

17312

REC-13 MAR 3

AFRICA

TARNER, C.G.

1919

17TH MARCH

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND

R297

Last previous Paper

Submits further observations on figures supplied and requests views on points raised. As there is a pressing demand for the scheme proposed to think a suitable one might be prepared subject to revision in the light of experience and that Treasury might be approached as suggested.

W 52297

The Fund.

I should have wished to have a less guarded opinion to put to the Treasury, but it is something to be able to lay the matter before them.

As you will see from 30362/09 & my minutes on 49963/17, the husband's check they brought out in 1904 was a business and scheme. I am not sure how they will react in 1919.

Handwritten notes on the left margin:
to Mr. T. D. ...
to Mr. ...
to Mr. ...

Remind Treasury of

UND. 7.5.19

Handwritten:
J. ...
32029

W/1-12/1926 at

MR. BOTTOMLEY:

PARA. 6. It is something that the additional figures enabled "deductions of more or less value" to be made.

The best comparison we can make between the mortality of officials and unofficials is:-

	Total rate per 1000
OFFICIALS	19.11
UNOFFICIALS	10.5

There is little difference between the two.

PARA. 4. As to females I would refer to the last part of the printed returns for 1917. Mr. Warner seems to have overlooked this. The number of females employed will show an increase in 1918 but I have no note of any deaths or invaliding during the year.

PARA. 7. The figures which seem to speak for themselves, are:-

C 1210-1211

	AVERAGE NO. in service	TOTAL DEATHS	RATE per 1000	TOTAL INVALIDS	RATE per 1000
WEST AFRICA	25,718	471	14.43	447	17.30
EAST AFRICA	9,937	109	10.5	138	13.7

In considering this table it must be borne in mind that the tour of service in East Africa is more than double the length of the W.A. tour.

W/1
20.5

Blairside,

Handsworth Common,

S.W.

19th March 1919.

C O

17312

19 MAR 9

872

Widows and Orphans Pensions, East
African Protectorates.

Your letters about 1917, 1918, 1919
and 1920, the latter number dated
19th November 1918 and 2
January 1919.

I have now been able, with the assistance of the further
material you have been good enough to give me, to consider more
fully the questions raised. I regret that owing to pressure
of much other business, I have been unable to communicate with
you earlier.

I am sorry to say that the Census Returns for 1911 have
not been very useful for my purpose, which was to ascertain how
the mortality of the general European population in the Protectorates
compared with that of the lives with which we are
concerned. Table I gives statistics for the European
population excluding officials for 1911, ascertaining as
far as possible the sex and age distribution. Table II gives
statistics for 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914 for the same population
including officials as to sex and with age distribution. Consequently II

throws no practical light on I. Tables III and IV give statistics of population and deaths for 1911 including officials, but with no sex discrimination in the groups. Further, the grouping throughout differs entirely from that adopted in the annual printed returns for officials, being biennial instead of quinquennial, and between different age limits.

I can, however, draw some general deductions of more or less value, and am inclined to infer that on the whole there is no very great difference between the mortality of the general European and the official population. I shall be glad to know if this is your own opinion.

One rather important point, however, arises. You say that there are a number of female employees in the service, for whom you do not at present propose to legislate. These are, I presume, included in the annual official returns, but without sex discrimination. As Table I of the Census Statistics, 1911, shows a much more favourable mortality for female than for male lives, I should like to know approximately what proportion of the former is included in the annual undiscriminated official returns.

There remain the difficulties of the general paucity of numbers in the official experience, and their extreme paucity at the higher ages.

I am disposed to think, however, as there seems to be no

pressing a demand for a scheme, that a suitable one might be prepared, subject to revision in the light of experience; and that you would therefore be justified in approaching the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury as you suggest. 671

The facts as I have them seem to warrant the conclusion that mortality conditions are much more favourable in East than West Africa. I shall be glad to know whether you confirm this.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

J. G. Macdonald

To The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

DRAFT.

WILNER, ESC.

MINUTE.

Mr. Gottonley, 22/3/19

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Grindle 25/3

Sr. H. Lambert

Sr. H. Bond

Sr. G. Fisher

Mr. Amey

Mr. Milnes

Sir,

I am etc. to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th of March on the subject of the proposed scheme of pensions for widows and orphans of deceased officials in the service of the Prots. in Eastern Africa.

2. With regard to para. 3 of your letter, Lord Wilner concurs in your view that there is no very great difference between the mortality of the general European and the official population, having regard to the fact that the latter have not the same access to medical services as the general population. The rates per thousand for 1914-1917 appear to have been 10.7 for officials and 9.3 for officials.

With regard to para. 4 I had to invite your attention to the last para. of the printed returns for 1917 in which the available information regarding female officials was given. The number of these officials employed in 1918 will show an increase over the previous year.

...for no information is available
 ...of invalids among them

...with regard to the last para. of
 ...there can
 ...are much more
 ...the figures
 ...as follows:

Average no. in service	Total Months	Rate per 1000	Total Invalids	Rate per 1000
1,300	1,972	14.43	949	56.20
5,937	109	10.9	138	13.8

It must be borne in mind that

...service in E.A. is more than double the

...sent to the Treas. asking for
 ...institution of a scheme
 ...and a further letter will
 ...receipt of their rep

...

DRAFT.

Secretary to
THE TREASURY.

MINUTE

Mr. Hollisley, 21/11

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Green, 23/11

Mr. H. Lambert

Mr. H. Wood

Mr. G. Fisher

Mr. Army

Mr. Navy

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 11th of September, 1919, No. 13012/19 1st etc. to request you to inform the Ld. of the Treasury that the question of provision for the dependents of Officers dying in the service of the Forces in Eastern Africa had repeatedly been under the consideration of a massive Department of State for the Colonies in recent years.

After the receipt of your letter steps were taken for the collection of vital statistics of the East African Service similar to that which had already been instituted in the case of the

The statistics available in 1919 were furnished to the War Office and are sufficient for the issue of a booklet of a number of minutes for widows and orphans on the lines laid out in the pamphlet of which a copy is enclosed. This booklet has been prepared by officers of the V.A. Service and while its preparation has necessarily been affected by the incidence of casualties due to the war which were unforeseen when the scheme

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was prepared, it would appear to have proved
very satisfactory.

Both before and after the institution
of the V.A. scheme, there has been an increasing
demand on the part of civil officials in Eastern
Africa for the establishment of a system of the same
kind. The proportion of married men in the Public
Service has increased greatly during the period in which
the Protectorates have been under the control of the
Colonies, and there is ample evidence
of the absence of any provision for their dependents
in the case of their death has been a matter of grave
and increasing anxiety to members of the service.

The arrangements provided in the case of the Home Civil
Service by the provisions of the Superannuation Act of
1908, are not altogether suitable for a service in a
tropical climate in which the chances of an officer's death
are necessarily much greater than those of the Home Service.
The chances in the Public Service in Crown Colonies
naturally lead to the provision of similar arrangements,
those which exist in other tropical dependencies, and
schemes of pensions to widows and orphans now exist in
practically all those dependencies with the exception of
Eastern Africa.

It was considered whether any arrangements made
to the possibility of the institution of such a scheme by
the Government that the statistical information available was
adequate to justify its introduction. In 1910 it was
concluded that the matter could not be taken up until
additional statistics were available, and in consequence no
action was taken to deal with it until the year 1917 had
expired. Since then correspondence, of which a copy is
enclosed, has taken place with Mr. S. D. Warner, the Secretary,
in which the preparation of the V.A. scheme is due, and it is
will observe that Mr. Warner is now of opinion that a suitable
scheme might be prepared, provided that power was retained to
revise

revise it in the light of experience.

8. Lord Milner considers it most important, from the point of view of the contented working of the administrations in Eastern Africa, that progress should be made as quickly as possible with this matter, and he accordingly trusts that the Protos (in respect of the Protos which are still under their financial control) their general approval of the principle of the establishment of a scheme for pensions for widows and orphans of officials on the general lines of the W.A. scheme. On the receipt of their approval, it will be possible to invite Mr. Warner to draw up a definite scheme for consideration. It is probable that before the draft scheme is ready the figures of vital statistics for the year 1918 will be available, and that the ^{foundation of} ~~basis for~~ which the scheme ^{will} ~~would~~ be ^{so much the stronger.} ~~concluded~~ ~~is to be arranged.~~

L. M., etc.