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quite useless. I cannot therefore regard it as in any way a practicable expedient.

12. The reservation of an area for purely business purposes and the removal of all residential quarters therefrom are matters deserving of consideration but they are not at present of any great urgency and can well await such further development of the port, as will give us some idea of its future requirements both from a railway and commercial point of view. It would also be well that any definite conclusion should be postponed until the Sanitary Department has had an opportunity of making any recommendations which may be prompted by hygienic considerations.

13. As regards Nairobi the prevalence of water-borne disease can be attributed with certainty to the Nairobi River itself, which flows through the town and is undoubtedly used for drinking purposes by numbers of the Indian and native inhabitants. We have now an ample pipe-borne supply of excellent quality from Kikuyu, but it will require much time and patience before the more ignorant elements of the population can be taught the dangers of using water from a contaminated source. A pamphlet on Typhoid and its causes has been issued by the Medical Department and every effort is being made to enlighten public opinion in this respect.

The procedure in regard to the approval of buildings erected in the township had already been altered prior to the receipt of your despatch
and

and the sanction of the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Works Department Engineer has now to be obtained before construction can be commenced.

The insanitary condition of the latrines has also been remedied and an increase in their number has been made.

14. The sanitation of Nairobi must depend to a large extent on the progress made with the system of drainage known as the Williams Scheme. This has perhaps not been as rapid as might have been desirable, the annual provision of funds for the purpose being much restricted by the necessity of applying the "half and half" principle to the Protectorate finances. The Principal Medical Officer's remarks on the subject are, however, distinctly misleading, as he omits all reference to the considerable sum spent on roads, to the completion of the new water supply, and to the erection of new dhobie quarters, all of which were component parts of the Williams Scheme.

On drainage itself out of Mr. Williams' original estimate of £73,900, a sum of £27,879 will, it is anticipated, have been spent by the end of the current year, and provision for a further amount of £10,548 has been made in the Estimates for 1913-14. A little more than half ^{of} the total expenditure recommended for the Nairobi drainage scheme will therefore have been incurred by the end of the next financial year and it is hoped that the balance may be found by 1916 at the latest, not 1933 as the

Principal

Principal Medical Officer pessimistically observes. The importance of the expeditious completion of the scheme is fully recognised and progress is being made with it as rapidly as the funds at our disposal permit, but I am afraid that the work cannot be further accelerated so long as the necessary appropriation is considered as part of our normal budget.

15. There are two other important projects the completion of which cannot fail to have a most beneficial effect on the sanitary condition of Nairobi. I refer to the removal of the Indian Bazaar and the establishment of a suitable native location, particularly for the accommodation of the artisan population of the township. The former is a matter of great urgency and is viewed as essential by the Government and the public alike, but so far no solution of the problem which would not involve prohibitive expenditure has been put forward. It is however possible that the leading Indian merchants, who have signified their willingness to cooperate, may arrange to erect residential quarters for the present occupants of the Bazaar, which could then be confined entirely to shops. If this could be achieved its insanitary character, due almost entirely to its being utilised for domestic as well as commercial purposes, would disappear. I can at any rate assure you that no effort will be spared to effect the elimination of conditions which constitute a standing menace to the health

of

See for
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above)

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of the town and have in the past undoubtedly proved favourable to the dissemination of disease.

The establishment of a native location, in which all African labourers would be properly housed, is another scheme, which should prove of great use. At present these people are scattered over a wide area and are not segregated, as they should be, in one place where they can be properly looked after and compelled to keep themselves and their surroundings clean and sanitary. Proposals with this object in view are being carefully considered and will, I hope, shortly assume if not a concrete, at any rate a definite form.

16. The remarks on the town of Lamu contained in paragraph 16 of your despatch are, I fear, not without justification, but at the same time it has enjoyed for years past a singular immunity from epidemic disease, and was described by an Anglo-Indian Official of great experience who visited it as the cleanest Eastern town he had ever seen. The removal of the European quarter from its present position in the centre of the Arab population would doubtless be a beneficial measure, but there are obstacles in the way of carrying it out, as the only site in the neighbourhood consists of shifting sand-hills, on which building operations would be difficult and costly. I shall not however lose sight of the necessity for effecting an improvement in the existing conditions and will bear

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Report p

it in mind when I have an opportunity of inspecting the town personally.

17. The question of vaccination, not in the Province of Naivasha only, but throughout the Protectorate demands and is receiving the closest attention. Prior to the present year the necessary legislative authority was lacking, but an Ordinance has now been passed and applied to the townships of Mombasa, Nairobi, Naivasha and Nakuru. Large numbers of natives, in addition to Europeans and Indians, have submitted themselves for vaccination, and the population as a whole has shown itself well disposed towards the utilisation of this form of protection.

18. The dam at Eldama Ravine has now been removed and the water-supply of the station will therefore suffer no further ill effects from this cause.

19. As regards the Nakuru water-supply the present position is certainly unsatisfactory. The Principal Medical Officer has made strong recommendations on the subject and I am satisfied from the correspondence relating to it which I have perused that this rapidly growing township has now reached a stage when proper provision in respect thereof can no longer be postponed. A sum of £8,300, which is the estimated cost of the project, is accordingly included in our Budget for 1913-14.

20. The establishment of a Native Labour Bureau at Kisumu and other remedial measures for dealing with the plague problem at that port have been the subject of much thought and correspondence. A private labour bureau was started, but has not proved

proved entirely successful, and at the present time the introduction of a Native Pass and Identification Ordinance is under consideration. The enactment of such a law is regarded as a necessary preliminary to any Government action in the matter.

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I have addressed you in a separate despatch on the proposed removal of the Railway landies to a site where they will cease to provide an active focus of plague infection. If this is approved it should greatly lessen the risk of future outbreaks.

It has been suggested that a disinfecting plant should be installed on the Lake steamers, but I think that this question must stand over until a report can be supplied by the new Manager of the Railway. I propose to call for this when he arrives.

The improvement in the water-supply of the port is a matter which can await the detailed recommendations of the Sanitary Department.

21. You will observe that Dr. Milne suggests that he should proceed to England to confer on sanitary subjects with the Tropical Advisory Committee but I doubt whether such a visit would be of much present advantage. I have already acted on the advice of the Committee in estimating for the organisation of a Sanitary Department and most of the other remedial measures which have been recommended are either in hand or will be undertaken as soon as funds are available. The only point upon which a difference of opinion exists, namely the segregation of the

Kilindini

Kilindini township, is not in my view a suggestion of such practical utility as to warrant my sending the Principal Medical Officer to England to discuss it with gentlemen who are ignorant of the locality and might possibly be led thereby to form erroneous conclusions as to the desirability of the scheme.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

Alauway Beyicid.

GOVERNOR.

In Despatch No. 822 of 27-XI-1912

P.M.O's Office.

Nairobi.

21st October 1912.

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Sir,

In connection with the medical estimates for 1913 - 14, I have the honour to place before you briefly some of the larger problems affecting the health of the country, problems which, in my opinion, will have to be energetically faced in the course of the next two years.

2. The first problem is ^{the} formation of a Sanitary Department. As this is under discussion it will not be necessary to do more than mention it.

3. The safeguarding of the Port of Kilindini. This year, for the first time on record, Mombasa, has lost its singular immunity with regard to plague. What between previous outbreaks at Dar-es-salaam, Tanga, Zanzibar, in the interior of our own Protectorate, the East Coast of Africa has been regarded by those Eastern ports in communication with her littoral with suspicion. In view of the immense activities which may be expected to develop in the island in the course of the next two years, I cannot but regard with the deepest apprehension, what the effect on the trade of the island of Mombasa will be if her two ports become recognized as one of the plague spots of the world.

4. I consider that no financial responsibility would be too great to incur in the effort

Chief Secretary,

Nairobi.

to safeguard against this eventuality. I do not consider it possible at present, to make effective any measures dealing with the Port or Town of Mombasa, and, I would therefore for the present leave it alone. But effective measures can and should be undertaken at Kilindini the most urgent and insistent of which is the erection of a model up to date quarantine station. The site for this has been chosen and a commencement made with some buildings for an Infectious Disease Hospital in accordance with the instructions laid down in Colonial Office Despatch No. 30 of 19th January 1912.

5. It should be noted that these buildings (Infectious Disease Hospitals) when completed, will be the only means at the disposal of the town for dealing with infectious and epidemic diseases, and are totally inadequate for the needs of the shipping. A definite decision should be given whether a commencement is to be made next year with the erection of a Sanitary Station.

6. My second proposal is more drastic, and will I am aware, be met with strenuous opposition on the part of the Railway. But I put it forward deliberately as the result of nearly 2 years consideration and as the solution put forward by both Dr. Haxton and Dr. Small who have had more intimate acquaintance with Sanitary conditions of the island than any body else.

7. The only way that I can see to exercising an effective sanitary control over Kilindini will be

- 960 / (a) to make it a separate township
- 960 / (b) cut it off from the rest of the island by an unalikeable fence - the railway line from Munga Bridge across the corner of the island gives a natural boundary.
- 960 / (c) the township area to be reserved entirely for purely business developments and not as a residential area. This involves the removal of the mass of railway employees. Indians, Gousses, Africans and such Europeans the nature of whose employment would not imperatively demand their close proximity to their work.
- I venture humbly to suggest that in years to come the value of the land so set free for godowns, warehouses, offices, railway sidings, factories etc., would more than recoup the cost. It would admit of a business town being very wisely and carefully laid out in advance of its immediate needs and permit of effective medical supervision.

8. The present laying out of Kilindini was approved by me in 1908 it being then merely

an attempt to systematise what had gradually grown up from the first years of the railway's existence.

I frankly admit I did not foresee the immense developments that fore-shadowed.

9. Sanitation of Nairobi. In 1908, a scheme for this was adopted involving an expenditure of £ 115,000, spread over a period of three years. In 5 years there has been spent out of this, something under £ 20,000. This means that those who have the sanitary improvement of Nairobi at heart may expect to see a portion of their hopes realised in 1933 A.D. I think it is not sufficiently realised that the town is growing up under perfectly impossible conditions which no Sanitarian can tolerate.

10. Water Supply and Drainage of Mombasa. I understand in 2 years time, the pipe supply will be in use throughout the island. The danger of not having an adequate drainage system ready against this has been drawn attention to by the Secretary of State. As it is not improbable that drainage scheme will cost almost as much as the installation of the water, I should be glad to be informed what progress has been made in the consideration of their scheme.

11. Of lesser magnitude are pipe water supplies for Kisumu and Malindi.

12. The protection of the Township of Kisumu and the shipping from epidemic diseases. A proper

Sanitary Station for the vessels and infectious disease hospital will be required. It must be remembered that Kinross is the collecting centre of the Uganda Trade, and that no attempt is made to interfere with the bales of cotton brought into a known and virulent plague infected area.

In conclusion I cannot too strongly urge the importance of these reforms and the necessity of indicating now what policy is to be pursued with regard to them. In view of the enormous financial obligations which these schemes entail, I cannot but be aware that the Administration may feel a very natural hesitancy in adopting them as my solitary advice while I, on my part, should only be too grateful for the benefit of the views of those with wider experience than I possess. What I have, therefore, the honour to suggest is that before a pronouncement is given on the merits of the schemes or they be indefinitely shelved, they should be referred to the Colonial Office for submission to the Tropical Advisory Committee for their consideration and help. As obviously the subject matter of the referendum would be too vast and complicated to be explained by a backwards and forwards correspondence - let alone the delay entailed - it seems to me that the simplest way would be to afford me the opportunity of conferring with the Tropical Advisory Committee under certain definite instructions from His Excellency. Apart from obtaining the judgment of this tribunal

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on the reasonableness or otherwise of the proposals. I would only be too glad to avail myself of the opportunity of gaining information as to the working of Sanitary Departments in other Colonies and of such schemes as may meet with approval, and in addition, several other medical matters of vital import on which I should value the expression of opinion of medical men of experience.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. D. Keble

Principal Medical Officer