

1921

KENYA

39260

Recd 8 AUG 21

DATE

27TH JULY 1921.

OSWELL, K. H.
CHELLAN, SIR.
OGAN, E. S.

(Info. Mr E. Norrey)
CIRCULATION

SUBJECT

POSITION OF INDIANS

Requests assurance that no alteration of the
gazetted policy of the Imperial Govt will be
effected and offers assistance to maintain the
policy.

Grindle

H. Lambert

H. Reed 8/VII/21

G. Fiddes

Wood

Churchill

Previous Paper

MINUTES

10.
39072

Mr H. Reed

The Resolutions of the
Committee of Associations
will be done for the best
of the department (consisting
of then three signatures)
to know & I send on in
red accordingly

W. G. 8/8/21

H. J. R.
8/VII/21

I will send a copy of all this
(one of the same in duplicate)
to the I.O. for info

above
H. J. R.
11/8/21

Subsequent Paper

TELEGRAMS, CABLES,
AND AIRMAILS

C. O.
39260
REC.
REC'D 8 AUG 21

52, DRAYCOTT PLACE,
S. W. 3.

27th July, 1921

Handwritten signature/initials

General Sir Edward Northey, K.C.M.G., etc. etc.

Your Excellency,

We the undersigned have received a cable from the Chairman of the Convention of Associations asking us to help in resisting the attempt now being made both in Kenya and England to annul the Imperial Government's recently enacted policy respecting the status of Indians in Kenya as gazetted on the 18th August 1920.

We are greatly alarmed to find that this issue, on which as we were led to believe a final decision had been given, is already as the result of the pressure of organised Indian agitation being considered de novo and moreover has been seriously prejudiced by reference to a Committee in no wise concerned with or instructed in the administrative affairs of Kenya.

We therefore urge Your Excellency to ask the Secretary of State for an assurance that no alteration of the gazetted policy of the Imperial Government will be effected, and we place ourselves unreservedly at your disposal insofar as we can assist you to maintain the policy to which you have been committed.

We have the honour to be
Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient Servants,

K. H. Rodwell

Forwards M. W. Hillen

W. S. G. G. G.

State
d.
W. H.
S. 8. 21

TELEGRAPH OFFICE
15, MARK LANE, LONDON, E.C. 3

C. O.
39260
REC.
REF 8 AUG 21

52, DRAYCOTT PLACE,
S. W. 3.
27th July, 1921.

Loty

General Sir Edward Northey, K.C.M.G., etc. etc.

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Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient Servants,

K. H. Rodwell
Northey
W. S. G. G.

ite
l.
F.W.
S. 8. 21

CONVENTION OF ASSOCIATIONS

379

MACKINNON'S BUILDINGS,
P.O. Box 470,
NAIROBI, K.E.A.

13th July 1953

The Private Secretary,
Government House,
Nairobi.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for information of His Excellency the Governor, copies in triplicate of Resolutions on the Indian Question carried unanimously at the session of my Convention held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th June.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your obedient servant,

B. Harlewood

Secretary, Convention of Associations.

*S. g. State
Passed for
S. S. V.*

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE CONVENTION OF ASSOCIATIONS HELD FROM
JUNE 27TH to JUNE 30TH, 1921, ON THE INDIAN QUESTION.

"THAT this Convention of Associations deprecates the initiation of any policy which will tend to make Kenya Colony either dependent on, or a dependency of, India."

"THAT this Convention resents the determined efforts of a section of the community to undermine the pledge given by the Secretary of State for the Colonies as promulgated in Government Notice No. 281 of August 18th, 1920.

This pledge was given by the Secretary of State after receiving a deputation from the Indian Community of East Africa. The deputation was introduced by Lord Islington, who stated that the franchise could not be extended to Indians on the same basis as to Europeans. This pledge confirmed Lord Elgin's earlier decision to retain the upland areas of the Colony as the special sphere of European settlement, and it is noteworthy that the present Secretary of State was then Under Secretary of State.

That, since this Pledge is the foundation of European settlement in the Highlands of Kenya Colony, the European Community cannot submit to any diminution of the rights promised by it, and is prepared to combat by every constitutional means any attempted breach of this pledge."

THAT this Convention is of the definite opinion that the only wise policy for this country is one that includes the following points:-

- (1) Strictly controlled immigration at present with a view to ultimate prohibition.

- (11) Two nominated and not elected Indian representatives to the Legislative Council.
- (12) "Segregation in Residential areas and, wherever practicable, in Commercial areas also."
- (13) No further alienation of land to Indians in the Upland areas.
- (14) Full recognition of existing Asiatic rights in property, and security of tenure."

THAT, with reference to the first of the five points laid down in Resolution No. 3, as uncontrolled immigration of Indians would deprive the Native of his heritage, this Convention urges that before coming to any decision as to the Indian policy to be adopted in Kenya, the Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State should carefully study the wishes and consider the position of the native population who are being raised from a condition of savagery and who in considerable numbers are being trained and educated in accordance with Western ideals, which form the basis of the present scheme of Native Education and Administration, and should ascertain the opinion of the various Missionary Societies of the Colony on this point."

AT this Convention claims for the Legislative Council the prerogative function, proclaimed by the Imperial Conference of 1917, to enjoy complete control over the composition of the population of this Colony by means of restriction up to the ultimate point of prohibition of immigration from Asia; and, further, urges upon Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies that to take a decision on this vital subject, which may limit this Colony's

complete control over the composition of its own population, is
discount in advance the grant of self-government which we believe
the future holds in store for us."

"THAT, having regard to the recent change from Indian to British
currency, this Convention requests and assurance from the Rt. Hon.
the Secretary of State for the Colonies that other questions, of
political, legal, social and economic moment will be dealt with
in such a manner as will conform with the policy indicated thereby

CONVENTION OF ASSOCIATIONS

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Secretary,
B. HARLEWOOD, F.O.S.
Telephone 330
Telegrams: "Harlewood."

MACKENNONS BUILDINGS,
P.O. Box 470,
NAIROBI, K.E.A.

22nd June 1951.

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Private Secretary,
Government House,
Nairobi.

SIR,

I have the honour, by instruction of the Convention, to inform you for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the following cablegram has been this day despatched:-

Addressed to Major Grogan,
Mr Jewels,
Mr Crowder.

"URGENT distribute following Rodwell, McMillan, Churchill,
"Parliamentary Committee, Dominion Premiers, Press especially
"Manchester Guardian Missionaries all Kenyans and sympathisers
"stop Convention pleads Milner's despatch gasetted August
"18th, 1920, irreducible minimum preservation European and
"African native status and throws on Colonial Secretary respon-
"sibility all consequences any diminution thereof. Convention
"re-iterates European Communities Indian Policy must embrace
"first immigration controlled and ultimately prohibited, second
"legislative representation two nominated not elected, third
"segregation residential areas, commercial where possible, fourth
"no alienation land upland areas, fifth recognition existing
"Indian property rights from Convention of Associations."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. Harlewood

39260/n Kenya

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13, Aug 1940

DRAFT.

in the
Office.

Sir,

I am on to transmit to you
for the information of Mr Secretary

Montagu, the enclosed copy of
correspondence which has been
received by Sir Edward North,

the Gov. of Kenya, on the

subject of the position of
Indians in that Colony.

MINUTE.

Clark 11/8/
Parker

- Grindle.
- H. Lambert.
- H. Read.
- G. Fiddes.
- Wood.
- Churchill.

39260/n

(Signed) H. J. READ

10/11 n 39300/n