

KENYA
H.Y.P.

C.O.
4773
REC
REC 31 JAN 21

ASSOCIATED
PROCESSES
OF E.A. A.S.O.

KIBWEZI RIVER DAM

1921

9th JANUARY

Feeds extract from letter from E.E.A. Fibre and Industrial Coy protesting against proposed erection. Ask instructions be issued to prevent further action without enquiry as to possible injury to steel companies involved.

at previous Paper.

*Copy to Gov for enquiry & report - still under
discussion in communication with the*

U.C.S. 31.1.21 atone

EA

*Copy for 233 cons 4 Feb 21
You answer to May 21 1921*

Subsequent Paper.

25450.

679

ASSOCIATED PRODUCERS
of
EAST AFRICA & UGANDA.

Secretary
H. JOWERS.
Telephone No.
GERRARD 8828

4778
REC'D
31 JAN 21

78, CARLTON HOUSE,
REGENT STREET,
(Near Waterloo Place).

LONDON, S.W. 29th Jan. 1921

The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street. S.W.

Sir,

I am directed to forward for your information the following extract from a letter received from the B.E.A. Fibre & Industrial Company, on the subject of the proposed erection of a dam on the Kibwesi River by the authorities of the Uganda Railway:-

"It has been brought to our notice, that a
"Survey Party has been sent up the Kibwesi River
"for the purpose of taking levels for a projec-
"ted pipe line to supply the engines of the
"Uganda Railway with water. It is the unanimous
"opinion of Companies and Planters who are depen-
"dent upon their water supply from the Kibwesi
"River, that if any attempt is made to dam the
"Kibwesi River the result will be that it will
"disappear in the lava, because the water, instead
"of being held back by the dam and stored up, will
"flow through the lava on either side until it
"reaches a water-carrying strata, when it will
"then spread over the countryside, thus causing
"practically the loss of the whole of the Kibwesi
"River.

"This opinion is submitted by those who
"have intimate knowledge of the district, and is
"undoubtedly correct, in fact, it is held that, if
"the Kibwesi River is interfered with in any way,
"its fate will be the same as the Masongaleni River

29th Jan. 1921.

"which a few years back entirely disappeared.

"Quite recently a deputation of Blanters, who are dependent upon a water supply from the Kibwezi River, waited upon the Head of the Public Works Department in East Africa in connection with a shrinkage in the water supply, which was seriously affecting the process of Sisal decortication on the Plantations. It was found upon investigation that the shrinkage was due to the action of the natives, who had made some dams on the River. These were promptly demolished with the approval of the authorities.

"Without a plentiful supply of water the Sisal Companies and also the people in the region would be unable to continue their operations, and any interference with the existing water supply of Blanters which in any way causes a disturbance of their water supply, will result in a costly claim for damages being lodged. It shall be the duty of the Colonial Office, with reference to this matter to the

pointed out that the supply upon which the Sisal Companies in the neighbourhood depend for the decortication of the fibre and it is desired to request that orders may be issued to prevent any such disturbance of the supply to the Railway without further reference to the Sisal Companies.

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Harold Innes

SECRETARY.

Let
477/21 Kenya

Let [Signature]

DRAFT.

The Secretary
Kisumu Producers
East Africa Highlands

MINUTE.

Ans'd
25450

3 February 1921

Mr. [Name] 2 Feb
[Name] 2 Feb
Let

Li
I am in accord with the
your letter of the 24th; you
with regard to the proposed
of a dam on the
Kilwezi River & to inform
you that the Govt of Kenya
is leaning towards
on the subject

- Mr. Granger
- Sir H. Lambert
- Mr. H. Read
- Mr. G. Pinder
- Mr. Amery
- Lord Milner

[Signature]

[Signature] 1 AD

12

14 February 1921

I have the honor to be
to you for the necessary
enquiry & report, the
copy of a letter from the
Associated Producers of
C.G. Siba regarding
the alleged proposal to
erect a dam on the
Kilowazi River

Staff

Mr. Rogers

Kisumu

No 233

14 Feb

Mr. Patterson

W.D.

24 Jan