

East Afr. Prot.
UGANDA
11828

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11828
RECEIVED
18 APR 12

Cotton Industry
Railway facilities

Date
1912

17 April

at previous Paper

Recd 11812
EAL

Cotton Industry
Railway facilities

Report as to very large increase in Cotton Crop. Understands that there is a most serious deficiency of shortage of Rolling Stock, more especially of Engines & power on Uganda Rly, & that existing arrangements are inadequate to cope with present demand. *Adapted, for meaning of the L. the words.*

Sir G. Fiddes

We know from Gov ¹⁸⁹⁹ that in consequence of the very considerable increase in ordinary traffic, the extra rolling stock wanted for the Uganda operations will be ~~wanted~~ ^{needed} earlier than was originally anticipated. Mr Currie details in the enclosure in that despatch the steps which he is taking immediately to meet the emergency, & hopes that these steps will enable the Railway to tide over the next 18 months (from Feb? 1912). But it is apparent that sooner or later the provision of additional rolling stock for ordinary

Copy to Mr Currie 27 April 12

at subsequent Paper

29/12/12

traffic on the Railway will become very pressing. Mr Currie is due on leave in May, & the question must then be faced.

? Tell the Association that it is evident from a communication from the Manager dated the 16th of Feb^r that Mr Currie is alive to the need for more rolling stock, & say what steps he has taken as to Waggon (as detailed in para. 4(1) of his letter); ~~and~~ add that the C.A. have been authorised to order 6 Mallet engines in addition to two which are expected to be ready in July, & that 3 shunting engines have been indentated for which will release engines for use on the main line.

We might add that Mr Currie will arrive home in May, & that the situation can then be discussed with him.

We had better, in talking to the B.C.G.A. at our next meeting, be quite frank as to these orders being only anticipations of the requirements for the soda traffic (which Mr Currie does not think will actually begin until 1914). There should be no misunderstanding on

that point.

26

(I have shown this letter to Sir P. Eyraud, & he cannot add anything until Mr Currie arrives).

JTB

April 22

Apr. 21/14

as proposed
at night

Ed 22.4

THE BRITISH COTTON



GROWING ASSOCIATION

TELEGRAMS: AGRI-COT
LOCAL: MANCHESTER
CABLE: COTTON
TELEPHONE: 2032, 2033, 2034

15, CROSS STREET

MANCHESTER

17th April, 1913.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,

LONDON S.W.

Sir,

As you are aware there is a very large increase in the Cotton Crop in Uganda. Major Leggett's estimates made about a year ago for the output for the 12 months ended December 31st 1911 were for a total of 17,000 of our standard bales of 400 lbs. and the actual output amounted to fully 19,500 bales.

2. His estimate for the output from Uganda for the current year ending December 31st is 32,000 bales, though of course, the total of this might be affected if there are any serious break-downs at any of the Ginning Factories, as the margin of ginning power is at present rather small, though steps are being taken to put this right.

3. In a recent letter Major Leggett states that the Natives' demand for Seed for 1912 planting shows such a large increase, that he is of the opinion that 50,000 bales would not be an exaggerated estimate for the output for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1913.

4. I am sorry to inform you that according to recent reports there is a most serious deficiency and shortage of Rolling Stock, and more especially of engine power on the Uganda Railway, and we understand that the existing facilities are absolutely inadequate to cope with the present demands, and that as the cotton comes forward in increased quantities, it will be absolutely impossible to

deal.....

-2-

17th April, 1912.

The Under Secretary of State.

deal with it on the Railway unless further tracks and locomotives are supplied.

5. I need hardly point out this may have a very serious effect on the future for unless the Merchants are able to ship their cotton promptly they will be compelled to stop buying it from the Natives, and if this were to happen, it might cause a serious setback to the industry.

6. I shall be very grateful if you can cause enquiries to be made into the whole question, and also let us know if any steps are being taken to send out additional wagons and locomotives, and I would also respectfully suggest that full enquiries should be made into the working of the Railway, as it does not seem that there has been a proper amount of foresight into the provision of facilities for handling the traffic. It has been a matter of common knowledge for the last two or three years, that there was a large increase in the production of cotton, and a still greater increase could ^{very easily} reasonably be expected.

As the matter is extremely urgent, I would respectfully suggest that a cable be sent to the Governor, asking him to report on the whole question.

Respectfully,
 Assistant Secretary.

Arthur Dutton
 Chairman.

G.D.
23 APR
1946

W. H. ... 130

Mt. / 11828 Uganda

DRAFT.

Chief Commission

B. C. G. A.

MINUTE.

Mr. Bell 23/4

Mr. Butler 23/3

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Emmott.

Mr. Harcourt.

and 12/7/46

Copy for Sec. 27 April 46

*Copy of ... to ...
for inf. (RD)*

Dep. Secy
I am able to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th of April relating to the supply of ~~rolling stock~~ ~~that~~ according to recent reports there is a most serious deficiency of ~~rolling stock~~ ~~in the Uganda Railway~~ ~~that you understand~~ that the existing facilities are absolutely inadequate to cope with the present demands, especially in view of the increasing output of cotton in Uganda.

2. In reply, I am to inform you

it is a card from
the manager of the
Railway dated the 16th of
the last that he is ~~fully~~
willing to use for more
rolling stock ~~of the same type~~
already ordered to the
C.A. for the C.A. to be
delivered of the ten
high-sided open bogies and
fifty-five covered bogies
under supply, the former
being due for delivery in
England on 20th Jan. 1912
with the latter on 20th May 1912;
further ~~that~~ he had cabled
to them to place
immediate contracts
for ten more high-sided
bogies & twenty more
covered bogies. ~~of the~~
~~same design as those~~
~~under supply.~~

3. In addition, ~~to~~
the C.A. have been

been authorised by ~~the~~ ~~Board~~
to order six Mallet engines
over and above those which are
expected to be ready in
July; and three steam
engines have been ordered
for which will release her
engines for use on the main
line.

39

4. I have to add that
~~the~~ ~~General~~ ~~Manager~~ ^{Mr. Carr} will
arrive in this country next
month & that the situation
can then be discussed
with him.