

EAST AFR. PROT  
3/4/23

67423  
JUN 1919

Subier M  
187

Land Settlement Scheme

1919  
20 June

Previous Paper.

Makes very adverse criticisms

Subsequent Paper.

... in following  
This is from a lady who  
was sent forward one or two schemes to  
the O.S.O., mainly for the co-operative  
settlement of women war workers in  
the E.A.P. Mr. Plant suggested that  
she should call on him, but I do  
not think that she has done so.  
Our scheme was sent to her because  
she asked for it for a friend.  
I have referred her to the main point  
in her margin for convenience.  
A co-operative settlement is not discouraged  
but it was made clear that the

34542

individuals and that syndicates must  
conduct the negotiations direct with the Gov,  
as they cannot very well be dealt with here  
in the case of Col. Otley  
that the Gov. is ready to deal generously  
with such applications

B. The members of the Selection Board with  
experience of local farming consider the terms  
most liberal

Edwin  
Gaming  
this Gov!

C. It may be said that we cannot give info  
beyond that in the D.S.O. handbook. Mr  
W. has not had that handbook  
when he wrote his report of 1911

D. The same reasons apply to the  
fact that the man who needs  
financing is the grant of some  
assistance with interest on the  
term of years, the land loan

E. We are endeavoring to obtain decisions  
by the offer of special conditions. The Gov.  
has no power to guarantee them

F. This matter is considerable & full info  
will be given in the catalogue

G. This has already been decided  
in the case of the Gov.

H. It is so easy to say that a very small  
amount provision would be extended to  
encourage such applications

I. This is covered by the possibility of exchange.

S. OVERSEAS SETTLEMENT

O FUTURE OF BRITISH EAST AFRICA

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

May a few attention is invited which you have alluded to in your issue of both Tuesday and Wednesday, namely, Overseas Settlement? This is a question which affects many ex-service men, and also ex-service women; also, as your correspondent in his way, points out, it affects the housing problem. Many officers and men wish to acquire a own land and cultivate it; and I believe that since the war, if the Government would assist and encourage them, many women who have learnt the pleasure of independence and the value of cooperative effort would emigrate also. If they saw a chance of doing their own mistress's and not come one's general servant under the discipline of "domestic help" or "maid's companion."

On the terms of the new Colonial Office scheme for settlement in British East Africa this desire of women is recognized, for they are made eligible for a grant through the Government is careful not to advertise the fact, and tries to render it of no avail by allowing only 25 days for application—the announcement being made on June 25 and the list closing July 1.

Now in British East Africa and German East Africa the Government owns millions of acres of fine healthy agricultural land at an altitude which enables it to support a population thriving. But what is the number of years during which a Government Department was administered? British East Africa was administered for they cannot be said to have been administered. The settlement of 5,500 white men and women on 1,000 farms which they can only secure by settlement are remote from railways and are doubtfully habitable by European settlers; and they happen to find that they have no means of disposing the railways on increasing and increasing, and that traffic labour and agricultural machinery is short and difficult to procure.

Though the Government own millions of acres of fertile soil, and some fertile, they have no means of disposing the railways on increasing and increasing, and that traffic labour and agricultural machinery is short and difficult to procure.

Compare this desert and desolated Colonies which was acquired by British enterprise, about the year 1890, but on which the British of Downing Street and Mr. Talbot, Rhodes, administered by a Government, unlike British East Africa, has had to fight the civil wars, and a lasting nature war, for the three years of turbulence of the first war, and to be utterly away, clear of cattle, by underground, it is also 1,000 miles inland, instead of 500 miles on the highlands of British East Africa. It has more over a living though somewhat discontented population of between 20,000 and 30,000.

Private enterprise will work as well as East Africa, a developed, water, and a dozen miles of land back to the sea, and a dozen miles of Government Army logistics and trailers would be sent out, roads, cut, and heavy motor services established. The most successful experiment at settlement that England ever made was the 4,500 settlers put out together in 1820 to the eastern province of Cape Colony. What can that experiment not be repeated on a much larger scale?

Instead of 150 farms of 160 acres and 543 of 1,000 acres and upwards, as the Government are now offering, why can 5,500 farms in groups of 50 not be offered, and where men are entitled to homestead why can they not be offered a farm and credit with a Government land bank to enable them to develop it? Let the groups be cooperative, and for the first 50 years be subject to the supervision of an official of the Government Department of Agriculture, a representative of the land bank; let a Government Commission of the well-known and experienced local farmers, let the land be given at the end of 50 years on full commission, and let capital advanced be repaid in five years later, and let the acceptance of freedom title entail a resignation of all or any pension rights for what services govern they may have been carried.

Such groups would each afford a living for a Government district surgeon, veterinary officer, magistrate, chaplain, a skilled carpenter, a blacksmith, a bootmaker; in fact a small township, each entitled to have grazing rights over a commensurate area of 4,000 acres, and a garden of 10 or 20 acres, and small shops should be offered free to artisans who had acquired their own shops. The small capital advanced on the day British East Africa was becoming a well-developed province, and the land bank should be set up, but that in possession of the land bank Downing Street, and the Government.

June 25. A WOULD BE SETTLER.

the all I f do not a n at to son and the has als no he joy ant fully are Thi rate is in peol sum Muc civi Pea I Urd day we e Feac the you class for lant and the prov is in born a p the s h d u dang rate, in ev appe As it for a gene by? In the the more rural, a de- (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

The suggestion put forward at the end is not very helpful. The main question here the letter seems to come from is not considered.

I do not think we need go into much detail with this lady, but submit a dft. for consideration covering the points on which it seems that we can usefully give some fuller explanation.

C. S. 18/6/49

[The annexed cutting from Saturday's "Times" proceeds on much the same lines as Mrs. Napier's letter and is very likely her work. I am glad to say that these are almost the only two criticisms we have had.]

[The crew of the decision to alter the lottery arrangements, I have re-arranged]

M. P. 3/8/49

Swanage

June 23 1919

REC'D  
JUN 24 1919

We have just received copies of the  
 details of allotment of land in  
 the Swanage area at the altitude  
 up by the Colonial office. It  
 is intended to discourage  
 attempt at group or co-operative  
 settlement, & the terms appear  
 liberal. A rent of 2' an acre in  
 the first year is proposed for land whose  
 value at auction sales before  
 1914 varied from 6 to 2/6 per acre.  
 conditions.

The Colonial office refuse any  
 or guidance as to nature of crops  
 to be grown.

No offer of financial assistance  
made, in fact it is definitely  
that no services or expenses will  
from the capital resources.

The Govt state they will not  
the establishment of institutions.  
They ought to offer the farmers  
of 107 the odd farms of at least  
thousand acres to be given free  
up to £1000 to establish a number  
of officers, who would have to give  
in return - a group of friends  
be balloted for in the same area.  
No clue is given as to the purchase  
is proposed to ask for farmers

The period of 1 month for application  
before the lottery is held, is quite  
as portions are so slow  
would be settlers, are still serving  
to communicate

regular parties, or trustees.  
557

No clue is given as to cost of carrying  
of fees.

The proposed rate of 5% unpaid  
has been proposed.

No clue is given as to whether if one  
about 5000 acres are sold yet  
to or 1000.

Forgive such very frank & harsh  
criticism, but your kind letters  
reply to my suggestions, as to co-ops  
of farming settlements, led me to  
hope for something more enlightened

in the Dobsony Street. After all  
their barren acres can yield the  
not no revenue at all. The  
others will speedily yield income  
freight, railway & construction  
it would be more than worth while

to allocate £2000,000  
£1000,000 acres & settle  
men, giving them 1000 acres  
& lending them £1000 at  
They could be kept under  
- sion & ~~work~~ for 5 years &  
have to repay the loan within  
at the end of which time  
the certificate of satisfactory  
issued by the expert official  
lands dept. they should be given  
freehold of their farms.

Is it really impossible  
that even now Downing  
see the wisdom of such a

sent  
by  
with  
the  
2/10  
Please send me booklet on  
to BFA for wh. I enclose  
Yours truly  
to Kap

N/39423/19

EAD

59329

558

27 July 1919

Madam,

Mr Napier

I am in reply to all the  
of your letter of the 20th of June,  
addressed to the Secy of the S.A.  
L.S. Sel. Bd., and to inform you

1/6/19  
30.6.19

that the Post Office Land  
Settlement Scheme is intended,  
principally to meet the demands  
of individual applicants. Applications  
from co-operative bodies will receive  
the fullest consideration but must, as  
stated in para 4 of the Scheme  
be made direct to the Secy of  
the Post

2. The price of the farms to be  
allotted varies very considerably  
according to their location, and the  
quality of the land, as stated  
in para 10 of the Scheme. It is



... will follow the forms  
could not. Full particulars of the  
... of the forms and the  
... fees payable will be found  
... catalogue ...  
... application before the date of  
allotment.

All available info regarding agriculture  
in the West is contained in the Handbook  
~~published~~  
published by the U.S. Dept. of Agr. of the  
Handbook has been sent to you.

4. The details in the arrangements for the  
lottery has now been approved where applicants  
will be entitled to select from the farms available  
in the order in which their names are drawn  
in the lottery. The date fixed for the closing  
of applications has been postponed to the 15th  
of Aug.

W. B. BENTLEY