

E. AFRICA

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Rec<sup>d</sup>  
22 DEC 20

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CONFERENCE OF  
MISSIONARY  
SOCIETIES

536

1920

NAIVE LABOUR

1st DECEMBER

If a Royal Commission is appointed to enquire into  
submit observations as to scope of enquiry, representation  
of missionary standpoint etc.

Last previous Paper.

62371

Mr H. Read. Sir J. Fidler.

At this stage

I beg to say that their  
representation will receive Lord  
Inchiquin's full consideration - &  
I say that he will be glad to receive  
any actual evidence of abuse  
which they have got.

62371

22/12/20

H. J. H.  
22/12/20

*[Handwritten signature]*

S. J. H. 23/12

Next subsequent Paper.

M. J. 148/21

S. J. H. agrees

recd  
24.12.20

# CONFERENCE OF MISSIONARY SOCIETIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

C. O.  
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REC.  
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537

## STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman  
Rev. J. H. RIVERS, D.D.  
I. AUSTIN ARMITAGE, M.D.  
Rev. F. ASHCROFT  
Rev. C. C. B. BARDLEY  
Mr. CAIRGTON  
Miss M. C. GOLDOCK  
Rev. W. GOODIE  
F. H. HAWKINS  
HENRY T. HODGKIN, M.B.  
H. G. JUDG, C.B.E.

DR. H. H. RIVERS, D.D.  
H. LAWRENCE, M.D.  
WILLIAM B. LINDSAY  
Rev. FRANK LINDSAY  
Miss E. L. MACKENZIE  
Rev. J. M. COLLIER, D.D.  
The BISHOP OF EXETER  
WALTER B. SLOAN  
JAMES STEEL  
Rev. GEORGE THOMPSON, D.L.  
Col. Sir ROBERT WILLIAMS, Bt. M.P.

Rev. C. F. WILSON  
The BISHOP OF WINCHESTER  
Hon. Treasurer  
S. H. GLADSTONE  
Secretaries  
J. H. OLDFIELD  
KENNETH MACLENNAN  
Departmental Secretaries  
(Literary)  
Miss G. A. GOLDOCK

EDINBURGH HOUSE,

2, EATON GATE, LONDON, S.W. 1

(Two minutes from Sloane Square Station)

21st December, 1930.

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Milner, B.C.P.,  
G.C.M.G.,  
The Colonial Office, S.W.

My Lord,

I submitted confidentially to the Standing Committee of the Conference of Missionary Societies at its meeting on the 17th and 18th instant a report of our interview with your Lordship on labour in East Africa, and several hours were given to the general consideration of the subject.

The Committee desired to express their cordial appreciation of the sympathetic way in which you received the representations made to you.

If as we hope a Royal Commission is appointed

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Milner

appointed to inquire into the questions raised, I was directed by the Standing Committee to ask whether in view of the large interests which the missionary societies have in the native populations of East Africa and in particular of their responsibility for the greater part (and in some areas for the whole) of native education, you will consider how provision can best be made for the adequate representation of the missionary standpoint on the Commission.

I was asked further to inform your Lordship that the missionary societies have a large body of evidence from their most experienced and trusted missionaries, who are in intimate touch with the native populations, that gives rise to real anxiety, not as to the intentions of Government, but as to the effect upon native life of the pressure of Western civilisation and European interests and as to the grave unrest and bitterness of feeling at the present time among large sections of the native populations. The missionary societies are convinced that conditions in East Africa are such that an inquiry is urgently needed.

Striking evidence was brought forward at the meeting of the strong and widespread feeling regarding the proper/

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Milner

proper discharge of our obligations of trusteeship which exists throughout the country, not only in the constituencies of the missionary societies, but among many who have not in the past identified themselves with missionary effort. Wherever the matters dealt with in the memorandum submitted to your Lordship have during the past few months been brought before a public audience, the keenest interest has been evoked. We have no doubt that you will recognise that in view of the feeling which has been aroused it is not possible to restrain agitation indefinitely, and that in any steps that may be taken time is an important consideration.

I reported to the Committee the suggestion made by your Lordship at the interview that if there is to be an inquiry it may have to be of somewhat wider scope than the proposals contained in the memorandum. If this should be necessary, the Committee believe that you will attach the same importance as they do to making inquiry into the obligations of trusteeship a primary object of the Commission and to ensuring that the particular questions for investigation mentioned in the/

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Milner:

the memorandum receive thorough examination.

Your Honorship's Obedient Servant.

J. G. Oldham

Ind. East Africa  
62483

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Sir, 29 Decr 1920

DRAFT.

The Secretary  
Conference of Missionary  
Societies  
MINUTE.

I am in touch with the rest  
of your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> of  
December and to request you  
to inform the Standing Committee  
of the Conference of Missionary  
Societies that their representation  
conveyed in your letter, with a  
view to the East Africa, and  
receive his first consideration.

- Mr. Bevanly 24/12/20
- Mr. ...
- Mr. ...
- Mr. Grindle.
- Sir H. Lambert.
- Sir H. Road.
- Sir G. Kiddes.
- Col. Apier's
- Lord Milner

2. Lord Milner will be glad  
to receive be furnished with  
any actual evidence of abuse  
which may be in the possession  
of the Standing Committee

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