EAST AFR. PROT.

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previous Paper.

PURCHASE OF OXEN

Reports has authorised the expdre of £1000.0wing to outbreak of East Coast Fever at Nakuru this step has become necessary to ensure continuity of transport facilities. States owen will be sold to settlers. Does not anticipate any financial loss. Trusts action will be approved.

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Subsequent Paper

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RECE 18 JAN 13

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

NAIROBI,

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

December 24th, 1912.

ST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No .891.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the following circumstances under which I have authorized the Department of Agriculture to incur the expenditure of £1,000 in the purchase of oxen.

- 2. The township of Nakuru has unfortunately been recently subjected to an outbreak of East Coast Fever, with the result that, unless transport can be maintained by immune oxen, the district must be declared closed and the settlers where precluded from conveying their produce to the Railway.
- 3. To ensure continuity of transport facilities and at the same time to prevent as far as possible the spread of the disease to the Rift Valley, Solai, and Upper Molo, which have hitherto been uninfected, the Director of Agriculture advocated the purchase of 200 oxen from the known endemic areas. Owing however to the ravages of rinderpest, the price of cattle is at the present time

HE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

time somewhat inflated, and it is estimated that these oxen cannot be procured for less than £1,000. They will be purchased from native owners in the Kavirondo and Kisii districts and will be sold to settlers in the Nakuru District at a price slightly higher than the cost, in order the Government may suffer no pecuniary loss in the event of a few oxen remaining unsold. I consider, however, that there will more probably be a surplus in hand, which I propose to distribute pro rata among the purchasers.

4. I need not point out the gravity of the financial disaster which the total cessation of transport facilities, even for a brief period, would inflict on the settlers of the district, most of whom are now at last beginning to reappear fruit of many years' teil. It is only the necessity for immediate action that has included me to sanction this expenditure without previously referring the matter to you, and I trust that under the circumstances you will approve the measures I have adopted to meet the emergency.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

H.Conway Begied

GOVERNOR.

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