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THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

King Edward VII<sup>s</sup> Hospital for Officers

17, Grosvenor Crescent,

S. W. 1.

Government & Colonial Office,  
 I will cause them to send in  
 a state of affairs with a view  
 for untoward results which  
 must have a bad effect on  
 the setting down of the colony  
 to peaceful development & progress  
 under supervision. This job is  
 defective & labour comes in the  
 nature of the present job will  
 give a good excuse for the labour  
 job. To assist all in all is

been accomplished this year, -  
then goodness knows what will  
happen. I am quite understand  
the difficulties of the fact with  
these hypocritical ideas, -  
I am always firmly convinced that  
the firm & straight way pass  
best in the long run. The setting  
up of this committee must meet  
a good committee next year &  
I am quite sure will not satisfy  
India opinion now, - and does  
not mean to be satisfied with  
anything less than the whole way.  
Did you see what Mr. Thomas & son

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these hypocritical Indians, but  
I am always firmly convinced that  
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King Edward VII<sup>s</sup> Hospital for Officers  
17, Grosvenor Crescent,  
S. W. 1.

wrote to the Port Africa & the  
"The Indian, we must use a  
strongly by what we are to  
see them in their present  
position. As you know I have  
not seen it since the Indian  
member of the Reg. Council in  
Nairobi. I shall next week  
be likely to talk with you  
but I should it would be  
impossible for you to be back  
in see on your way home -  
the evening. I shall see you

accommodated in the work.

With so many thanks for your  
letter.

Yours sincerely

Wm. Scott

P.S. I am in today's Times that  
it is proposed to connect the  
Birmingham railway up to Liza.  
That is splendid. I had expected  
they would be able to build some  
as this. I return the report to me.

W.S.

Downing Street,

Private & Personal.

3rd November, 1923.

My dear Lord Francis,

You can well understand that the discussions in the Imperial Conference during the last ten days about the status of Indians domiciled within the British Empire outside India have caused the Duke and myself immense difficulty. But I beg of you not to be perturbed by the final conclusion that was reached. The Prime Minister, with the Duke, has made it abundantly plain on behalf of the British Government that no hope could be held out to India of the decisions taken last July being modified, and that the steps necessary to implement these decisions will proceed <sup>and are proceeding</sup> according to plan.

All that has happened is that some time or other next year the Government of India will appoint a Committee to discuss with the Secretary of State for the Colonies and his advisers, the position of Indians domiciled in British Colonies and Protectorates, e.g. British Guiana, Mauritius, Ceylon,

Fiji

Fiji, and that the Secretary of State has consented to receive any representations that this Committee might desire to make to him about the Kenya position.

The Secretary of State, in telegrams despatched immediately after last Wednesday's session of the Imperial Conference, has made this plain to Sir Robert Coryndon, and it would be wrong if your friends in Kenya were to take alarm about it.

Sir Tej Sapru understands the position exactly, and can be under no illusions about it. No doubt he will endeavour to make the most of the reception that his advocacy, and the advocacy of Lord Peel and of the Maharajah of Alwar on behalf of Indians was given at the Imperial Conference, but this is to be expected.

The Secretary of State has impressed upon Sir Robert Coryndon the importance of disregarding newspaper comment upon, or unauthorised versions of, the conclusions reached so far as British Colonies and Protectorates (and particularly Kenya) are concerned.

I am very sorry to hear that you are  
laid

laid up in - hospital with your leg, as I should like to be able to have a talk with you and to tell you privately of the difficulties with which the British Government has been faced over the Indian question during the last fortnight. It has been touch and go for some days whether Sapru would resign from the Indian delegation, with all the serious consequences for the Government of India and the British Government if this had happened. What in fact has happened is that no such resignation has taken place, and yet no concession that need cause your friends in Kenya any concern has been made. Of course the Indian question has not been put out of the way for all time, and, as you say, there will be a continuing crop of trouble for the Colonial Office for some years to come. It is just one of those fundamental problems of the world which can never be settled once and for all, any more than the relations of capital to labour or of men to women. It has to be recognised that Indians of all classes and of every range of political opinion are united in their denunciation of the decisions taken by the



the British Government last July, and a close study of the speeches made at the Imperial Conference will show the importance of the whole question to Imperial relations. In circumstances of extreme difficulty the British Government has not yielded an inch on these decisions. All that has happened is that the British Government has said that when the Committee to be appointed by the Government of India meets the Secretary of State in perhaps a year's time, it will be competent for the Committee to make representations. That is the least that the British Government could consent to do, and they have done no more.

Yours sincerely,