

EAST AFR PROT

C.O.  
30701

RECD 22 JUN

30701

O. A. G.  
MOWRING

475

1920

11th May

Previous Paper

58

LAND TENURE IN THE NATIVE RESERVES

Trans minute from Alliance of Protestant Missionary Societies re. States it is proposed to recommend nomination of a commission to enquire as to amendments to Crown Lands' Ordinance, 1915 which states this question will be fully investigated. Think consideration of question should therefore be deferred.

W. M. Pitt Rivers

1. Please enclose papers, etc. etc. on subject of Native Land Commission. What are useful considerations in connection with these territories of Native Reserve.
2. In regard to native land, what steps have you taken or planned, for when the native contractors in this district come in?

Enclosed

A. of C.

232 69/97

1. 2.

3.

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5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

GAG 24.12.6/10

GAG 6.12.6/13

GAG 24.6.6/13

GAG 1.3.6/14

GAG 21.5.6/19

GAG 10.2.7/7

GAG 17.6.4/17

2. We send attached copy of a letter from a Committee to report a amendment to the Crown Land Ordinance.

the report, if it causes much friction  
of reserves & Native Land Commissions  
will certainly be interesting especially  
controversial.

3. as regards the actual work of the  
representative Council you allude  
to Missionary Societies in B. E. A.  
that is really nothing new or startling  
as such, as the whole ground of  
the representation has already been  
covered here.

London 18<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Between the powers given to the  
C. by the 24<sup>th</sup> may be described  
of course however has been, will be  
most safely controlled by the  
C. also has a special responsibility  
in respect of the native reserves  
as we now see it statement & other  
that in the 1<sup>st</sup> of Dec.

was now a native reserve  
should be used up to allow for  
an increase able to a small measure  
in the numbers of the tribe - & this  
however tot the general policy  
should be to encourage the  
tribe to take care of their  
reserves & to live

by their own hands

is perfectly all right  
as a general principle that  
reserves should be in all cases  
be extended to meet the

"natural increase of its population."

This for the extension of reserves to meet the natural increase of a tribe.

In regard the alienation of land in 59  
as native reserves, to such an extent  
as possibly to reduce them below  
what is necessary for the support  
of the tribe, the Government may  
not have power to alienate. But in  
practice there is no chance whatever  
of this being done without the power  
being a absolute appearance.  
that an area alienated is not  
required for the tribe & the  
possessions elsewhere.

to pay 1109714 £. to the  
native to the Government annually.

in many cases have not proposed  
to except any original, such as  
that contained in Part C9(6). In  
the Report [of Native Labour  
Commission Report], which  
involves a reduction in the existing  
area of a Reserve.

The proposal in question was that  
of the Reserves already mentioned  
be found to contain land  
desirous and required for the  
present population, their  
boundaries to be revised in order  
with the principles in 1853 &c.

Sep. 11: 479  
20.5.16

which supposed reserves adequate for  
the present population which  
was not accepted as a principle  
by the IYB.

(ii) You will urge that native tribes be  
given title-deeds for their definitely  
demarcated reserves

The demarcation of reserves, however,  
as meant largely, depicted  
boundaries from the time  
already been taken up. See file 102/7/50.  
Govt. was interested in 102/7/50.

to protect the Reserve

In 62/5/53, the IYB, in a conference, informed that they agreed that  
"the other demarcation question  
reserves with a guarantee against  
any encroachment on the part  
of European settlers, not  
grant of a communal title  
to the tribe. In addition such  
reserves should be erected  
as soon as possible."

(iii) You will urge that the existing  
arrangements be individual land  
titles.

Dip. Rep. dated  
1/6/50

6/6/54/10 Last General concerned in  
in P. Gilmour's views on the question. 60  
"I request that ... it is a mistaken  
policy to attempt to lock up these  
large areas of land for communal  
occupation forever. The land  
must come when, in the interest  
of the natives themselves, a more  
individual system will have to be  
adopted." This present  
advice, too, is being followed, as is pointed  
out in proposal that a record of  
titles will be prepared in the  
various reserves as a preliminary  
to granting a communal land title  
to certain lands allocable  
within First Nation tribal boundaries  
on a rate only; not the land to  
such a forward step as the grant  
of individual title to the members  
is not yet arrived. It has been  
stated that native communities  
are not yet ready.

On the hand, the Ministry of 9/6/54  
order N. 309 (103/50) (See) in  
which it is taken up the power of  
varying and revoking any or all  
measures in respect of any land held by  
Aborigines holding an Indian status (or)  
unless the Minister states that

distant future the reserves will no  
doubt disappear in favour of  
individual holdings or estates.

Finally, in 1909/10 the F.G. concerned  
in referring course of action to  
individual tenure by natives - i.e.  
until long possession substantial  
improvement of areas of the communal  
property notwithstanding course of question  
whether the claim of individual  
should be preferred to the customary  
rights of the tribe.

To sum up, the Government's view as to  
the ultimate evolution of a native  
land tenure if it is accepted,  
is it is rather bleak (apparently),  
but it is of no immediate concern.

=

all except: regrettably a copy of notes  
of receipt of their minutes - note that  
Government is to be appointed which  
will consist with *alio*, the persons  
named by the members. ~~no~~ so that  
now of the aspects of the matter  
agreed to in the minutes have been  
agreed in first instance with  
regards to native reserves & native

land tenure - refer to the following:

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- 120921/4 (1) Reduction of reserves - Dip. 479 of 20.5.14  
17904/15 (2) Increase of reserves - Dip. 525 of 16.6.14  
63611/13 (3) Generation of reserves - Dip. 307 of 25.6.14  
10217/15 (4) Gathering of reserves - Tel. (caption) 13.2.15  
63611/13 (5) Communal title - Dip. 307 of 23.6.13

220921/10 Dip. 479 of 26.2.10  
120921/4 Dip. 479 of 20.5.14

[which] would be well to recall since  
ref to call attention of Post-Govt  
members to the 1909/10 meeting on the  
various points as apparently the  
Post-Govt did not wish to recall the  
minutes of going into the matter when  
the Dip. was forwarded for consideration  
by the members that the members ~~had been~~  
agreed as regards ~~the~~ the  
policy now agreed ~~to~~ (a) (b) above

See ~~the~~ minutes

Recd

Sir H. Ross

I would like to thank Sir H. Ross  
and others to the Government for  
their work out.

I shall take care of my copy

the individual native is in error. By  
making up his mind about his  
individual belief what is a matter  
of controversy.

At the time of the Crown Lands  
Order 1915 there was a good deal of  
fear about the Reserve being made  
over-hands. The intention was to  
keep it safeguarded etc.  
As proposed?

Oct. 16. 7. 20

Draft answer

S.R. 7.7.20  
etc.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE  
NO. 475

130701  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
NAIROBI,  
REC'D 20 JUN 1920

May, 1920.

sent by the  
Alliance of Protestant  
Missionary  
Societies.

My Lord,

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At the request of the Secretary to the  
Alliance of Protestant Missionary Societies I have  
the honour to transmit for Your Lordship's  
consideration a copy of a minute passed by his  
Representative Council on the subject of land  
tenure in the Native Reserves.

2. I may inform Your Lordship that the  
Commissioner of Lands is proposing a motion at the  
present session of the Legislative Council  
recommending the nomination of a Commission to  
inquire into the amendments which may be made  
profitably to the Crown Lands Ordinance 1915. I  
anticipate if this resolution is adopted, that the  
status, extent, nature of tenure etc. of Native  
Reserves will be fully investigated.

3. In the circumstances I feel that it  
would be better to defer consideration of the  
question before the result of such an inquiry has  
been submitted.

I have the honour to be,  
Your Lordship's  
humble, obedient servant

C. Bowring

ACTING GOVERNOR.

RIGHT HONOURABLE  
VISCOUNT MILNER, P.C. G.C.B., G.C.M.G., A.C., A.C.,  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET,  
LONDON, S. W.

Alliance of Missionary Societies in B.E.A.

Minute of Representative Council

RESERVE  
on  
15/1/20

NATIVE RESERVES

63

Part VI of Crown Lands Ordinance, 1915.—Reservation of Land for the Use of Native Tribes

The Governor-in-Council shall, either by general or particular description and whether the same has been surveyed or not, reserve from sale, lease, or other disposal under this Ordinance, any Crown Land which in his opinion is required for the use or support of the members of the native tribes of the Protectorate. Such reservation shall not confer on any tribe or member of any tribe any right to alienate the land so reserved or any part thereof.

Notice of every such reservation shall be published in the "Gazette". Save as hereinafter provided lands so reserved shall not be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of under this Ordinance.

The Governor-in-Council may, at any time, by notice in the "Gazette", if satisfied that the whole or any part of any land so reserved is not required for the use and support of the members of the native tribe for which it has been reserved, cancel such reservation as regards the whole or a part of such land and thereupon the land, the reservation of which has been so cancelled may be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of under this Ordinance. Provided that such action shall not be published unless the approval of the Secretary of State shall have been first obtained.

The Governor-in-Council may at any time by Proclamation in the "Gazette" exclude from lands reserved under section 54 any land which maybe required for any of the following purposes:-

- (1) For public roads.
- (2) For public reservoirs, aqueducts, canals or watercourses.
- (3) For quays, wharves or landing places.
- (4) For railways or tramways, and buildings and works in connection therewith.
- (5) For public buildings.
- (6) For trading centres.
- (7) For any other public purpose that he may think fit, whether similar to any of those mentioned above or not;

without paying compensation except for buildings and crops destroyed or damaged.

Provided that if it shall appear to the Governor-in-Council that the exercise of any power given under this section to exclude land from lands reserved under section 54 has reduced the area of such reserved land below the area required for the use and support of the members of the tribe for whom it has been reserved then the

Governor-in-

58 Governor-in-Council shall from contiguous unalienated land in areas equivalent to the area of the land reserved.

The Governor may make rules enforceable by penalties not exceeding three hundred rupees for the management and control of any land reserved for the use of the members of a native tribe.

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The Representative Council notes from the above that the native has no legal right whatever to own land tribal or individual; whereas to such an extent as possibly reduce the area below what is necessary for the support of the tribe; that the section protecting the native is that he is to be compensated with other land "if any"; and that no provision is made for the natural increase of the tribe.

Represents to the Representative Council that the reason for alienation of such Reserve Land to European occupation is Europeans may be given valuable land and the natives compensated with land inferior in value.

Representative Council urges on the Government that for sake of the well being of the tribes of British East Africa, of the country as a whole and of the interests of the Empire, the native tribes of British East Africa be given title deeds for their definitely demarcated reserves, with view of securing them in their land as a tribe to-day with the eventual object of individual land nature, as time permits.

Aug 30/02 Lab 27

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DRAFT.

Sad Cost

Mr. J. H. Murray

MINUTE.

Acc 177  
of Stanley 197

Received from Mr. Murray  
the receipt of his Cheque and  
re 475/- from Mr. Murray  
forwarding for my account  
a copy of a circular from  
the representative office  
giving a allowance to represent  
American interests  
in the interest of law  
Tunc. in the Native Reserves  
I request that you will  
inform the \_\_\_\_\_  
that I have received the

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Sir H. Lambert.

Sir H. Head.

20/7/02

Sir G. Fiddes

24/7/02

and Attorney

and Minister

and others

aff 30/102 Lab 27

DRAFT.

Each Corp.

Mr. Sir Esq. Attorney

MINUTE.

Act 177

of Assembly 14.7.20

Mr.

M. BrothmanSir H. Lambert.Sir H. ReadSir G. Fiddes

Old Attorney

Lord Milner

Constituents

J. S.

28 July 1920

Received from Mr. J. S. the  
receipt of the Circulars and  
Re 475 copies all ready  
forwarded for my cause  
a copy of a circular from  
the representatives asking  
you attention to the fact  
that they are to be held  
in the interest of the  
Tennean Native King  
to request that you will  
inform the Government  
that I have received this

minute at which I will give careful  
consideration to their views, when the  
Commission which I sent is to be  
appointed.

I believe that the Commission  
will investigate inter alia the  
points ~~in~~ ~~to~~ the minute you  
have ~~sent~~ to me, but I may hurriedly  
forget some of the aspects of the  
matter referred to in the minute  
which have been ~~sent~~ if you  
will come & talk with you again  
and discuss in the ~~matter~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~subject~~.

Very sincerely & With kind regards.

It may be convenient for you to  
refer to the following despatches, in  
which pronouncements by my own  
various self-styled Ministers on the  
subject before you are given:

- (1) Reduction of Renters... Dpt. No. 479 of the 26th May
- (2) Increase of Renters Dpt. No. 525 of the 16th June
- (3) Removal of Renters Dpt. No. 27 of the 23rd April
- (4) Communal Title... Dpt. No. 307 of the 23rd April  
by myself

Cong. Rep. of the 6th Dec 1940