

1923

KENYA

C.O.
60657

14 DEC 23

FROM
BAYNE, MRS B.M.

DATE

UNDATED

FOR CIRCULATION:-

Mr. Bottomley

Mr.

Mr.

Asst. U.S. of S.

Perm^t U.S. of S.Parl^r U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT

LAND SETTLEMENT FARM

Is very anxious to retain a farm. Requests replies may be obtained from Land Office to questions submitted.

Previous Paper

Lod
57889

No 122 Mrs J Bayne - 20 DEC 1923 - 16966
Copy extract to Govt. 12. 3 Jan 24 B
62643

MINUTES

Mrs. Bayne called yesterday and left the attached notes, which speak for themselves.

Her attitude is perfectly reasonable, according to what she has been told about the same. The attitude of the Kenya Govt. is only reasonable on the assumption that Capt. Ward Smith is deceiving Mrs. Bayne and inventing or misrepresenting the authorities which he quotes. I cannot see what object he would have in doing this.

It is only right that we should

Subsequent Paper

B
62643

MINUTES.

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN
ON THIS SIDE.

should get to the bottom
of this business. Mrs.
Bayne is justified in
asking for a plain
answer to the questions
she puts in these notes
and S/889 does not
supply the material for
an answer.

I am inclined to
think that we shall
get further if we
send a -o letter,
either to Mr. R. Conydon
or to Mr. Martin,
enclosing copy of the
notes and asking for
material for a reply.
We could, I think, say
that if the information
supplied to Mrs. Bayne
by Capt. Marsh Smith
is correct it seems to
us that she has a
case for an exchange.

If however we
are to pursue the
matter officially we

had better get Mrs. Bayne
to write an official
letter a copy of which
can be sent to the
Gov.

I should add that
Mrs. Bayne has received
from the Land Office
a claim for rent
in respect of the farm.
She is quite prepared
to pay if the farm
is all right, but not,
of course, if it is
worthless.

I promised that
we would let her know
the position & what
further action if any
she should take. She
asked that if necessary
she might be granted

with public interests.

Ak.

17/12

Set out last draft. I

fear that the scheme
has left the Colony with
a heritage of debt they
unjustly afraid that
if so they should pay
till 1950

an interview with Mr

H. Read.

15.12.23

Mr. Mylne

Subject to your views
I think we should proceed
by arbitration (with resultant
compensation or not) &
begin by asking the 3rd stage
to make offer of 5%.

The £1000 post "offer"
will be sensible.

W. G. J.
15.12.23

Mr. Symons

I agree

The £1000 representation would
as it is in itself, be justified
to simply ignore. But apart from
that it seems to me it will be
difficult to defend a refusal to
make an exchange, assuming that
there are suitable forms still available
to give answer to the 3rd parties on something.
Perhaps a frank letter (an addition being
to be despatched) may persuade the
authorities to deal with this case in
the bureaucratic spirit but with a desire
to help the B. services concerned

Dear Sirs
17.12.23
A. K. Ak.

Capt. David Smith states Aug 2. 1923

This farm (152410) could grow nothing but grass & it is only roughly grazing at that. It is entirely covered by stone. The Lamb was removed their cattle from it because peculiarly infected with E. Coast fever.

(If this is correct it could not be called "good grazing")

"This farm was offered to a Mr Clift in 1910 by the Government for nothing & Mr Clift's report says "I did not think it worth saving that" He goes on then to tell the truth about the farm."

"It is a farm that most local people know about as being worthless"

am very anxious to retain this or
another farm but before deciding I shall
be made obliged if the C. O. will ask the
Land Dep't again for a reply to the
questions which have been asked as
to the farm & its practicability
Under the circumstances which have
been I am justified I think in
asking for a reply to the following
points before paying such a capital
for improvements.

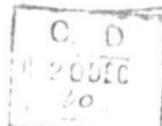
In the opinion of the Land Dep't is this
the one from which a settler might
reasonably expect in future for with
the necessary capital to get at
least a livelihood?

(at the time of allotment, seeing
that there was a definite Government
scheme for the benefit of settlers
the practicability of any other sort of
farm being decided on the field
did not occur to me)

Is the information sent by Capt.
and Smith correct, especially with
regard to Mr. Cliff - did Mr. Cliff refuse
the government offer on the ground

the worthlessness of the farm.

Does the Land Dep^t consider
that the suggested purchase
price of £1000 put upon the
farm in 1919 was then a
fair estimate of its value?



DOWNING STREET,

20 December, 1928.

*for my
signature
off*

DRAFT.

MRS. B.M. BAYNE.

MINUTE.

Mr. Whittaker.

12.23.

Mr. Jeffries. -

12.23. ries which you wish to be made

Mr.

Sir C. Daniel

Sir G. Grindle.

Sir H. Read.

Sir J. Masterton Smith.

Mr. Ormsby-Gore.

Duke of Devonshire.

With reference to your ^{on} talk the other day recent interview at the U.S. ~~the~~

~~you visiting~~ I ~~want to~~ to suggest that you I think that your best course will be to ~~a~~ should write officially to this the Under Secy. of State acting at Department regarding the enquiry

regarding your farm in Kenya.

I am, etc.,

Your truly
(Sd) *G.J. Jeffries*