

1923

KENYA

C. O.  
62642  
23 DEC 23

FROM  
BAYNE, MRS B.M.

DATE  
24TH DECEMBER 1923

FOR CIRCULATION:-

Mr. *Boothby*

Mr.

Mr.

Asst. U.S. of S.

Perm<sup>t</sup> U.S. of S.

Part<sup>r</sup> U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT

LAND SETTLEMENT FARM

Encloses letter from Land Office demanding payment of Shs 600 rent due. Wishes to retain a farm. Requests further information as to value of farm.

Previous Paper

*43*

*60687*

MINUTES

I now submit drafts for official & semi-official action as contemplated in 60687/23. In the dft letter to Sir R. Coryndon I have included mention of the case of D.S. Milward, in which a minute & drafts will be found in file 15227, '8A. I cannot help feeling that the Kenya people are not being frank with us over these land settlement cases.

It is perhaps worth recording that Mrs. Bayne, who has been here several

3 JAN 1924

To Sir R. Coryndon - dft. -  
- Ansd -  
Copy to you cons 12  
dms: Ansd - 2 APR 1924 405/5556/24

Subsequent Paper

*205*  
*15556*  
*24*

MINUTES

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN  
ON THIS SIDE.

Tines, has always  
shown herself most  
pleasant and reasonable  
to deal with. She is  
not in the very least  
out to make a grievance  
or to get special  
treatment.

2/1/24

[S.O. aff.]

When we get the copy  
the minute of 22.1.24  
attached to Gov/5247422  
should be looked up.

Coed  
22.1.24

at

Spring Park Farm 1526  
Shirley, Crofton

Dec. 24. 1923

The Under Secretary of State  
Colonial Office.  
Whitehall, S.W.



Dear Sir

3c

The Farm 1526 B. Kenya

I showing on my visit to the Colonial Office on Friday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> I enclose the letter which I have received from the Land Dep<sup>t</sup> with regard to rent due on the above.

I wish to claim this on another farm & am quite prepared to pay the sum due on no 1526 B if it is a possible proposition.

I am already greatly indebted to you for the correspondence which you have undertaken on my behalf & if I may ask for your further kind assistance in the matter I shall be greatly obliged if you can obtain for me a reply to the following enquiries,  
To the Farm 1526 B. me from

which a settler might expect  
in return for a reasonable output-  
of work & capital to get at  
least a livelihood.

(At the time of allotment - seeing  
that the scheme was definitely a  
Government-scheme for the benefit of  
Ex-service settlers it did not of  
course occur to me that there could  
be any possibility of any farms  
other than such being included  
in the list.)

To the Information sent me by  
Capt. Marsh Smith (a brief summary  
of which I have given you) correct?  
Especially his statement with regard  
to the Government's offer to Mr. Cliff  
& his (Mr. C's) opinion that the  
farm was worthless & for that  
reason he did not avail himself  
of the offer.

To the Land Dep' of the opinion

that - the value placed by them  
 (\$1000) on the farm was then (1919)  
 approximately a correct one.  
 one of the factors which I naturally  
 took into consideration at the  
 time of choosing the farm was  
 the fact - of its estimated value  
 of \$1000.

I understand that the land is  
 a sort of "rocky escarpment"  
 so situated with regard to the  
 river that their banks are  
 quite unclimbable for <sup>grazing</sup> cattle, is  
 this a fact?

I agree very much to give you so  
 much trouble - but I can only look  
 to the Land Dept. for a fair  
 report - as to the possibilities of  
 the farm & I am very anxious  
 to have the question settled at the  
 earliest possible moment.

Yrs very truly  
 Batha W. Bayne

P.O.Box 139

## LAND DEPARTMENT

Nairobi.

14th November 1923.

In reply please quote  
No.K/15117 and date.

Madam,

Re:L.O.No.3114 (1526B).

I have to call your attention to the fact that the undermentioned amount is outstanding on account of the above named farm:-

Rent 1921	Shs.200/00
" 1922	200/00
" 1923	200/00
	<u>Shs. 600/00</u>

I shall be glad to receive your cheque for this amount without delay if you propose to retain the farm.

I am, Madam,  
Your obedient servant

*A. G. Montagu*  
For COMMISSIONER OF LANDS.

Mrs. Bayne,  
Spring Farm,  
Croydon.

C/EM England

B/62642/23  
Kenya.

*Final*  
annd  
15556  
24

£

3 Jan., 1924

Hi,

**DRAFT.**

(S. 7849/23)

Kenya

no. 12

Gov. Congada

MINUTE.

Mr. Jeffries 31/12/23

Mr. Bottomley 1.1.24 *fr*

Mr.

Sir C. Davis.

Sir G. Grindle.

Sir H. Read.

Sir J. Masterton Smith

Mr. Ormby-Gore

Duke of Devonshire

Mr. Carson

*Bayne 24 Dec.*

*two letters 14 Nov.*

*Capt. Mark Smith's statement  
(marked X in  
60657/23)*

3 Dfs.

I have r. to ack.  
the receipt of your dep.

No. 1647 of the 1st. of  
November, regarding the

Soldier's Settlement form  
allotted to Mrs. B.M.

Bayne, and to transmit  
to you, for your cousin,

the acc. copies of fifteen  
copies with Mrs. Bayne  
in the matter.

2. I shall be glad  
to be furnished with  
replies to the ~~letters~~  
questions asked by  
Mrs.

Mrs. Bayne in her letter  
of the 26<sup>th</sup> of Dec., and  
to learn whether in the  
light of the replies you  
are disposed to reconsider  
the question of allowing  
Mrs. Bayne to exchange  
the farm for another.

DEVELOPMENT



That procedure cannot  
you, and vice versa. (It  
lost forever, and it  
is therefore necessary that  
we should be furnished  
with the fullest possible  
information.

Both these cases are  
concerned with the question  
of exchange of farms. The  
right of exchange was  
an integral part of the  
Soldier Settlement Scheme  
as published, and the  
restriction of this right to  
a limited category was  
first heard of by us in  
your despatch No. 1801 of the  
1st of Oct. regarding the  
hulward case. I have  
no doubt that this  
restriction was thought  
to be necessary because  
the Land Office was being  
overwhelmed with applications  
some

(File 15237/2A)

DRAFT.

MINUTE.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Sir C. Davis

Sir G. Grenville

Sir H. Read

Sir J. Masterion Smith

Mr. Ormsby-Gore

Duke of Devonshire

some of which were frivolous,  
but nevertheless this was  
a distinct violation of  
the conditions on which the  
farms were allotted, and  
if the S.G.S. is to support  
the King's Govt. in its  
policy in this respect we  
must be furnished with  
full material for justifying  
the step. And, so far  
as the hulward case  
is concerned, it will  
further be necessary for  
us to be placed in a  
position to show Mr.  
hulward that he was  
in fact fairly treated  
in other respects, which,  
as you will see from the  
despatch,

is true, you will consider favourably the question of letting her have an exchange. Mrs. Bayne was organiser and chief woman Inspector of the Land Army during the war, and her service entitles her to consideration.

I enclose for your information a testimonial which she sent in from Lord Ruck (late President of the Board of Agriculture) at the time when she applied for a her farm.

I am sorry to trouble you with such a long letter, but I do not think it has been quite realised by those on the spot how much detail is required by those not on the spot to deal with these questions, and it would have been difficult to put all the details.

As a matter of fact, I have an uneasy feeling that these things cases are only fragments of a bigger question, and that the Settlement Scheme, started when what you call the "Sunbeam period" cost its glances over those who prepared the catalogue as well as over those who applied for farms, has in many instances led to hard cases which your advisers are loath to admit and find it difficult to resist. If that is so, and I think it is worth your enquiry, we lose less credit by facing the position than by fencing with the Baynes and the hillwards.

DRAFT.

MINUTE.

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Sir C. Davis
- Sir G. Orville
- Sir H. Read
- Sir J. Masterton Smith
- Mr. Ormaby-Gore
- Duke of Devonshire

Yours sincerely  
 (34) W. C. Botterby

B/62642/23  
Kenya.

139

S &

3 Jan. 1924.

had

DRAFT.

Madam,

I am etc. to ack.

the receipt of your letter  
of the 24th of Dec., and  
to inform you that  
the questions which  
you have asked with  
regard to the farms  
allotted to you under  
the East African  
Land Settlement  
Scheme have been  
referred to the Gov.  
of Kenya for his attention  
I am etc.

Mrs. B.M. Bayne, M.B.E.

MINUTE.

Mr. Jeffries 1.1.24

Mr. Bottomley 1.1.24

Mr.

Sir C. Davis.

Sir G. Grindle.

Sir H. Read.

Sir J. Masterton Smith.

Mr. Ormsby-Gore.

Duke of Devonshire.

for counsel

30 fcs

(Signed) H. J. READ

B/62642/23  
Kenya.

139

S &

3 Jan. 1924.

DRAFT.

B. M. Bayne, M. B. E.

MINUTE.

Mr. Jeffries 1.1.24

Mr. Bostanley 1.6.24

Mr.

Sir C. Davis.

Sir G. Grindle.

Sir H. Read.

Sir J. Masterton Smith.

Mr. Ormby-Gore.

Duke of Devonshire.

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(Signed) H. J. READ