinary,  
Education & Railways. Here the great thing is  
to get the best material reported early. The Colonial Reports

I am a young man in the Department of  
Education. I agree to a despatch  
given me regarding the matter's points  
but no further suggestion at A.

W.S.J.

4. 2. 27

at Luck

2. To Govt 157, (1 an evd) 18 FEB 1927 W.S.J.

~~Rec. not in. Sec~~  
1167/27

KENYA

152

Downing Street.

18

February, 1927

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Edward Grigg's despatch No.965 of the 8th of November last in regard to the delay which has taken place in the issue of the Blue Books for the years 1923, 1924 and 1925.

2. I note that, as regards the Blue Book for 1923, the greater part of the matter has now been set up in type, and in these circumstances I will leave it to your discretion to decide whether or not the work of this Blue Book should now be completed. I would suggest however, that unless some real progress has been made in the printing of the Blue Books for the years 1924 and 1925, no further attempt should be made to overtake these arrears of printing and that efforts should be concentrated on producing, as soon as possible after the close of the year to which they relate, the Blue Books and other Reports for 1926 and these for subsequent years.

3. If this course is adopted, I would make the following suggestions as regards the Blue Book.

(a) that the comparative yearly statements of

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING  
THE GOVERNMENT OF  
KENYA.

Revenue

Revenue and Expenditure under section D should cover the three-year period 1924-25-26;

(b) That particulars similar to those shown on pages BB 1-4 of the 1915/1916 Blue Book should also cover the same three year period if these particulars are readily available; and

(c) That the statistics as to land grants on pages BB 5-9 of the 1915-16 Blue Book should be completed to date, that is, from the year 1915.

4. In this connection I would also refer to paragraph 4 of my Circular despatch of the 27th of October, 1925, regarding the inclusion under Section 23 ("labour wages and cost of living") of the Annual Blue Book of particulars of labour and industrial conditions. The return for the year 1926 giving these particulars should be transmitted separately if ready before the issue of the Blue Book for 1926, in which it should, of course, be also included.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

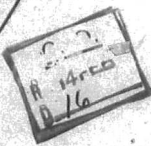
humble servant,

Signed) L. S. MARRY.

Mr. Hazlerigg  
Mr.  
Mr. Allen  
Mr. E. J. Harding.  
Sir C. Strachey.  
Sir J. Shuckburgh.  
Sir G. Grindle.  
Sir C. Davis.  
Sir S. Wilson  
Mr. Ormsby-Gore.  
Earl of Clarendon.  
Mr. Amery.

8/2/27  
Amad  
no 3  
in X10165/27  
14

Downing Street,  
18 February, 1927.



Sir,

I have etc. to inform you

that I have had under consideration the  
~~ack.: the receipt &~~  
~~explanations offered in~~ Sir Edward

Grigg's despatch No.965 of the 8th of  
November last in regard to the delay  
which has taken place in the issue  
of the Blue Books for the years 1923,  
1924 and 1925.

**DRAFT.** for conson.

KENYA  
No. 152

O.A.G.

2. I note that, as regards the  
Blue Book for 1923, the ~~misapprehension~~ <sup>fraught fact</sup> of the  
matter has now been set up in type, and in  
these circumstances, I will leave it to  
your discretion to decide whether or not  
the work of this Blue Book should be <sup>now</sup> com-  
pleted. I would suggest, however, that  
unless some real progress has been made in  
the printing of the Blue Books for the  
years 1924, <sup>and 1925</sup> and other Official Reports, no  
further attempt should be made to overtake

these

these arrears of printing and that efforts should be concentrated on producing, as soon as possible after the close of the year to which they relate, the Blue Book and other Reports for 1926 and those for subsequent years.

*This course is adopted*  
3. If ~~you~~ agreed to the adoption of ~~this procedure~~, I would make the following suggestions *as regards the B Book*:-

(a) That the comparative yearly statements of Revenue and Expenditure ~~under~~ *on under section* ~~pages~~ ~~1-6~~ of the Blue Book should cover the three-year period 1924-25-26;

(b) That particulars similar to those on pages BB 1-4 of the 1915 ~~and~~ 1916 Blue Book should also cover the same three-year period. *These particulars* ~~are~~ readily available; and

(c) That the *Statistics* ~~particulars~~ as to land grants on pages BB 5-9 of the 1915-16 Blue Book should be completed to date, that is, ~~as from~~ ~~the~~ ~~year~~ 1915.

4. In this connection I would also

refer

refer to para.4 of my Circular despatch of the 27th of October, 1926, regarding the inclusion under Section 23("labour, wages and cost of living") of the Annual Blue Book of particulars of labour and industrial conditions. The return for the year 1926 giving these particulars should be transmitted separately if ready before the issue of the Blue Book for 1926, in which it should, of course, be also included.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) L. S. AMERY,



~~Edg (15/11)~~

90(57)

Downing Street,

27th October, 1925.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have reason to believe that the conditions of industrial life and labour prevailing in the Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories will, in the near future, to an increasing extent attract public attention in this country. I anticipate that, from time to time, I shall be called upon in Parliament to furnish information as to the hours of labour, the rates of wages and conditions of employment generally in the Dependencies, not only in respect of Government employees, but also of persons in private employment, particularly in large organised industries, e.g., in factories, in mines, and on estates.

2. I am advised that the information available at the present time in this Department would not be sufficient to enable me to give an adequate answer to such enquiries. I have, therefore, considered what would be the best means of obtaining from Colonial Governments a uniform return of particulars of labour and industrial conditions generally in the Dependencies, and it seems to me that the simplest and most satisfactory method would be the inclusion in the appropriate section of the Annual Blue Books of such additional information on these matters as is now required.

3. I have, therefore, to request that you will arrange for the section of the Annual Blue Book which deals with wages and cost of living to be expanded in future to include as much of the following information as may be possible in respect of the territory under your administration :—

- (1) The average number of persons engaged in:
  - (a) Government employment.
  - (b) private employment in large organised industries, e.g., estates, factories and mines ;

The Officer Administering  
the Government of

(To be substituted for first sheet of the Section.)

## LABOUR, WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

This section should contain full particulars with regard to labour and wages, including piecework, especially agricultural labour.

The list containing the average prices of articles should include *all the chief staple articles* consumed or used locally. The prices given should be the *retail* prices, showing the maximum and minimum rates, and the average rate ruling throughout the *year*. The average *wholesale* export rates (f.o.b.) of the staple products of the Colony during the year should be given for each month of the year as well as for the whole year.

(2) *The average rates of weekly or monthly wages for each of the main classes of employment*

(a) *in Government employment,*

(b) *in private employment (sub-divided as in 1(b) );*

(3) *The average number of hours per week that are worked without overtime pay.*

(a) *in Government employment,*

(b) *in private employment (sub-divided as in 1(b) );*

(4) *The measures taken to enforce proper conditions of labour, i.e., in such matters as Workmen's Compensation, Care of Health, Protection from Machinery, Boiler Inspection, etc.,*

(a) *in Government employment.*

(b) *in private employment (sub-divided as in 1(b) ); and*

(5) *Returns of death rates and sick rates of employees, where possible distinguishing cases in which the cause of death or sickness can be ascribed to the conditions of labour*

(a) *in Government employment,*

(b) *in private employment (sub-divided as in 1(b) ).*

*It should be noted that the term "in Government employment" in (1) to (5) above is intended to refer only to persons employed in industrial undertakings under the control of the local Government. It is not desired that the Return should include further information regarding members of the Civil Establishment as shewn in section 12 of the Blue Book.*

4. *I propose that in future the title of section 23 of the Blue Book shall be "Labour, Wages and Cost of Living," and that the form, of which a specimen is enclosed herewith, should be substituted for the first part of that section. I do not desire that the issue of the Blue Book for the current year should be delayed for the inclusion of particulars in the new form if they should not have become available by the time the other sections are ready; but, if it should not prove practicable to include such particulars in the next issue, it is desirable that they should be transmitted separately as soon as they have been collected and tabulated.*

*I have the honour to be,*

*Sir,*

*Your most obedient, humble servant,*

*L. S. AMERY.*

12



KENYA.

No. 965

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
KENYA.

8<sup>th</sup> November  
~~October~~, 1926.

XF 3130  
7 DEC 1926

R SF.

Sir,

*Jan. 5/26*

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No.426 of April the 30th, 1926, enquiring what is the present position as regards the issue of Blue Books for the years 1923 and 1924.

*Jan. 11/26*

2. In paragraph 7 of Kenya despatch No.376 of April the 15th, 1926, I observed that for many months there has been serious congestion in the Government Press as a result of the inadequacy of the machinery to cope with the increasing number of printed reports, statements and Government publications which are required at the present time. The congestion has indeed been so great and the volume of work has increased so considerably that thorough re-organisation of the Government Press will be necessary before the work that is to be done there can be performed satisfactorily and expeditiously. It is hoped that by the amalgamation of the Government and Railway Presses and by the enlargement of facilities at the press, Government printing will shortly be established on a more efficient footing.

18 FEB 1927

*Ans. d. 15/26*

- 3. Every -

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL L.C.M.S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.

3. Every endeavour has been made for many months past to cope with current work and by degrees to make up for arrears of work many of which, such as the Blue Book for 1923, have been outstanding for more than two years, but it has been found that the present staff and machinery are quite unable to make any considerable headway into this work. The Reports of the Legislative Council for the year 1924 are approaching completion but those for the years 1925 and 1926 have not yet been taken in hand.

4. The position in regard to the Blue Book for 1923 is that the majority of the matter has been set in type but that owing to frequent delays and pressure of more urgent work while setting was in progress a great deal still remains to be done by the supervisory staff in the compilation and checking of the volume. This can only be done at a time which would not interfere with the urgent current work in the Press and the position is rendered more difficult by the absence on leave of the Press Superintendent.

5. I fully realise the importance of completing the Blue Book for the year 1923 and I hope that progress will be made as soon as circumstances allow, but I fear that further delay may still occur until the supervisory establishment at the Press is strengthened on the arrival of Mr. Knightley who is not expected to arrive from South Africa until towards the end of the year. I propose to call his attention to this matter immediately on his arrival and to impress upon him the necessity for proceeding with the publication of this volume at the earliest opportunity.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient, humble servant  
*Edward Gigg*  
GOVERNOR.