

I attach, for convenience of record, a copy of Lord Olivier's last letter on the issue of papers (the original is in 0/20160/25). We are committed to a publication on this point of dummying.

35/12/15

on the present position as to Lord Delamere's original 100,000 acres the correspondence was not evoked by Lord Olivier but grew out of a spontaneous despatch from here on Dr. Leys book (18956/25). It may be useful to add the papers to the print, aspectially as Mr. McGregor Ross is understood to have a book in preparation in which he will no doubt bring up the whole story that the route of the Uasing-Gishu railway was chosen in order to emiance the value of this land. It is material to show that hord Delamere's holding in the area concerned was well under 40,000 acres when the route was decided on in 1921.

It would not be worth while to incur the cost of reproducing the plan and I suggest that the print of 1827 should have a foot note as I have indicated in pencil. It is very difficult to measure the areas of these small patches on the plan and my figures represent a pro rate increase of each measured area soasto bring the total from the 15,000 acres which I obtained to the total/17,000 acres given in 35715.

I have marked the despatches in pencil as I suggest they should be edited. The papers actually to be printed would be 32853 and enclosures, and draft of the numbered despatch, 35712 and enclosures, and 1837 with the typed enclosure but no map.

I should add that I have gone through this despatch which is quite satisfactory as regards the later period not covered by 32853.

40 0 189 56 ps

I should been preferred to let this metter M. Bottomtey net until it is revised - But at Jeans that we have morning to pulled publish Short deliny. ? as proposed of: Bee of State. The discussed this with he bottonly, as I was an the incluse to let the matter rest. He conces, we that farther quartions are corac to be when, and las also operar ore a letter from he brushy face to Land Mines which practically commits as to publication. lesless, therefore, y instruct me otherwise ? stand infrintal. propose to publish. 12.3.26 mn

I submit a proof of The Coul hopes for approval + for authority to

The figures in The return on p. 13 regum amadement. The total and adds up to 71014.65 unes only. From The desails given on pages 14 + 15 The area sow in 1920 nas 19,039.6 acres + not 7,256 6 as given on p. 13, \$ in 1922, 2521 acres - not 2531.

If There are any relevant purious papers which The Stationery Office might advertize on The covers of This hopen will you please specify Them ( in accordance with par 19 of Co. Bucca

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## KENYA.

Correspondence with the Government of Kenya relating to Lord Delamere's acquisition of land in Kenya.

> Prevented by the Newstary . State for the Colonier to Parliament by Command of His Misesty April 1920

> > LUNDON

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE PUNLISHED BY HIS MAJESTYS STATUMERY OFFICE.
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## KENYA.

### Correspondence with the Government of Kenya relating to Lord Delamere's acquisition of land in Kenya.

### No. 1.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Officer Administering the Government of Kenya.

[Answered by Nos. 2 and 3.]

(Extract)

Downing Street, 20th May, 1925.

SIR.

I understand that attention is certain to be drawn to the accusations of "dummying" made against Lord Delamere on pages 157-8 of Dr. Norman Leys' book "Kenya," and I shall be glad if you will, at your earliest convenience, report to me fully on that subject.

In view of the prominence given, not only in this book but elsewhere, to Lord Delamere's holdings in land, it may be of value if, in addition, you will give me any information which may be available as to the extent to which, and the date at which, he has disposed of the original grant of 100,000 acres in 1903.

I have, &c.,

L. S. AMERY.

No. 2.

The Acting Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Received 18th July, 1925.)

[Answered by No. 4.]

Government House, Nairobi, Kenya, 26th June, 1925.

I have the honour to refer to your despatch of the 20th May\* in respect of past land transactions effected by Lord Delamere, and to inform you that I have now caused full inquiries to be made in regard to this matter,

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3 I desire to state that Lord Delamere has both personally and through his agents afforded the fullest opportunity to Government inquiries into what is now somewhat ancient history. I have no reason to doubt that you'll find in the attached papers an accurate account of the essential facts.

I have, &c

E. B. DENHAM

Acting Governor

### ENCLOSURE I IN NO 2

Memorandum on Secretary of State's despatch of 20th May, 1926.

Dummying appears to be a somewhat loose term and presumably varies in meaning in different circumstances and under different laws. In any case the suggestion of underhand dealing and evasion of law can be taken as a common element in any definition of this particular activity. The statement made by Lord Delamere is based on his own memory of land transactions in the past at the same time I have very carefully inspected not only my own departmental records but also the daybooks or diaries of Lord Delamere's agents at the time when the transactions took place. My conclusions as to what actually happened are supported by definite evidence from both sources which in no case is contradictory. They are briefly as follows:—

- (1) On Lord Delamere losing practically all his large flocks of sheep at Njoto he endeavoured to find good grazing land where he might meet with more success, while proceeding to continue the very large agriculture development of the original Njoro grant.
- (2) He therefore proceeded to buy up land in the Rift valley near Elmenteita, commencing with a 9,000-acre block from a Mr. Flemmer who had been granted a large concession there, and later from other concessionnaires in the same locality.
- (3) As he purchased so he developed, introducing pipelies, growing stock to the benefit of such adjacent concessionnaires as Mr. Chamberlain (vida Dr. Leys' "Kenya," page 157), who were not in a position themselves to do much to increase the value of their own land.

- (4) I append extracts from two memorands of my predecessor, Colonel Montgomery, who sets forth at length his opinions on the whole subject of Dord Delamere's purchases.
- (a) It should be noted that Colonel Montgomery was at the time kept fully on fait by Lord Delamere of all his land transactions whether in process of completion or in contemplation.
- (6) I further find that genuine value was paid in each case to the vendor, after the grant had been made to the latter, and in each case with the full knowledge of the Government.
- (7) I further find that not only is there no evidence that Lord Delamere put up men of straw to obtain grants on the strength of financial guarantees supplied by himself, but that there is positive evidence in the private books of his agents ro show that when once so approached he refused to do so.
- (8) In every single case of these purchases the prior consent of the Government was asked for and obtained, before grants were issued, and, as already stated, Government may be considered to have been a party with full knowledge.
- (9) There is no instance of Lord Delamere doing what some other people did at the time, i.e. putting in the names of female and other relatives in England who were not likely to visit this country for land grants and obtaining from such relations, when the grants were made, powers equivalent to complete possession, as means to exceeding the acreage which Government was willing to grant to individuals.
- (10) It would be unreasonable to expect that approved applicants for grants would consent to dummy for another person, unless they were personally incapable of showing the necessary proof of means and could only obtain it from the dummier.
- (11) It is equally about to suppose that the dummier would then proceed to pay his dummy the full market value of the land.
- (12) In this particular case it is interesting to note that not only prices up to as, an acre were paid in these very early pioneer days by Lord Delancer for these Rife Valley farms; but also that it would hardly be too much to state that these values were very largely his own creation, as the result of his own giver efforts and expenditure up to 1906-07 in the Valley (Njoro and Elmenteita) of some sum approximately £60.000.
- (13) I append a list showing the agreements for sale (or sales) in respect of the original 1803 grant. It should, of course, he remembered that the proceeds of these sales can be reasonably considered as either a justifiable recomment for past losses or a source of very great present development.

If in 1906, Colonel Montgomery was satisfied that Lord Delamere's work and expenditure then fully, justified his holdings, I can certify now with even greater confidence that any district in which Lord Delamere held land, he develops land, and that no such district is not greatly benefiting from his activities. It would not, I think, be too much to add that no better settler ever spent his all in such a difficult Colony as this, and that any suggestion of underhand dealing in respect of his land or any other transactions with Government is not only cruel and malicious but conveys the precise opposite of the plainly evident truth.

H. T. MARTIN, Commissioner of Lands.

Contemporary opinions of the Land Department as to Lord Delamere's land transactions.

Commissioner of Lands note of 11th December, 1966 :--

"The following is a detail of the land at present held by Lord Delamere:—

" (1) Original grant from the Government 100,643

" has already been sanctioned:—

"(a) Isolated properties at or near
"Nairobi, mostly freehold ... 5,361
"(b) Large properties, leasehold ... 20,000

"(3) Large properties, leaseholds, of which transfer not yet sanctioned ... 35,137

" Grand total ... 161,141

I venture to hope that the Secretary of State, taking all these facts into consideration, will make no objection to sanction the transfers of the properties so far acquired by private treaty. It is implied, of course, that as regards each grant the acquirer undertakes all the responsibilities attaching to it, and failure to develop any property will render him liable to the forfeiture of the grant.

"In 1906 Lord Delamere, who had received permission to purchase various lands previously amounting to 26,000 acres, asked for 10,000 acres at the coast, an application which he subsequently withdrew. Apropos of this application Lord Delamere furnished a statement of the further lands which he had already received be mission to purchase and those for which he had been subsequently negotiating and would require permission for transfer to himself. He also produced his bank books showing very large expediture on development and also on these purchases."

The Commissioner of Lands said further: -

"Lord Delamere came to this country in 1902, and has " since lived continuously in it. He received on arrival a grant of 100,000 acres and has subsequently acquired some 60,000 acres more by purchase from othergrantees." And "He has given me his bank accounts from the beginning of 1904. These show that he has spent over £40,000 in the last two and a half years. Probably the expenditure from the beginning would total some £50,000 £60,000. Part of this money has gone to the purchase of land from other grantees, but there can be no doubt that much money has been laid out in development. that is, in farm buildings, in the purchase of stock both in the country and from abroad, in breaking up land, and in timber business. The importation of stud-stock has been full of risks; practically all the imported animals have died, but valuable experiments have been made, especially in the " way of crossing with county breeds. Lord Delamere has, in short, been a pioneer of the best type. He has con-"sistently spoken well of the country; he has incurred a good deal of risk; he has induced a large number of persons " (some of them men of substance and means) to throw in " their lot with the country; and he has helped the struggling " settler with money and stock, and so has enabled him to " tide over times of difficulty."

#### And elsewhere: -

He has without doubt done more than anyone else in developing his property and spending capital in the country; and he has made his name (? home) here. In this respect his action contrasts very favourably with that of certain other persons who have come to the country on short visits, have put in applications for large grants, and have then gone home to raise companies to work the concessions they have obtained. Whatever Lord Delamere has effected has been done by himself without the aid of financiers; and he is not a very wealthy man.

It should be stated that when the late Sir Donald Stewart was delimiting the new Masai Reserve last year (1906), the negotiations with the Masai were much facilitated by the readiness with which Lord Delamere agreed on his own behalf and on that of his brothers-in-law to give up their land which came inside the proposed reserve. It is true that he obtained favourable terms for such relinquishment, but it is also true that the land given up in the Aberdare Range is admittedly first class and it is doubtful if that taken in exchange, even though in greater quantity, is of equal value to that given up."

J. MONTGOMERY.

#### ENCLOSURE 2 IN No. 2.

### Lard Delamere's Personal Statement.

Loresho, Kabete, Kenya Colony, 23rd June, 1925.

. 6

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge your request for information on the following matters:---

- (1) On the statement that I got a large grant from Government at Njoro, did nothing with it, and sold it.
- (2) On the statement that I went in for the underhand dummying of land.

I am very pleased to give you and the Government at home any information that I can on these points because I feel that the indictment against myself in Dr Leys' book, and by Lord Olivier in the House of Lords, must be brought equally against the Government of the day as well as myself, because nothing that I did as far as I know was done except with the knowledge of the Government here, and in the case of transfers was generally brought to the knowledge of the Secretary of State for the Colonies

With regard to No. 1, 1 originally applied to Sir Charles Ehot for a grant of 100,000 acres as a sheep run. My first application was on the Laikipia slope of the Aberdares 1 am not clear whether this was made in writing or not, but in any case Sir Charles Ehot said that he did not like settlement to start so far from the railway owing to the difficulties of administration.

I then applied for land at Naivasha, which application was provisionally agreed to but fell through owing to the question of Masai grazing rights not having been settled at that time. By that time I was laid up in Nairobi with an old injury to the spine which kept me on my back for nearly a year.

My next choice was therefore made on my recollection of the country while I was shooting over it in former years, and I was granted 100,000 acres at Njoro.

It must be remembered that at this time. Sir Charles, Eliot offered 5,000 acre free farms to anyone who chose to take them, between Nakuru and the Victoria Nyanza, and none were taken up.

I have only mentioned this to show that what seems a big thing to day was looked upon at that time as valueless by the great majority of people.

This grant at Njoro turned out to be quite unsuitable for sheep. I bought 4,0000 ewes, and imported rams, and after, I think, two years' trial found that if I was going to keep sheep alive at all and carry out my original intention, that I should have to move my sheep elsewhere, so I bought the place at Elmenteita.

I then turned my attention at Njoro to the breeding of cattle, agriculture, and ostrich farming.

I had 1,500 head of cattle at Njoro, and I imported pure bred cattle from England. I had a dairy milking over 200 cows on this property. It was not until I had kept cattle there for some time that I discovered that it was impossible to rear, grade or keep pure bred stock there because of East Coast fever for which at that time there was no prevention or cure in the country. So that the cattle, too, had to be moved to Elmenteita where the upgrading of cattle was continued.

I then turned my aftention to agriculture, and before the war I had 3,000 acres under cultivation—mostly wheat, on the Njoro farm alone, not counting Florida. When I first started growing wheat at Njoro I tried a very large number of varieties and ultimately came down to growing one or two varieties of Austra lian wheat which were good yielders, and wheat called Rictti -an Italian wheat. After growing very well for a year or two the Australian wheats petered out completely from rust, and Rietti was the only wheat left which proved to be resistant to rust. But Rietti was a very unsuitable wheat in other ways. It was a winter wheat and took eight months to grow, and during the first few months was hable to be wiped out by green fly in a dry year owing to the drooping position of its leaves, which gave shelter on the underneath side of the leaf to the green fly. So that all the wheats tried up to then were unsuitable, although it had been proved that the country could grow good wheat and that Rietti was rust resistant. So it was then necessary to hybridise wheats. taking Rietti as the rust resistant basis, and by practising mendelism and crossing with good wheats in other ways to produce wheats both resistant to rust and suitable from other points of yiew. Mr. Evans, who had taken a course with Professor Biffin at Cambridge, was engaged to carry on the hybridising of wheat at Njoro, and wheat crosses were produced which are the basis of the wheats being milled to-day in the country, together with some produced at the Government farm at Kabete after the hybridising had been started at Nioro. In the meanwhile 2000 acres of wattle had been planted as well as \$,000 acres for a company which had started on the property. Ostriches have also become kept, as many as 200 having been farmed at one time

It is hardly realised to day the difficulty of gerting through the intervening years between the first building of a grass but on a property of wild African veldt, and the time when a return is obtained, and during all those years a living has to be found

When I went to Njoro, there was no method of traction for ploughs. A traction engine was bought and used for the first plough on the property, but was found to be unsatisfactory because it packed the soil underneath, creating a pan. A thousand young builbecks were bought in Kavirondo, and after getting a lesson from a South African Dutchman in the breaking of the first three or four, I spent many months breaking the rest, which

supplied tractive power for implements on the property and also on surrounding farms then starting in the district. The difficulty of this sort of thing to people from England cannot easily be realised. In the case of Rhodesia, the transport simply moved on from the Transvaal, and you have to go back to the very beginning of South Africa to find a country where bullocks for transport and boys to drive them had to be collected from the raw savages and the native cattle. In the same way with implements the difficulty of getting the articles in a country where you have no one to copy is not understood. Even in the case of ploughs it took a considerable percel to get implements suited to the ountry, and many were tried. Mowers, reapers and binder Australian surppers and Australian harvesters were tried for har vesting wheat before a satisfactory solution was arrived at Different kinds of sheds, culminating in the American style days are tried for the storing of maize cobs. After the days hard been given up, a maize farm. Florida Farm-was started in the Kongai Valley where the whole country is now cultivated for maize, and 40 acres of oranges were planted. Houses and out buildings were built on the three farms which were under separate management Later, a pipeline, 16 iniles long, was laid down. which watered a part of the property which was not served by the taxers, with 39 different watering places with tanks

The result after a few years of working, after the farm was hist opened, was that sheep had been proved a failure and big losses incurred; that the land had been proved unsuitable for improved cartle until the Fast Coast fever inenace was dealt with, that wheat was proved to have come to stay. That the possibility of ploughing large acreages in a country where the plough had never been seen was proved to be an economic proposition, that large numbers of boys had been taught ploughing and working with other implements, and that I had managed to get rid of the £40,000 in cash which I had invested in the country, and had for a time to live on about £200 a year until a return began to materialise.

When the war broke out the wheat farm at Njorn was shind down and the hybridised wheats handed on

In the meanwhole, large sums had been spent in development as I interchena, and later when the Exchange Settlement took place and I woke up one morning to find that my overdraft at the bank had mercased by 50 per cent, and that my expenses in salaries and wakes had gone up by the same amount, I had, in order to keep my development in other directions going, to sell the land at Njoro in farms suitable for cultivation. The terms were mostly its now occupied, and a large proportion cultivated, while my development and improved cattle and improved sheep, the dairy, &c., is being carried on on land more suitable for the purpose at Elmenteita and elsewhere.

In addition to the developments, I forgot to mention that saw-milling in partnership was started during this period, that a number of pigs were bred, and that horse-breeding was begun. A factory for the disintegrating of wattle bark was exected on the property, and later a flour mill, of which I hold about half the shares, was also established, and has grown into the chief flour mill in the country.

Florida Farm, where maize was grown, has, with farms around at in the hards of the Evans Brothers to whom it was sold, developed into the biggest maize proposition in the country, where between sixty and seventy thousand bags of maize were handled last year.

It is not contended that most of the development now on the property has been done by me, but I do contend that large sums of money have been spent in experimenting, and that development has been distinctly forwarded and large areas brought under water by the giving of this original grant, and that nothing but advantage has accrued to the country through that grant being made. I think it can be said that there is no part of the country which is more highly developed or populated.

With regard to No. 2—the acquisition of the property at Elmenterta, that as soon as it was found that sheep and cattle could not be bred to improvement on the Njoro property, it was necessary to go on with the development of these industries somewhere else

As a first measure—balf of Mr. A. S. Flemmer's farm at Elmenteita was bought. This came to 10,000 acres and having no water on it, high up in the mountains, was a nucleus of a scheme for buying and watering the large area of waterless land, iying between the Meroroni River and Eburru Mountains. Rights to grants of watered farms in the Rift Valley Settlement were then bought and waterless areas on this plain substituted for them. I have given you the price paid for these areas

The Land Officer was kept fully informed of the facts so that there was no question of dummying in the ordinary sense of the term, and in certainly most cases leave to transfer was asked from the Secretary of State in England. But you have the facts I imagine in the Land Office files.

This first operation meant that waterless land was taken up instead of watered farms by holders or applicants for rights in the Rift validy Settlement, that the people who were paid for these areas were able to get on with development of some sort themselves, or to live in the meanwhile, and that a large area of waterless land has since then been completely truced in as paddocks and watered by pipelines, so that there are tanks for stock to drink at within easy distance wherever they are, and it has been possible to go on with the upgrading of sheep and cattle with a great measure of success. And no one is one whit the worse. In only one case was it found that land had been applied for which

was required by someone else, and it was relinquished to him (Captain James). It was possible, owing to the watering of the land between the Meroroni River and the railway, to buy and develop further waterless farms on Eburra Mountain across the Railway.

A cedar flume five miles long was laid from high up on Eburru Mountain to carry the water to these farms below. It has not been a success, and this year money is being afflocated to start the laving of galvanised iron pipes in its place. The main pipe at Soyambu starts as a 3 inch galvanised pipa. There are 30 miles of piping on the property with 15 sets of tanks, mostly concrete, and in addition about 70 miles of fencing in addition to house, buildings, cattle dips and a sheep dip. Drafting yards, wool shed and well over 120 boxes for horses and imported animals, which is to be increased by another 50 boxes this year.

May I say, in conclusion, that with the exception of one or two small pieces of land near. Nairobi, which I bought for speculation when I first came here and which I sold many years ago in order to be able to keep going at all. I have never bought any land for speculation. I moved from the Njote property because I could not do what I wanted to there, which was to develop the sheep industry, and I finally sold it because I could not help investigation on the slump after the war, and the lackhange Settlement I contend that I did all that I set out to do before I sold its and that I was perfectly justified in every way in buying the property at Elmenteita.

I have not gone in for details of prices of land, &c., because I know you have already had them from Messrs. W. C. Hunter & Ca., and other things from your own files.

I rather resent having to justify my position, but I am really grateful to the Government both here and at home for the support they have given in this matter.

Dumnying is either against the law, in which case the answer is a simple one, or it is morafly wrong if done in a certain way, but if done in that way the secret would hardly have been shared with the Land Officer and the Government here and with the Secretary of State in England. It seems to me purely a question of the facts of the case, and I challenge anyone to say that the community has suffered one loca from anything I have done in this matter.

I am, &c.

DELAMERE

The Honourable, The Commissioner of Lands, Land Office, Nairobi Ne. 3

## The Deputy Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Received 5th August, 1925.)

Government House, Nairobi, Kenya, 10th July, 1925,

With reference to the Acting Governor's despatch of 26th Junes on the subject of the accusation of "dummying" made against Lord Delamere in Dr. Norman Ley's book, "Kenya," I regret that full information as regards the extent to which Lord Delamere has disposed of the original grant of 100,000 agres in 1905 was not available when that despatch was posted.

2. I transmit herewith the full details of these transactions and the dates on which they occurred, and would refer to my telegram of the 10th instant; in which the total sales were communicated to you.

I have, &c.,

G. A. S. NORTHCOTE,

Governor's Deputy.

ENCLOSURE IN No. 3.

Particulars of Sales of L.O. No. 487.

Lord Delamere.

Year.		Ar	rea deres.	Purchase I	Price
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No. 5.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Officer Administering the Government of Kenya.

[Answered by No. 5.]

Downing Street, 26th August, 1925.

SIR

- I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 26th of June\* on the subject of Lord Delamere's holdings of land in the Colony of Kenya.
- 2. While your despatch and its enclosures afford ample proof both of the beneficial development by Lord Delarrere of the land which has been in his possession, and of the bons fide character of his acquisitions of land from private persons up to the inquiry made by Colonel Montgomery in 1906, I think it desirable to draw your attention to the fact that that inquiry did not cover the whole period dealt with in the allegations by Mr. Robert Chamberlain published in the book "Kenya." It is there stated that the "dummy clause" was removed as a result of the consideration of the Crown Lands Bill by a Committee of the Legislative Council and that thereafter Lord Delarrere "went on his way is poicing and the dummy system waxed strong."
- 3. The conclusion must be drawn that Lord Delamere is alleged to have "dummied" up to the date (4th August, 1914), of the report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Bill, thereafter until the Crown Lands Ordinance was passed in 1916, and even later; and it is necessary, in order that this matter may be set at rest, that the inquiry should be extended throughout the period during which it might be supposed that dummying was necessary as a means of obtaining additional land.
- It is worth noting, though it is not material in a matter of this kind, that Mr. Chamberlain's reference to a Committee of Council appears to be made under a misapprehension. As a result of the Committee's report it was decided to abandon the condition of personal decupation on the ground that it would limit the negotiability of a title. But that condition was intended to be directed, against speculation, not against dummying. The safeguard proposed against dummying was the requirement that the grant of a lease should be preceded by a non-transferable occupation became. That requirement had (with reluctance) bean abandoned by the Secretary of State on the advice of the Covernor some months before the draft/Ordinance was introduced in the Logislative Council in December, 1913.

I have, &c.,

L. S. AMERY.

The Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies

(Received 18th February, 1926.)

Government House, Nairobi, Kenya, 14th January, 1926 (Extract.)

SIR

With reference to your despatch of 86th August, L-have the honour to transmit a further memorandum by the Commissioner of Lands on the subject of Lord Delamese's holdings of land in Kenya, from which you will observe that since the date of Colonel Montgomery's statements Lord Delamere's land acquisitions have been few and have all been purchased in the open market.

- 2. You will observe that Lord Delamere has no objection to the publication of this correspondence. My personal view is strongly in favour of publication and that the Colony owes it to itself as well as to Lord Delamere to dispose once for all of the calumnies made against him. Publication of the whole correspondence is the most effective way to do so, and I strongly recommend that this be done.
- 3. I enclose a plan† showing Lord Delamere's 100,000 acres block with the portion at present held by his Lordship shown, coloured red. There is no objection to the publication of the information supplied regarding Lord Delamere's disposal of the balance of the area.

I have, &cc..

EDWARD GRIGG,

Governor

ENCLOSURE IN No. 5.

Department of Lands, Nairobi, 1st December, 1926

The Hon. Colonial Secretary, Nairobi

Re Lard Delamere's land holdings Ref. Your SC 22729/27/41 of 18th ultimo

The original investigation did in fact cover the whole period dealt with in Mr. Chamberlain's allegations.

• No. 1

† Not reproduced. The portion still-held, which appears from the Bidclosure to No. 2 to 5e 17,855 scree, is shown on the plan as consisting of two large blocks of very roughly, 8,500 acres and 6,000 acres, and four smaller blocks of 800 acres or less.

Since the date of Colonel Montgomery's statement Lord Delamere's land acquisitions have been few and have all been purchases in the open market.

During the period up to 1912, when land was allotted on application, "dummying" was a possible means of obtaining additional land. Investigation of the records of this Department and of Lord Delamere's agents (which have been placed fully at my disposal) clearly show that Lord Delamere took part in no such transactions other than those included in Colonel Montgomery's statement

In 1913 the method of land alienation was changed from allot ment to auction. Permits to bid at an auction sale were required and no permit holder could acquire more than one farm. Under this system it was possible to make use of other parties for the purpose of acquiring additional land, such acquisition being held in the name of the ostensible purchaser until such time as the conditions entitling the purchaser to free transfer were fulfilled Lord Delamere acquired no land whatever by this method.

fouring the war land alienation was in abeyance

In the post-war period farm auctions have been perfectly open, to permits to bid being required.

In spite of the safeguards embodied in the conditions it might be alleged that the Ex-Soldier Settlement Scheme could be utilised by those who were not allottees as a means of obtaining additional land on exceptional conditions. Lord Delamere has, in lact, acquired no land allotted under the scheme, except two farms purchased in 1925.

This disposes of the allegation that at any period during any of the different phases of land alienation. Lord Delamere used industrying as a method of obtaining land.

2.1 enclose a plan showing Lord Delamere's 100,000 acreblock with the portion at present held by Lord Delamere shown coloured red.

No objection exists to the publication of the information supplied regarding 1 ord Delamere's disposal of the balance of the area

H. T. MARTIN

Commissioner of Lands

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## KENYA.

Correspondence with the Government of Kenya relating to Lord Delamere's acquisition of land in Kenya.

Presented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Parliament by Command of His Majesty,

April 1926.

LONDON

I BILSHEL BY SIE MAJESTYS STATISTED COFFICE.

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2	The Acting Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies		^
8	The Deputy Governor of Kenva to the Secretary of State for the Colonies	10th July (Received 5th August)	
4	The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Officer Administering the Government of Kenya	26th August	
5	The Governor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies	1826. 14th January (Recessed 18th February)	

### KENYA.

Correspondence with the Government of Kenya relating to Lord Delamere's acquiretton of land in Kenya.

No. 1.

The Secretary of State for the Cylpnies to the Officer Administering the Government of Kenya.

[Answered by Nos 24.0 3.

(Extract.)

Downing Street, 20th May, 1925.

SIR

I understand that attention is certain to be drawn to the accusations of "dummying" made against Lord Delamere on pages 161-8/ of Dr. Norman Leys' book "Kenya," and I shall be glad if you will, at your earliest convenience, report to me fully on that subject.

In view of the prominence given, not only in this book but elsewhere, to Lord Delamere's holdings in land, it may be of value if, in addition, you will give me any information which may be available as to the extent to which, and the date at which, he has disposed of the original grant of 100,000 acres in 1903.

L. S. AMERY.

No. 4.

The Acting Covernor of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the

(Received 18th July, 1925.)

[Answered by No. 4.]

Government House, Nairobi, Kenya. 26th June, 1925.

I have the honour to refer to your despatch of the 20th May in respect of past land transactions effected by Lord Delamete, and to inform your that I have now caused full inquiries to be made in the contract of the contrac

r/

- 2. The annexures consist of (A) a memorandum by the Commissioner of Lands and certain detailed particulars supplied by the Land Office to furnish the information required by your despatch, (B) a memorandum submitted by Lord Delamere which appears to be generally in agreement with the conclusions arrived at by the Land Office here
- 3. I desire to state that Lord Delamere has both personally and through his agents afforded the fullest opportunity to Govern ment inquiries into what is now somewhat ancient history. I have no reason to doubt that you will find in the attached papers an accurate account of the essential facts

I have &c

#### I B DENHAM

Acting Governor.

#### ENCLOSURE I IN No. 2

Memorandum on Secretary of State's despatch of 20th May, 1925

"Dummying "appears to be a somewhat loose term and presunrably varies in meaning in different circumstances and under different laws. In any case the suggestion of underhand dealing and evasion of law can be taken as a common element in any definition of this particular activity. The statement made by Lord Delamere is based on his own memory of land transactions in the past: at the same time I have very carefully inspected not only my own departmental records but also the daybooks or diaries of Lord Delamere's agents at the time when the transactions took place. My conclusions as to what actually happened are supported by definite evidence from both sources which in no case is contradictory. They are briefly as follows: -

- (i) On Lord Delamere losing practically all his large flocks of sheep at Njoro he endeavoured to find good grazing land where he might meet with more success, while proceeding to continue the very large agriculture development of the original Nioro grant.
- (2) He therefore proceeded to buy up land in the Rift Valley near Elmenteita, commencing with a 9,000-acre, block from a Mr. Flemmer who had been granted a large concession there, and later from other concessionaires in the same locality
- (3) As he purchased so he developed, introducing pipelines, growing stock to the benefit of such adjacent concessionnaires as Mr. Chamberlain Itide Dr. Leys Kenya, 1 page 157), who were not in a position themselves to do much to increase the value of their own land.

- (4) I append extracts from two memoranda of my predicessor, Colonel Montgomery, who sets forth at length by opinions on the whole subject of Lord Delamere's purchases.
- It should be noted that Colonel Montgomery was at the time kept fully on juit by Lord Delamere of all his land transactions whether in process of completion or in contemplation,
- (6) I further find that gennine value was paid in each case to the vendor, after the grant had been made to the latter. and in each case with the full knowledge of the Government.
- (I) I further find that not only is there no evidence that Lord Delamere put up men of straw to obtain grants on the strength of financial guarantees supplied by himself, but that where is positive evidence in the private books of his agents to show that when once so approached he refused to do so.
- (8) In every single case of these purchases the prior consent of the Government was asked for and obtained before grants were issued, and, as already stated, Government may be considered to have been a party with full knowledge
- (9) There is no instance of Lord Delamere doing what some other people did at the time, i.e. putting in the names. of Jemale and other relatives in England who were not likely to visit this country for land grants and obtaining such relations, when the grants were made, powers equivalent to complete possession, as means to exceeding the acreage which Government was willing to grant to individuals.
- (10) It would be unreasonable to expect that approved\_ applicants for grants would consent to dimmy for another person, unless they were personally incapable of showing the necessary proof of means and could only obtain it from the dummies
- (11) It is equally absurd to suppose that the dummer would then proceed to pay his dummy the full market value of the land.
- (12) In this particular case it is interesting to note that not only prices up to 5s. an acre were paid in these very early piencer days by Lord Delamore for these Rift Valley farms; but also that it would hardly be too much to state that these wahers were very largely his own creation, as the result of his own prior efforts and expenditure up to 1906-07 by the Valley (Njoro and Elmenteita) of some sum approximately
- (19) I append a list showing the agreements for sale (or sales) in respect of the original 1903 grant. It should, of course, be remembered that the proceeds of these sales can be reasonably considered as either a justifiable recoupment for past losses or a source of very great present development.

If in 1908, Colonel Montgomery was satisfied that Lord Delamere's work and expenditure then fully justified his holdings, L can certify now with even greater confidence that any district in which Lord Delamere held land, he developed land, and that no such district is not greatly benefiting from his activities. It would not, I think, be too much to add that no better settler ever spent his all in such a difficult Colony at this, and that any suggestion of underhand dealing in respect of his kind or any other transactions with Government is not only study and unaltious but conveys like precise opposite of the plainly evaluant truth.

H. T. MARTIN,

Unionformly of two sofths Land Department as to Lord Defamere's land transactions.

Commissioner of Lands note of 11th December, 1906; -

The following is a detail of the land at present held by Lord Delamere:—

(1) Original grant from the Government 100,643

(2) Since acquired of which the transfer has already been sanctioned:

"(a) Isolated properties at or near Nairobi, mostly freehold

airobi, mostly freehold ... ... 5,361

(b) Large properties, leasehold ... 20,000 (3) Large properties, leaseholds, of which transfer

not yet sanctioned 35,13

It senture to hope that the Secretary of State, taking all these facts into consideration, will make no objection to sanction the transfers of the properties so far acquired by private treaty. It is implied, of course, that as regards.

each grant the acquirer undertakes all the responsibilities attaching to it, and failure to develop any property will trinder him liable to the forfeiture of the grant.

In 1906 Lord Delamere, who had received permission to parchase various lands previously amounting to 26,000 acres asked for 10,000 acres at the coast, at application which he subsequently withdrew. Apropos of this application Lord Delamere furnished a statement of the further lands which he had already received permission to purchase and those for which he had been subsequently negotiating and would require permission for transfer to himself. He also produced his bank books showing very large expenditure on development and also on these purchases.

The Commissioner of Lands said further -

"Lord Delamere came to this country in 1902, and has since lived continuously in it. He received on arrival a grant of 100,000 acres and has subsequently acquired some 60,000 acres more by purchase from other grantees." And "He has given me his bank accounts from the beginning of 1904. These show that he has spent over £40,000 in the last two and a half years. Probably the expenditure from the beginning would total some \*\* £50,000 £60,000. Part of this money has gone to the purchase of land from other grantees, but there can be not " doubt that much money has been laid out in development, that is, in farm buildings, in the purchase of stock both in the country and from abroad, in breaking up land, and in timber business. The importation of stud-stock has been "full of risks; practically all the imported animals have died, but valuable experiments have been made, especially in the way of crossing with county breeds. Lord Delamere has, in short, been a pioneer of the best type. He has consistently spoken well of the country; he has incurred a good "deal of risk; he has induced a large number of persons " (some of them men of substance and means) to throw in "their lot with the country; and he has helped the struggling " settler with money and stock, and so has enabled him to " tide over times of difficulty."

J. MONTGOMERY.

And elsewhere : -

"He has without doubt done more than anyone else in developing his property and spending capital in the country; and he has made his name/here. In this respect his action contrasts very (avourably with that of certain other persons who have come to the country on short visits, have put in applications for large grants, and have then gone home to raise companies to work the concessions they have obtained. Whatever Lord Delamere has effected has been done by himself without the aid of financiers; and he is not a very wealthy man."

It should be stated that when the late Sir Donald Stewart was delimiting the new Masai Reserve last year (1905), the negotiations with the Masai were much facilitated by the readiness with which Lord Delamere agreed on his own behalf and on that of his brothers in-law to give up their land which came inside the proposed reserve. It is true that he obtained favourable terms for such relinquishment, but it is also true that the land given up in the Aberdare Range is admittedly first class, and it is doubtful if that taken in exchange, even though in greater quantity, is of

by hele

transfer to and

Land Delamere's Personal Statement

Loresho, Koete, Kenya Colony, 23rd June, 1925

Thave the honour to acknowledge your request for information on the tonoxing matters -

- (1) On the statement that I got a large grant from Government at Nioro, did nothing with it, and sold it.
- (2) On the statement that I went in for the underhand dumnising of land.

I am very pleased to give you and the Government at home any information that I can on these points because I feet that the indection it against neve if in Dr. Leys' book, and by Lord Olivier in the House of Lords, must be brought equally against the tracertinists of the day as well as myself, because nothing that I dad as an as I know was done except with the knowledge of the Coordinate in here, and in the case of transfers was generally traffic knowledge of the Secretary pl. State for the Cobarra.

Acoust a section No. 1.1 originally applied to Sir Charles Eliot for the property of the property of the My first application which is a superstance of the Marshares 1 and not clear which is was made in which is one not, but in any case Sir and the contact of the section of the settlement to start, so far the entire of administration.

the range of the familiar leavanth, which application was protice and considerable of the energy to the question of the statement of the energy to the question of the statement of the spine of the spine of the energy back for ward a Mart.

I most once was therefore made on my recollection of the tree white I was shooting over it in former years, and I was a said 400 cm a costal Njero.

15 to 15, be remembered that at this time Sir Charles Eliot 15 to 25 560 acre free farms to anyone who chose to take them, 5 to 25 Nakuru and the Victoria Nyanza, and none were taken

France only mentioned this to show that what seems a big thing to day was looked upon at that time as valueless by the great majority of people

The grant at Njoro turned out to be quite unsuitable for sheep. It out it 1000 ewes, and imported rams, and after, I think, two kears' trial found that if I was going to keep sheep alive at all and sarrs out my original intention, that I should have to move my sheep else where, so I bought the place at Elementeita.

I then turned my attention at Njoro to the breeding of cattle, agriculture, and ostrich farming.

I had 1,500 head of cattle at Njoro, and f imported pure bred cattle from England. I had a dairy milking over 200 cows on this property. It was not until f had kept cattle there for some time that I discovered that it was impossible to rear, grade or keep pure bred stock there because of East Coast fever for which at that time there was no prevention or cure in the country. So that the cattle, too, had to be inoved to Elimenteita where the up grading of cattle was continued.

I then turned my attention to agriculture, and before the war I had 3,000 acres under cultivation-mostly wheat, on the Nioro farm alone, not counting Florida. When I first started growing wheat at Nioro I tried a very large number of varieties and ultimately came down to growing one or two varieties of Austra lian wheat which were good yielders, and wheat called Rietti-an Italian wheat. After growing very well for a year or two the Australian whears petered out completely from rust, and Rietti was the only wheat left which proved to be resistant to rust. But Rietti was a very unsuitable wheat in other ways. It was a winter wheat and took eight months to grow, and during the first few months was liable to be wiped out by green fly in a dry year owing to the drooping position of its leaves, which gave shelter on the underneath side of the leaf to the green fly. So that all the wheats tried up to then were unsuitable, although it had been proved that the country could grow good wheat and that Rietti was rust resistant. So it was then necessary to hybridise wheats. taking Rietti as the rust resistant basis, and by practising mendelism and crossing with good wheats in other ways to produce wheats both resistant to rust and suitable from other points of view. Mr. Evans, who had taken a cotirse with Professor Biffin at Cambridge, was engaged to carry on the hybridising of wheat at Njoro, and wheat crosses were produced which are the basis of the wheats being milled to-day in the country, together with some produced at the Government farm at Kabete after the hybridising had been started at Njoro In the meanwhile, 2,000 acres of wattle had been planted as well as 3,000 acres for a company which had started on the property Ostriches have also been kept, as many as 200 having been farmed at one time.

It is hardly realised to-day the difficulty of getting through the intervening years between the first building of a grass hit on a property of wild African veldt, and the time when a return is obtained, and during all those years a living has to be found.

When I went to Njoro, there was no method of traction for ploughs. A traction engine was bought and used for the first plough on the property, but was found to be insatisfactory because it packed the soil underneath, creating a part. A thousand young bullocks were bought in Kavirondo, and after getting a lesson from a South African Dutchman in the breaking of the first three or four, I spent many months breaking the rest, which

3

supplied tractive power for implements on the property and also on surrounding farms then starting in the district. The difficulty of this sort of thing to people from England cannot easily he realised. In the case of Rhodesia, the transport simply moved on from the Transwall, and you have to go back to the very beginning of South Africa to find a country where bullocks for transport and boys to drive them had to be collected from the raw savages and the native cattle. In the same way with implements, the difficulty of getting the articles in a country where you have no one to copy is not understood. Even in the case of ploughs it took a considerable period to get implements suited to the country, and many were tried. Mowers, reapers and binders. Australian strippers and Australian harvesters were tried for har vesting wheat before a satisfactory solution wa arrived at Different kinds of sheds, culminating in the American style of shed, were tried for the storing of maize cobs. After the dairy had been given up, a maize farm-Plorida Farm was started in the Rongai Valley where the whole country is now cultivated for marze and to acres of oranges were planted. Houses and outbuildings were built on the three farms which were under separate management. Later, a pipeline, 16 miles long, was laid down, which watered a part of the property which was not served by the rivers, with 39 different watering places with tanks.

The result after a few years of working, after the farm was first opened, was that sheep had been proved a failure and big losses incurred, that the land had been proved unsuitable for improved cattle until the East Coast fever menace was dealt with; that wheat was proved to have come to stay. That the possibility of ploughing large acreages in a country where the plough had never been seen was proved to be an economic proposition; that large numbers of boys had been taught ploughing and working with other implements, and that I had managed to get rid of the £10,000 in cash which I had invested in the country, and had for a time to live on about £200 a year until a return began to materialise.

When the war broke out the wheat form at Njoro was shur down, and the hybridised wheats handed on.

In the meanwhile, large sums had been spent in development at I lineutesta, and later when the Exchange Settlement took place and I woke up one morning to find that my over draft at the bank had increased by the per cent, and that my expenses in salaries and waves had gone up by the same amount, I had, in order to keep my development in other directions going, to self the land at Mioro in farms suitable for cultivation. The terms were mostly 30 years for payment, and practically the the whole of the property is now occupied, and a large, proportion cultivated, while my development and improved cattle and, improved sheep, the dairy, etc., is body carried on on laid more suitable for the purpose at Elimenteita and elsewhere.

In addition to the developments, I forgot to mention that savinilling in partnership was started during this period, that a number of pugs were bred, and that horse-breeding was begin. A factory for the disintegrating of waitle bark was erected on the property, and fater a flour mill, of which I hold about half the shares, was also established, and has grown into the chief flour mill in the confirm.

.11

Florida Farm, where make was grown, has, with farms around it in the hands of the Frans Brutlets to whom it was sold, developed into the biggest make proposition in the country, where between sixty and seventy thousand bags of make were handled last year

It is not contended that most of the development how on the property has been done by me, but I do contend that large sums of money have been spent in experimenting, and that development has been distinctly forwarded and large greats brought, under water by the giving of this original grant, and that nothing but advantage has accrued to the country chooses that grant being made! I think it can be said that there is no part of the country which is more highly developed or populated.

With regard to No. 2—the acquisition of the property at Elmenteita, that as soon as it was found that sheep and cartle sould not bred to improvement on the Njoro property, it was necessary to go on with the development of these industries somewhere else.

As a first measure, half of Mr. A. S. Flemmer's farm at Elmenteita was bought. This came to 10,000 acres' and having no water on it, high up in the mountains, was a nucleus of a scheme for buying and watering the large area of waterless land, lying between the Merdoni River and Eburru Mountains. Right's to grants of waterless areas on this plain substituted for them. I have given you the price paid for these areas.

The Land Officer was kept fully informed of the facts so that there was no question of dummying in the ordinary sense of the term, and in certainly most cases leave to transfer was asked from the Secretary of State in England. But you have the facts I imagine in the Land Office files.

This first decration meant that waterless land was taken up instead of watered, that he people who were paid for these Rift Valley Settlement, that the people who were paid for these areas were able to get on with development of some sort them selves, of to live in the meanwhile, and that a large area of waterless land has since then been completely femed in as paddocks and watered by pipelines, so that there are tanks for stock to drink at within easy distance wherever they are and it has been possible to go on with the upgrading of sheep and earthe with a great measure of success. And no one is one wift the worse. In

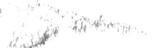
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was required by someone else, and it was relinquished to him (Captain James). It was possible, owing to the watering of the land between the Menfroni River and the railway, to buy and develops further waterless farms on Fiburu Mountain across the Failway.

A codar theme use miles along was laid from high up on Eburru Mountain to carry the water to these farms below. It has not been a success, and this year money is being allocated to start the laying of galvanised from pipes in its place. The main pipe at Sayambu starts as a 3 inch galvanised pipe. There are 30 miles not pipe on the property with about 50 fencing in addition to house, buildings, cattle dips and a sheep sip. Drafting yards, wool shed and well over 120 hoxes for horses and imported animals, which is to be increased by another 50 losses this year.

May Lazy, in conclusion, that with the exception of one or two small pieces of sharth near Narrobs, which I bought for speculation when I first came here and which I said many years ago in order to be able to keep going at all. I have never bought any land for speculation. I moved from the Njoro property because I could not do what I wanted to there, which was to develop the sheep industry, and I finally sold it because I could not help myself owing to the shaip after the war, and the Exchange Settlement I contend that I did all that I set out to do before I sold it, and that I was conferred instituted in every way in buying the property at Emerican.

I have not getting from the details of Janotes of Janotes &c., because T know we may already how here from Mesers W. C. Flonter & Co., see, a their things from cent own fless.

It must be a minimized to justify my position, but I am really in the face in ment both here and at home for the support that have severe that here are severe.

Diminiying is either against the law, in which case the answer a simply one or it is morally wrong if done in a certain way, but it done in that way the accret would hardly have been shared with the cases the er and the Government here and with the Sectodary of State in England. It seems to me purely a question of the tasts of the case, and I challenge anyone to say that the community has offered one rola from anything I have done in this tast of

1 am, &c.,

DELAMERE.

The Honourable, The Commissioner of Lands, Land Office, Nairobi. No.

The Deputy Glacinos of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the

(Received 5th August, 1925,)

Covernment House, Mairobi, Kenya, 10th July, 1926.

Sta.

With reference to the Acting Governor's despatch of 26th Juneon the subject of the accusation of f'-dimmying 'made against Lord Delamere in Dr. Norman Leys, book, 'Kenya,' L regret that full information as regards the extern to which Lord Delamere has disposed of the original grant of 100,000 acres in 1963 was not available when that despatch was posted.

8. I transmit herewith the full details of these transactions and the dates on which they occurred, and would refer to my telegram of the 10th metants in which the total sales were prominimated to you.

I have, Ricus

C. A. S. NORTHCOTE

Guernor's Deputy

ENCLOSERE IN NO. :

Particulars of Sales of L.O. No. 487

### Lord Delamere.

Year.	Area Arres.	Purchase Price.
1913 1915 1917 1917 1919 1939 1939 1932 1932 1932 1934 1924	0 029 A 0 b 25 353 90 948.75 6.771 10 2.200.50 6.25 1.200.	23,800 00-00 35,520-15 60 1,488 0 50 5,890 6 60 7,077 5 00 64,168-79 60 27,998 3 50 8,470 5 60 8,470 5 60 9,907 00 06

No. 2

† Not printed

Price per GC8# 138

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Details of Sales of the original 1903 (crant of 100,000 acres.

Lease dated 26th June, 1965

Chown to Lord Delainere

	100,643 acres	- N101	()		
	Date of	1 100		Price	Price per acre in Shillings
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F. Dudgeon

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Hugh Cameron Collar

Mrs A. M V Faucus A Littlewood

J. Dawson

Simpson

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the Neerthery of Nate for the Colonies to the Office. Adminis-

I Instructed by Av 5 1

Downing Street, 26th August, 1925

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 26th of function the subject of Lord Delamere's holdings of land in the Colons of Kenya.

2. While your despatch and its inclosures afford ample proof both of the beneficial development by Lord Delamere of the land which has been in his possession, and of the bona fide character of his acquisitions of land from private persons up to the inquiry made by ticking Montgomery in 1996. If think it desirable to draw your attention to the fact that that inquiry did not cover the whole period dealt with in the allegations by Mr. Robert Chamberlain published in the book." Kenya." It is there stated that the industry claimes, was removed as a result of the confideration of the trown Lands Bill by a committee of the Legis lative. Control and distributed the durant sense of region on and the durant system waved safeting."

The conclusion must be drawn that Lord Delamere is as legislation of the report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Bill thereafter until the Crown Lands Ordinance was assed in 1916, and even later, and it is necessary, in order that this matter must be 1 at rest, that the angury should be extended throughout the period ouring which it might be supposed that dumnying was decessary as a means of obtaining additional and

4 It is worth noting, though it is not material in a matter of this kind that Mr. Chamberlain's reference to a Committee of Council appears to be made under a insapprehension. As a result of the committee report it was decided to abandon the condition of personal occupation on the ground that it would limit the negotiability of a ritle. But that condition was intended to be directed against speculation not against dummying: The safe grant proposed against dummying was the requirement that the grant of a lass should be preceded by a non-transferable occupation in me. That requirement had swith reluctance) been abandoned by the Screetary of State on the advice of the Governor abandoned by the Screetary of State on the advice of the Governor abone menths before the draft Ordinance was introduced in the Legislative Council in December, 1913.

I have &c.

L. S AMERY

17. No. b

The Concerns of Kenya to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Received 18th February, 1926.)

Government House, Nairobi, Kenya, 14th January, 1926 (Extract.)

SIR.

With reference to your despatch of 26th August,\* I have the honour to transmit a further memorandum by the Commissioner of Lands on the subject of Lord Delamere's holdings of land in Kenya, from which you will observe that since the date of Colonel Montgomery's statements Lord Delamere's land acquisitions have been few and have all been purchased in the open market.

- 2. You will observe that Lord Delamere has no objection to the publication of this correspondence. My personal view is strongly in favour of publication and that the Colony owes it to itself as well as to Lord Delamere to dispose once for all of the calumnies made against him. Publication of the whole correspondence is the most effective way to do so, and I strongly recommend that this be done.
- 3.4 enclose a plan† showing Lord Delamere's 100,000 acres block with the portion at present held by his i ordship shown, coloured red. There is no objection to the publication of the information supplied regarding Lord Delamere's disposal of the balance of the area.

I have &c

EDWARD GRIGG.

Covernor

ENCLOSURE IN NO. 5

Department of Lands, Nairobi 1st December, 1925

the Hon, Colonial Secretary Naurola

Re Lord Delamete's land heldings.
Ref. Your SC, 22729/27:41 of 18th ultimo

The original investigation did in fact cover the whole period dealt with in Mr. Chamberlain's allegations

No. 4.

1 Not reproduced. The portion still held, a the Enclosure to No.3

acres, large blocks of, very roughly, 8,500 acres and the control of the control

 $\overline{)}$ 

interest of the

• No. 2

Since the date of Colonel Montgomery's statement Lord Delamere's land acquisitions have been few and have all been purchases in the open market.

During the period up to 1912, when land was allotted on application, "dummying" was a possible means of obtaining additional land. Investigation of the records of this Department and of Ford Delamers sagents (which have been placed fully at my disposals clearly show that Lord Delamere took part in no such to usactions other than those included in Colonel Montgomery's state in mi.

In 1913 the method of land alienation was changed from allot most to anction. Permits to bid at an auction sale were required and no permit holder could acquire more than one farm. Under the existence it was possible to make use of other parties for the purpose of acquiring additional land, such acquisition being held in the name of the ostensible purchaser until such time as the conditions entirling the purchaser to free transfer were fulfilled body belancere acquired no land whatever by this method.

topping the was land alienation was in abeyance

In the post war period farm auctions have been perfectly open, map rounts to seel being required.

to spike 2.10. sare pards embodied in the educations it might be alonged that the Ex-Soldier Settlement Scheme could be rollsted by those who were not allottees as a means of obtaining additional land on exceptional conditions. Lord Delamere has, or fact acquired no land allotted under the scheme, except two natures parts based in 1925.

The disposes of the allegation that at any period during any time different phases of land alienation. Lord Delamere used auminiying as a method of obtaining land.

2. I reclaim a plan showing Lord Delamere's 100,000 acre of och were the portion at present held by Lord Delamere shown, coloured to och

You objective exists to the publication of the information supplet to artists. Ford Delamere's disposal of the balance of the artists.

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H. T. MARTIN.

Commissioner of Lands.

# ROTECTORATE OF KENYA

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Ransden, Charleury

86 July 1925.

Lear Ormsby Gore,

Many thanks for your letter of the 24th inst. and for the map which you so sindly sent with it, and which is an very glad to have.

I agree with you that the publication of the Governor's despatch on dummying may be desirable. If it is not conclusive it may elicit criticism from those who aliege that dummying has been tractised. Prima facts if a solvent man buys propert, from an insolvent holder, it may be or appear a quite legitimate but of business. The allegation made is that such holders have been "put in with prior intentions - which, tho' a matter of common repute may be incapable of evidential proof".

fours sincerely,

Sgd. OLIVIER.

correspondence is the most effective way to do so end I strongly recommend that this be done. In this event I should be glad if the omissions desired by lord betamere, wide paragraph 2 of the engineer to this despetch may be made and if the whole of that paragraph and paragraph may also be omitted from the Commissioner of Lands' memorandum.

I enclose a plan showing Lord Delamere's 100,000 scres block with the portion at present held by his Lord ship shown coloured red. There is no objection to the publication of the information supplied regarding Lord Delamere's disposal of the balance of the area.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obelient, numble servant,

Edward Grigg

GOVERNOR.

eyinger, Proposition of the month of the former of the

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

1st December, 1925.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary,

### Ref: Your St. 22729/27/41 of 18th ultimo.

The original investigation did in fact cover the whole period dealt with in Mr. Chamberlain's allegations.

Since the date of Col. Montgomery's statement Lord Delamere's land acquisitions have been few and have all been purchases in the open market.

During the period up to 1912 when land was allotted on application, "dummying" was a possible means of obtaining additional land. Investigation of the records of this Department and of Lord Delamere's agents (which have been placed fully at my disposal) clearly show that Lord Delamere took such part in no transactions other than those included in Colonel Montgomery's statement.

In 1913 the method of land alienation was changed from allotment to auction. Permits to bid at an auction sale were required and no permit holder could acquire more than one farm. Under this system it was possible to make use of other parties for the purpose of acquiring additional land, such acquisition being neld in the name of the ostensible purchaser until such time as the conditions entitling the purchaser to free transfer were fulfilled. Lord Delamere acquired no land whatever by this method.

During the war, land alienation was in abeyance.

In the post war period farm strengtings auctions have

# DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

lat December, 1925.

C/914.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary.

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men perfectly open, no permits to bid being required.

In spite of the safeguards embedied in the conditions might be alleged that the Ex-Soldier Settlement Scheme could be utilized by those who were not allottens as a means of obtainfag additional land on exceptional conditions. Lord Delamere has, in fact, acquired no land allotted under the Scheme, except two farms purchased in 1925.

This disposes of the allegation that at any period during any of the different phases of land alienation Lord Delamere used "dummying" as a method of obtaining land.

2. It is suggested that unless it cannot be avoided no good purpose will be served by the publication of this correspondence. Lord Delamere has been consulted and after peruaing the whole correspondence states that so far as he is concerned, he has no objection to publication, but if this course be pursued he would ask that the clause exercing on the last page of his own letter be deleted: "because two discharged officials have chosen to write an absurd book".

From my own memorandum the whole of chause 13 should be deleted and the subsequent paragraphs renumbered prior to publication.

J. I enclose a plan showing Lord Delamere's 100,000 acre block with the portion at present held by Lord Delamere shown coloured red.

No objection exists to the publication of the information supplied regarding Lord Delamere's disposal of the balance of the area.

(Sgd.) H.T.Martin

COMMISSIONER OF LANDS.

Sir,

I have the benear to entered the repetet of your confidential deposits Heal? of the 14th of January, and to Spennett to you down contro of a Paper shigh has been laid before Parklament on the only set of lord Delimetry's transpositions in lands

In I have specified your view that the corresponding should be published as, although I should have springered that makings or orthoday positions small such in soil I sho there exists he as accommonly that in high new that would not be a rectical of the change of "demonstrate", exiginally made by the Subject Shoulders and place exiginally made by the Subject Shoulders and place correctly in Declay's back "Hamps".

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Your most shallons

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