KENYA to \$ 15 for I 29 Jan. 1924 INDIAN QUESTIONS IMMIGRATION BILL Wr. Culder Lecter from SPS for India on 21 regarding proposed were use Blung Persons Pare VINITES Republicand Justin and ? Pully ((Aun 8 1955 tel 1, 30 fm 65.95 (Parl 7) Us of s. (fenc') Sult Rend 12 Botton ley.

subsequent Paper

Telogram from the Secretary of State for the Colomies to the Governor of Kenys.

Sent 1.15 p.m., 30th January,1924.

Priority A.

30th January Secret and Personal.

Following telegram has been sent to coverament of India by Secretary of State for India embodying statement which will probably be made by Vicercy to Lagislative Assembly Mat Junuary. Statement is sent for your information and must not be made public in Henya until it is known that it has actually been made by Vicercy. Telegram begins:-

If the Vicercy wishes to make some reference to the question of the control of immigration into Kenya the following terms are suggested:-

"A Draft Ordinance, prepared by the Government of Kenya and Uganda, was sent to the Imperial deverament and a copy was furnished to the Government of India. We find that before our final observations were received in London the result of examination of the Braft Ordinance by the late Secretary of State for the Colonies was that the measure was not regarded as satisfactory, and

Telogram from the Secretary of State for the Colomies to the Governor of Konya.

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was referred back to East Africa for re-drafting and at the same time the Governor of Kenya was requested to furnish particulars of the immigration and emigration of persons of various races during 1923, and he was also requested to supply particulars on various points as to the way in which it was intended that effect should be given in actual administration to the proposals made in the Draft Ordinance.

I am informed that Sie Najesty's present Ministers in Leaden will await the Sovenzar's reply and the re-drafted Ordinance and will be guided by the further information which they receive when the new Draft Ordinance is before them.

I am assured that ample opportunity will be afforded to the Toverment of India for expressing its views on the new Draft, and further that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will give his earnest attention to any representations that the Colonial Committee may desire to make upon the measure whether as a hill or as an emasted Ordinance." Telegram ends.

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You will understand that Colonial Countitee is the Indian Committee referred to in statement made in Invertal Conference Met October. Secretary of State.

Sir William Duke, the Permanent Under Becretary of State at the India Office, came over to see me this morning to tell me that Sir Sydney Olivier was anxious to have a Bik with you next Yanday marring about the "asian question in Kenya: with particular reference to the Thorigration will where'v she sent al cost Lamgration into Kenya is to be steengthened As you know, the new The Landon will is intended to give effect to that part of the ecisions contained in the "hite Paper (Issued of the late (overment in July last) which deals with the question of invirration (pages 17 and 18). I understand from Sir William Duke that the Viceroy has to make some reference to the new Immigration Bill in a public speech on the Wist of this month, and that the new Secretary of State for India wishes to bring the question before the Cabinet next Monday aftermoon in order that the Viceroy may have immediate instructions as to what he can say about the Bill which (as you know) has aroused intense feeling,

The present position is that the Draft Hill submitted by the Governor of Kenya (after consultation with the Governor of Uganda) has been sent back to the Governor by your predecessor for revision. But there are so many complicating factors in this Kenya controversy that you will wish to have a preliminary discussion with Sir Herbert Read, Mr. Bottomley and myself early Monday morning before you have your talk with the new Secretary of State for India.

If you have not already done so I suggest that it would be an advantage to you to read through the White Paper.of which I attach a copy. You should also read the agreed statement made by the late Prime Minister at the Imperial Conference which you will find on pages 133 and 134 in the Summary of the Proceedings of the Conference, which I also attach.

Ls 26.1.24

INDIA OFFICE, S.W.1.
29th January 1924.

My Jan Thomas

With reference to the Kenya business, I should be very glad if you would consent to our putting into the telegram of which you handed me a draft, a little more to scothe the susceptibilities of our Indians who are extremely excited about this business. I should like to put in after the word "measure" the words "was not regarded as satisfactory and" etc. I should also like to add at the end the following words, "and that provided that the Government of India's Colonial Committee can be re-constituted at a sufficiently early date; their observations on the draft will be welcomed." As you no doubt know, we have advocated some independent enquiry being made by

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behalf

some impartial authority, such as Sir Frederice Lugard, into the extent of the memberity for further control over immigration in the economic interests of Kenya. Speakday with a good deal of personal experience of the contacts be Indians and Africans, and hardes he ard the views of all sides igst summer upon this Only et .. I must tell you that my impression is 1 . I the to danger to the economic interests y A secure from the immigration o. Indians i well mobile of the political apprehensions " the wh' .: settlers. Indian immigrants and get le the British West Indies never dia any eco misc injury, and certainly did a great deal of economic good to the negro and creole populations, and so far from the Governments of such communities predominantly of African population in the West Indies being afraid of Indian immigration on

behalf of their peor .. the Government of India is now being pressed in Givernment of British Guiara to sllow a l. ir gration scheme to be anv. Prima executeed from last i. facia, then, with merines of these contacts. have always rather held a brief for Africans as distinct from Indians. I am very suspicious of the soundness of the foundations of this scare about the economic danger to the interests of the Africans, and parmonally. I should very much like to sen the situation reviewed by some independent authority. If without solid foundation, in order to reassure your white settlers, the position is at all likely to be strained against Indian immigration, as the character of the draft ordinance sent home seemed to render conceivable, you are only going to exacerbate Imperial trouble in the future. I have not myself seen the reasoned case accepted by the Colonial

behalf of their people, the Government of India is now being pressed by the Government of British Guiana to allow a large immigration scheme to be organised from India into their Colony. facia, then, with experience of these contacts, have always rather held a brief for Africans as distinct from Indians, I am very suspicious of the soundness of the foundations of this scare about the economic danger to the inverests of the Africans, and personally, I should very much like to see the situation reviewed by some independent authority. If without solid foundation, in order to reassure your white settlers, the position is at all likely to be strained against Indian immigration, as the character of the draft ordinance sent home seem render conceivable, you are only going to exacerbate Imperial trouble in the future. I have not myself seen the reasoned case accepted by the Colonial

Colonial Office as a basis for the judgment that Indian immigration must be restricted in defence of the native. If this has been drawn up in any suitable form, I should be very much obliged if you could let me see it.

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INDIA OFFICE, Whitehall S.W.1.

29th January 1924.

my dans Known

Many thanks for your reply of this date on the subject of my proposed message to the Vicercy on the Kenya Immigration Bill. We have accepted your suggestion for the latter part of the message, and I enciose a copy of the full telegram as we are sending it.

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he Right Hon. J.H. Thomas, M.P.

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I am informed that His Majesty's present Ministers in London will await the Governor's reply and the re-drafted Ordinance and will be guided by the further information which they receive when the new Draft Ordinance is before them.

I am assured that ample opportunity will be afforded to the Government of India for expressing its views on the new Draft, and further that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will give his earnest attention to any representations that the Colonial Committee may desire to make upon the measure whether as a Bill or as an enacted Ordinance.

Downing Street, 29th January, 1924.

My dear Olivier,

I have riven my inrediate attention to your letter of today about the message to the Vicercy upon the lenya Trui ration "ill. is no difficulty about the "irst amendment that you wish me to accept in the Traft, namely, the insertion of the words "was not remarked as satisfactory and" after the word "measure", but I must say quite frankly that the second as en iment proposed by you has caused me considerable embarrassment. There has been trouble enough. already over the status of the contemplated Colonial Committee in relation to Henya, and I am particularly envious not to add to the misunderstandings that already exist. At the same time I appreciate to the full your di ficulties and those of the Government of India at the present me; and in order to help you I am prepared to

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agree to the substitution of the following for the last paragraph of the statement:-

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I trust that the additional words (underlined) will give you what you want.

inform the Governor of Kenya as soon as possible of the exact text of the statement which the viceroy is mithorised to make. I shall be obliged if you will let me have a measage by tomorrow ridday telling me whether you agree to the revised formula.

I mail of course secure that there is no publication in Kenya until the Viceroy's statement has been made in India.

Jowning Street, 29th January, 1924.

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James Emegral

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