



made in the Reply on HJK  
7352

It might be on the following lines -

The S. W. has received from the Gov. a full report which shows that a great deal of difficulty has been experienced with the Somali labourers. They have made complaints on many points but the only serious one appears to be that as to date of commencement of wages - that it should be the date of agreement at Berbera or of the arrival before the life. From info received at Berbera there seems to be no doubt of the agreement then signed by the employers' representative prescribed the earlier date. This matter, as well as others, was being discussed with the employer by the Gov., who hoped to arrive at a satisfactory arrangement.

The question of the hours of labour for women & children does not appear to have arisen & the Gov. states that the regulations have been made dealing with the point.

The labourers are impatient of discipline & are given to faction fights among themselves, & at the same time will do all a governor that of the labour (the fact is otherwise) and work hard in ways and seasons. I shall be



420  
Downing Street,

6 April, 1914.

Dear Sir Randolph:

In reply to your question on the 4th of March, I said that I had instructed the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate by telegraph to send by an early mail full information with regard to the labourers imported into the East Africa Protectorate from Somaliland, and that I would communicate with you when I was in possession of the information.

I have now received from the Governor a full report, which shows that a great deal of difficulty has been experienced with the Somaliland labourers. They have made complaints on many points, but the only serious one appears to be as to the date from which the payment of wages should begin, i. e.

whether



420  
Downing Street,

6<sup>th</sup> April, 1914.

Dear Sir Randolph:

In reply to your question on the 4th of March, I said that I had instructed the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate by telegraph to send by an early mail full information with regard to the labourers imported into the East Africa Protectorate from Somaliland, and that I would communicate with you when I was in possession of the information.

I have now received from the Governor a full report, which shows that a great deal of difficulty has been experienced with the Somaliland labourers. They have made complaints on many points, but the only serious one appears to be as to the date from which the payment of wages should begin, i. e.

whether

whether it should be the date of engagement at Berbera or the date of arrival at Kalifi in East Africa. From information received from Berbera there seems to be no doubt that the agreement there signed by the employer's representative prescribed the earlier date. This matter as well as others was being discussed by the Governor at the time at which he wrote his despatch, and he hoped to arrive at a satisfactory arrangement.

The question of the hours of labour for women and children does not appear to have arisen, and the Governor stated that no regulations have been made dealing with this point.

The labourers are impatient of discipline and are given to faction fights amongst themselves, and at the best their work is not ~~so~~ good as that of East Africa Protectorate labourers (when such labourers are obtainable) and costs more in wages and rations. In spite of the scarcity of local labour for Coast plantations, it is not likely that any application will be made for the repetition of the experiment, nor, if such an application were made, would I sanction it.

Yours very truly  
 (S) L. Harcourt

July 14 1822

CARLTON CLUB.

HILL WALL, S.W.

Dear Mr Harcourt

I beg to acknowledge  
receipt of your letter of April 6<sup>th</sup>  
re the indentured labourers from  
Somerset. I am glad to learn  
you would not sanction any  
further such experiment, if asked for

Yours faithfully,

Randolph B. Baker

June 14

22

CARLTON CLUB.

111, WALL ST. N.Y.

Dear Mr. Harcourt

I beg to acknowledge  
receipt of your letter of April 6<sup>th</sup>  
re the indentured labourers from  
Somahland. I am glad to learn  
you would not sanction any  
further such experiment, if asked for

Yours faithfully,

Randolph S. Baker

11450

423



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NAIROBI, BRITISH EAST AFRICA

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

11450

March 2nd 1914

(No 200) →

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 1006 of the 21st of November 1913 and in accordance with the instructions contained in your telegram of the 26th instant to

furnish you with a report on the results which up to the present have attended the recruitment of Somali labour for the plantations on the Coast.

I much regret to have to inform you that hitherto the venture has not proved a success and I propose here to summarise the incidents which have led me to form this opinion.

3. On November 7th last I received a telegram from the Provincial Commissioner, Seyidze, to the effect that some 300 recruits had arrived and were adopting an attitude of semi-mutiny, while on the 13th inst I was informed that 59 of the men had deserted and were then under arrest. I then caused enquiries to be made whether any incident of note had occurred during the visit of the steamer, on which these men were conveyed, to Kismayu. In reply I received the enclosed report from which it will be seen that the conditions under which they were travelling were not such as would assist in allaying any disaffection.

From Ag. P. C. Kismayu with encls. 20.11.13

From P. C. Mombasa with encls. 2.12.13

From P. C. Mombasa with encls. 4.12.13

From P. C. Mombasa with encls. 4.2.14

To Commr. Berbera Dec. 12/13

From Commr. Berbera Jan. 7th 14

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

\* No 39366  
+ No 6451  
No 1016

(2)

4. On the 27th of November it was reported that the manager of the Powysland Plantations Limited, together with the Assistant District Commissioner of the District and his police, had been attacked and stoned. The Police were at last compelled to resort to the use of firearms with the result that four labourers were wounded, one of whom eventually succumbed to his injuries. I thereupon gave orders for 20 police in command of an European Police Officer to proceed, in conjunction with a Medical Officer, to the scene. I also instructed the Provincial Commissioner to investigate the matter and to furnish a report. This I now enclose, together with a copy of the enquiry regarding the death of the Somali referred to above.

5. On receipt of these reports I addressed a letter to the Commissioner, Berbera, copy of which I attach, and I also requested the management of the Powysland Plantations to comply with the recommendations made. This they promised to do.

6. On the 22nd of January I was informed by telegram that further trouble had arisen and I subsequently received a report in confirmation of the matter, which is enclosed herewith.

7. The incidents disclosed in these reports reveal an almost continuous state of disaffection among the employees. One of the main grievances is that the management claim that the date of the commencement of the contract is to be reckoned from the day on which the men were landed at Kilifi, whereas the men maintain that they are entitled to their pay from the date on which the contract was approved at Berbera. From the enclosed letter from

the Commissioner of Somaliland it is clear that the men are correct in their contention.

8. I yesterday availed myself of the presence of Mr. Powys Cobb in Nairobi to discuss the whole question with him. I pointed out the apparent justice of the claim with regard to the date of the contract and I requested him to make a thorough enquiry on the subject. I trust that the result will disclose some feasible means of ameliorating the present situation.

9. I am informed that no deposits as a guarantee for repatriation have yet been made and I laid stress on this point in my conversation with Mr. Powys Cobb. The deposit is payable in respect of 363 passages to Kilifi.

10. With reference to your despatch No. 84 of the 27th of January<sup>\*</sup> I am informed that there is no desire to recruit more labourers of the same type.

11. Since this report was written I have received your telegram of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February<sup>†</sup>. The particular point referred to therein has not been made the subject of any regulations.

*etc*  
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

*H. Conway B. Esq.*

GOVERNOR.

\* No 2029

† No 645

*by 2029<sup>th</sup> Jan 11*

ENCLOSURE

In Despatch No. 207 dt. 2. 8. 1914

Encl. in No. 426

No. 623/13

11/150  
RECD  
NOV 14

PROV. COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,

Kismayu, 20th November 1913

Ref. Your No. P. 7221 of 11th November 1913

Somali labourers at Kilifi

Sir,

I was not in Kismayu when these Somalis appeared but I attach reports from the District Commissioner and Superintendent of Police.

2. Months ago Mr. Cobb consulted me on the subject of importing Somalis to Jubaland. I was strongly against the scheme and pointed out that South East Arabia was, in my opinion, the labour field for this Province.

3. Later Mr. Cobb again consulted both Mr. Power and myself; we were both against the idea and I said further that I would not have these men in Jubaland.

4. They, I believe, were actually recruited for Kilifi. The Administration of the Somalis lies in the strength of tribal organisation; once that is broken up anarchy ensues. To collect a miscellaneous lot of undisciplined young men who have no obligations, chiefs or property, and who never have and never mean to work, is courting failure.

5. I have once or twice before stated that South East Arabia is the field for labour for Jubaland. The inhabitants are Mohamed, cultivators by birth, and would be an excellent counter-poise to the Somali.

6. They would moreover find many of their compatriots here.

I have &c.,

R. E. Salkeld

Ag. Provincial Commissioner

The Honourable

THE CHIEF SECRETARY,

NAIROBI.



P. O.

On the arrival of the "Tuna" in Kismayu harbour I boarded her. She was in a disgracefully overcrowded state. The exact number of passengers she carried is not known, either to her captain or ~~any~~ anyone else, but she carried at any rate ~~over~~ 150 passengers in excess of what I believe her Board of Trade certificate allows her to carry. Her condition was not such, therefore, as to allay any to discontent that might have existed amongst these Somalis.

Captain Blair had been unable to discharge his cargo at Merka, owing to the impossibility of getting at the ship's hatches.

He asked for leave to land his passengers, therefore, whilst he returned to Merka. Owing to reports I <sup>had</sup> received I ~~decided~~ <sup>declined</sup> to allow him to do so & he accordingly decided to sail that day for Kilifi, that is, the day after his arrival here in Kismayu.

About mid-day a number of Somalis jumped overboard and swam ashore, and at intervals others followed. They were arrested and returned on board. Shortly after a deputation of headmen asked permission to see me. They stated that they had been engaged as askaris, & that their destination was <sup>to</sup> Kismayu, in fact of which latter statement they produced their tickets all of which were marked "Kismayu" I informed them that I could do nothing in the matter, and they must proceed to Kilifi, where, should they have any complaints to make, they could lay them before the local Magistrate. They then stated that they would not go to Kilifi, and that their men would make

trouble

trouble if the ship attempted to sail - At Captain Blair's request I gave orders for a file of Solids to be placed on board, and to accompany the steamer to Kilifi - I also went on board myself before the steamer sailed, and no trouble ensued, although the Somalis were at one time in a mood when there might have been trouble - When the headman came on shore to see us, they asked that they might speak to Mr. Fowys Cobb and at my request Mr. Fowys Cobb was present at the interview, in which <sup>interview</sup> ~~moment~~ he took no active part.

I do not think that their statement as to that the local inhabitants at Kismayu told those Somalis need be taken seriously - In the first place they had intercourse with very few Somalis from the shore; in the second place, with perhaps one exception none of the local inhabitants were in the least anxious to see them here, and very <sup>reluctant</sup> in fact much ~~returned~~ when the "Tara" sailed.

S. K. DUNDAS

KISMAYU,

19th November 1913.

Extracts from Police Occurrence Book  
Highway for Somali labourers from Kenya S.S. "Tuna"  
for Kilifi Wednesday 5th November 1914.  
\*\*\*\*\*

11.10 a.m. Yesterday evening the S.S. "Tuna" arrived from Aden  
or Berbera with some 350 Somalis for the Cape Estate  
at Kilifi and some 340 Arabs for Kisumu and other ports  
in this Protectorate. As the crew was trouble anticipated  
on Board owing to the Somalis wishing to land here and  
not being allowed to do so I remained on board with sev-  
eral constables and a Sergeant until the Arabs were dis-  
embarked I returned from the Steamer at 11.30 p.m.  
J. H. EWART,  
Police Supt:

11.15 a.m. Discussed the question of accommodating the Somalis  
ashore from the S.S. "Tuna" while the visits U.S.A.  
ports with cargo before taking them to their destination.  
It was decided that the best plan is to take on the So-  
malis to Kilifi first and to return to do the other work.  
Should the Somalis land here there will be certainly be  
a large number missing when again required to embark, as  
they do not want to proceed further. I am going on board  
with a posse of Police at the time of Steamer's departu-  
re in case of trouble.  
J. H. EWART,  
Police Supt:

3.30 p.m. The Captain of S.S. "Tuna" has applied for Police  
protection during the voyage to Kilifi with Somali coolies.  
The 2nd Class Magistrate has requested that police be  
provided, 1 corporal and 3 constables have therefore been  
detailed for the duty. The Steamer will leave about  
4 p.m. to-day.  
J. H. EWART,  
Police Supt:

6th Nov. 1914  
10.45 a.m.

I went on board the S.S. "Tuna" yesterday at 4 p.m.  
as trouble at the time of leaving was anticipated. Where  
was quarrelling at one part of the ship, two persons  
being the worst and appearing to be the leader of the  
disension. I went there and was unable to get down to  
particulars or two so I requested the constable to take  
them in irons. He did so & then was able to

the others. I told them they could not land here even if the Captain and Mr. Jobs wished to try so to go that the Government would not allow it under the immigration laws. I persuaded them to be calm and proceed to Kilifi without further trouble and to complain there if they had been wronged in any way. They appeared to understand this reasoning and became quiet. I then requested the Captain to release the other two men, which was done and everything was quiet after that and the steamer left.

During the afternoon a great number of the Somali swam ashore from the U.S.S. "Albatross" but the police were stationed on the beach and arrested and returned them to the steamer.

S. W. Smith,  
Superintendent of Police.

INCLOSURE No 2

431

In Despatch No. 200 of 23 1914

Provincial Commissioner's Office,

Lombasa,

2nd. December 1913.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my report on the small trouble at Powsland Plantations Kilifi.

2) I would ask that the inclosed letter be sent to the Commissioner at Berbera, as the question of the date on which their pay commences is one of the main grievances.

3) I would point out that Government has been put to considerable expense with these disturbances and it would seem only fair that the Powsland Plantations Company should be asked to pay. Five police were sent down from Kisumu on board the S.S. Tuna to keep the peace on board; the port office account for the steam launch is Rs. 120/- and there are various other expenses, which it does not seem reasonable to debit to my Local Travelling Vote.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

*B. W. Holtby*  
Provincial Commissioner.

Hon'ble,  
The Chief Secretary,

Nairobi.

Labour at Kilifi Plantations (Powyland)

I first came into actual touch with this question on November 7th, when I was at Kilifi en route to Giriana. The S.S. Tuna arrived early in the morning and Mr. Powys Cobb at once came off to my camp with the Captain of the Tuna and reported that the Somali labourers, some 360 in number, were on board and were in a semi-mutinous state. He asked that the police escort with me should proceed to the plantation and stay <sup>there</sup> till matters settled. This I could not agree to, as I was on a definite mission, I however went alongside the ship in the steam launch with 20 police, then went on board the steamer and interviewed the headmen.

I enquired what the trouble was, and the headmen stated that their people were very disturbed, as they had been told by the Somalis at Kismayu that they were bound for a place where they would all die, that the work would kill them, and that <sup>of course</sup> the majority of men believed that they had been engaged as askaris and not as labourers.

I explained that their fears were unfounded and that, as the labourers had been engaged before Government at Berbera, I did not believe that they were unaware that they were engaged as labourers; that they had agreed to a contract and were expected to fulfil it; and if they had any genuine grievance they could go before the Assistant District Commissioner at Takaungu, which was quite close by. I further warned the headmen that they were responsible for the good behaviour of their men. I then left for Giriana.

From the date of their landing the Somalis commenced to make trouble and within a few days 40 deserted and ran away to Mombasa, where they were arrested, tried before the Town Magistrate, and imprisoned.

After that incident things were somewhat quieter, but the men have not done much work; they turned out late in the morning and returned from work before the time; they grumbled about their rations and exhibited considerable discontent. One day two sections had a serious fight, which was only stopped by determined action on the part of the management.

On the 26th instant the men refused to turn out to work, it is alleged at the instigation of a headman named Abdi Harun. On the morning of the 27th the management asked the Assistant District Commissioner, Takaungu, to arrest this man for disobedience and inciting the men not to work. This was done, and the police proceeded to take him to Takaungu Station about 2 <sup>two</sup> miles away. The prisoner shouted out to the labourers, and within a few minutes a wild riot was in progress. The Assistant District Commissioner joined his police, who numbered 11 men, and was accompanied by Messrs Gedge and Chivell. The Somalis surrounded the party and assailed them with volleys of stones and Mr. Gedge and several constables were struck. The police were ordered to fix bayonets but this had no effect. The Assistant District Commissioner then ordered the men to fire over the heads of the crowd and eventually they gave way; the party proceeded to Takaungu. It was not known at the time that anyone had been hit, but it afterwards transpired that two men were wounded, one of whom <sup>has</sup> since died.

I carefully investigated the occurrence and am of the opinion that unless the police had fired they would probably have been overpowered by the Somalis, who were in

such an excited state that they would not listen to either the Europeans or their headmen, and if that had occurred the result would have been serious and all authority at an end.

The headman Abdi Harun is being tried before the Town Magistrate Mombasa, and I therefore did not investigate the charges against him.

Upon arrival at Kilifi on the 28th instant I first held a judicial enquiry into the death of the Somali who died from a gunshot wound under Section 174 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and a copy of the proceedings is being forwarded to Government separately.

On the 29th I examined all the headmen separately and also a number of delegates of the men.

Their complaints were as follows:-

1) Shortness of rations. It appears that the rations which consists of 1 lb. of rice + 1 lb. dadas and 2 oz. ghee per man per diem is weighed out to each gang in bulk every two days, it is then parcelled out by the headmen who allege that when they get to the end of the division there are generally 3 or 4 men who have no rations. This is what one would expect as in dividing a quantity of food among say 50 men it is very probable that some get a little more than their allowance and this would make a corresponding shortage at the end. There is no suspicion that the management is cutting the rations, but I recommended that for a few days they should endeavour to show the men by ocular demonstration that they were getting the full amount. I further told the Somalis that the best way to stop their complaints would be for a shop to be founded at which the rations could be bought at a fixed rate and then each man could receive the money to buy his own rations, the management also agreed that this would eventually be the best plan. There was no complaint as to the quality of the rations.



2) Pay. The contract was made at Berbera on the 10th of October 1913 but in the early part of the contract the place for the date of engagement was left blank and the date November 7th was inserted after the arrival of the men, the 7th of November being the date of disembarkation at Kilifi.

Mr. P. Cobb states that although he inferred that the blank space was left for this purpose he took the precaution of cabling to Berbera and was informed that the date of disembarkation was intended to be inserted.

The Somalis however one and all declare with vehemence that their pay commences from the date they were written on at Berbera and this is their greatest grievance. I informed them that this was not a question for the Company or this Government to decide but that we should communicate with the Government of the Somaliland Protectorate and the ruling from Berbera would be communicated to them. They agreed to this.

3) Cooks. After the arrival of the men the management allotted one man as cook to 20 men; they objected to this and stated that they wanted a cook paid by the Company to be allotted to each 10 men. I refused to entertain this and pointed out that it was not in their contract and that the other native labour on the Estate were not provided with cooks at all.

4) They accused the management of beating them. I enquired into these charges but as far as I could ascertain they are groundless and were practically all based on hearsay. Eventually two men were produced who each had a superficial scar on his back; the origin of these was investigated and it turned out that they had received blows on the occasion of the faction fight above referred to when the European staff had to forcibly separate the two sections. I therefore dismissed this charge as

5) Hours of work.

The present hours of work are 8.0 a.m. to noon and 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. The Somalis objected to those hours and asked that they might only work from 6.0 to 10.0 a.m. and again from 2.0 to 5.0 p.m. As all the other labour on the estate is working from 6.0 to noon and 2.0 to 5.0 and no hours are specified in the contract. I told the Somalis I declined to consider this point and recommended the management to later on try piece work with as many as possible and pay by results.

6) They asked for a teacher to read the Koran to them. I pointed out that they already had a mullah and they said that he had to go to work like anyone else; the management stated that they told him they would ration him but if he wanted pay he must work, so he volunteered to work. I informed them that religious instruction was not the business of Government.

It will be seen that with the exception of the grievance about the date of commencement of their pay their complaints and grievances were frivolous.

The bulk of the rank and file appear to be cheerful fellows and may be made something of, but, like all Somalis, they have an exaggerated idea of their own importance and it is too early to say whether they will settle down to regular work, at the time of my visit they had been there <sup>three</sup> weeks and had done practically nothing except build their own lines.

I am of opinion that a great deal of the trouble has emanated from the so called headmen; they are none of them proper headmen in the true sense of the word, they are only paid Rs.15/- per month and one cannot get capable headmen for such pay anywhere in Africa. To show the type of man I will mention that I elicited the fact that one of them had only been a personal boy to several Government officers, one was a dresser in a hospital and

a eyes in the camel camp.

To expect men of this type to control and discipline a heterogeneous collection of wild Somalis is consummately folly and the result is chaos.

I believe that the so-called headmen are afraid of their men and afraid of their masters and that they tell different stories to each and the result is grave misunderstanding.

What is needed is a competent Somali headman of repute who <sup>is</sup> able to rule them with a firm hand and I have recommended Mr. Cobb to endeavour to obtain such a man, a retired native officer or the like, a man who has prestige with his people and will be loyal to his employers. Such a man probably can be found but the Company will have to pay him at least Rs.100/- per month but he will be worth it. This is I believe the only chance of turning the venture into a success, for at present the management has no single person among the recruited labour who is on their side and every order appears to be looked upon with suspicion and it is uncertain whether they will obey or not.

I gathered the impression that the visiting agent, Mr. Gadge was not popular with the men, but whether justly so or not I was not able to discover.

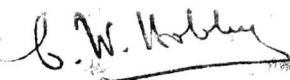
One of the headmen stated that the men would be better if divided up into separate camps as they came from various tribes and I gathered that there were dormant internal feuds among them. It is a pity this point was not raised before the camp was built all in one spot. The suggestion is however worth consideration by the Company, for the Somalis are an extraordinarily inflammable people and any semblance of a grievance is immediately taken up at once on hearsay by men not directly affected.

I generally took a firm line with regard to their alleged grievances, as I felt that if they were led to believe that Government was considering them a serious they would be encouraged to continue to invent fresh ones and I plainly informed them that since they arrived we had heard of nothing but trouble owing to their behaviour, and that they had better set to work and get a good name with Government and that in a month's time I would send an officer to inspect them again.

I had the men examined by the Assistant Surgeon who accompanied me and append his report on their physical condition, there is at present very little disease and the men seemed quite fit. The Senior Medical Officer advocates the addition of a periodic ration of meat, fish, dhall, lentils or beans; presumably, however, the Somaliland authorities stipulated a diet suitable for the men, and they can themselves purchase fish very cheaply, if they so desire.

I would point out that under para 3 of the contract medical attendance is guaranteed, any sick are now attended to by the Company's engineer but I consider that it is up to the Company to provide skilled medical attendance, such as a trained Indian Hospital Assistant.

I left 10 Mombasa police at Kilifi temporarily in case of a further outbreak and an intelligent Somali Sergeant was placed in charge of them.

  
Provincial Commissioner.

Mombasa, 1st, December 1913.

To,

The Hon. The Provincial Commissioner,  
Mombasa.

Through

The Senior Medical Officer,  
Mombasa.

Sir,

As ordered I carried out an inspection of the Somali labourers employed at Kilifi by the Powysland Plantation Ltd. on the 29th November. The men were all between 18 and 24 years of age. No boys or decrepit old men were numbered amongst the labourers. They all looked healthy and strong and well able to perform the work required of them. Health of Camp. Good. No disease worthy of special mention. 37 men were attending for treatment; the cases being roughly as follows:-

Minor wounds and injuries	26
Gonorrhoea	2
Rheumatism	2
Pyrexia of uncertain origin	5
Boils	1
Gunshot wound	1

Housing and food. The housing of labourers in the camp was satisfactory. Separate huts being provided for bachelors and married men.

The dimensions of the huts were as follows:-

Huts for families	10ft. x 15ft.
Huts for ten bachelors	15ft. x 15ft.

Food. Each labourer is provided daily with the following rations:-

Chae 2 oss.

Butter 4 oss.

Rice 1 lb.

Water supply. Water for drinking purpose is supplied from a well about two miles in land.

Sanitary Condition of Camp. Bad. The spaces between the huts have been cleared but are littered with tins and rubbish.

In some instances these heaps show signs of having been imperfectly destroyed by fire.

The tins show unpunctured bottoms and constitute a danger in so much as they may collect water and so may breed mosquitoes.

Latrines accommodation sufficient; the trench system being in use. Great difficulty is experienced in trying to persuade the labourers to use latrines as they prefer going out into the bush.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

R. Holmes.

Assistant Surgeon.

To Provincial Commissioner.

Forwarded.

The diet is very short of nitrogen

I would advise this be increased by giving a ration of meat, fish, dhall, lentils or beans, say 2 or three times a week.

Dec  
17/11/13

By L. S. Lowry  
B.M.O.

certified copy.

Agreement of Service

(In accordance with the Somaliland Native Labour Regulations, 1901, and the Native Labour Amendment Ordinance, 1913.)

This is to certify that the persons named in the attached schedule, natives of the Somaliland Protectorate agree to serve Harold Hume Henderson of Mombasa, British East Africa, the accredited representative of the Coast Labour Society, East Africa Protectorate, affiliated to the East Africa Coast Planters Association in the E.A.P. for a period of one year from the 7th day of November 1913, in the capacity of agricultural labourers for a payment of Rs. eight per mensem in the case of adult males, and Rs. five per mensem in the case of females and minors, such payments to be made monthly in arrear.

The cost of the passages of labourers from Berbera to East Africa Protectorate shall be borne by the said Harold Hume Henderson.

Further the said Harold Hume Henderson undertakes to provide every person named in the schedule hereto with proper housing accommodation, with free medicines and medical attendance as provided in part 1 of the Somaliland Native Labour Regulations of 1901 and also with free food on the following scale, viz one pound of rice and half a pound of dates and 2 ozs. ghee per diem during the whole period of employment.

Further the said Harold Hume Henderson undertakes that in the case of labourers who may be accompanied by their families or dependants, such labourers shall not be required or compelled to work or live apart from such

date inserted  
Col. O. Thomas  
Mombasa.  
C.W.H.

families

8  
412  
families or dependants during the term of this agreement and that all the promises of the agreement contained in this agreement shall extend to such families and dependants as well as the labourers, provided that any children or dependants of a labourer who may accompany him otherwise than as labourers shall not be entitled to free rations.

Further this agreement may be renewed upon the same terms and for a period not exceeding one year from the expiration of this agreement by a further agreement between the parties to this agreement executed before and attested by the Magistrate of the District in which the labour is for the time being employed and may be further renewed from time to time in the same manner and on the same terms for successive periods of twelve months from the date of expiration of the last period of renewal.

Further the said Harold Hume Henderson undertakes on the expiration of this agreement or any renewal thereof, to return any or all of the labourers named in the attached schedule to Berbera if requested to do so either by the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate or by the Commissioner of the Somaliland Protectorate.

Further on the expiration of this agreement or of any renewal thereof the said Harold Hume Henderson agrees either at the request of a labourer or of the Government of the East Africa Protectorate or the Commissioner of the Somaliland Protectorate, to place any labourer or labourers on board ship and to provide him or them with a free return passage to Berbera, and with food as prescribed sufficient for the journey.

Further every labourer shall before leaving Berbera be provided by the said Harold Hume Henderson with one blanket, the cost of which shall be borne by the



said Harold Hume Henderson,

~~Sd.~~ Harold Hume Henderson

signature of Employer.

(signature or mark of labourers on schedule attached)

approved by me

~~Sd.~~ J.A.Berne

Magistrate, Berbera,

Somaliland Protectorate.

This 16th day of October 1913.

Certified correct copy,

~~Sd.~~ Charles H.F.Gedge.

Encl. 3 in No.

INCLOSURE No. 3

In Search No. 200 of 23 1913

Provincial Commissioner's Office,  
Mombasa,

December 4th, 1913.

374 (396/11)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the  
enquiry held by me at Kilifi, under Section 174 of the  
Criminal Procedure Code, into the circumstances attending  
the death of a Somali named Mahomed Harun on November  
24th 1913.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

*G. W. Hobley*  
Provincial Commissioner

The Hon.  
The Chief Secretary  
Nairobi.

415

Engquiry held under section 174 of C.P.Code  
at Kilifi into the circumstances  
attending the death of a Somali male  
named Mahomed Marun on November  
27th 1913.

3010

Charles Henry Fenning Gedge

Visiting Agent Powysland Plantations Limited.

His Oath

Q. Were you present at a disturbance on this Estate yesterday 27th November?

A. I was.

Q. What was the cause of this disturbance?

A. It arose out of an attempted rescue of a so-called Somali headman named Abdi Harun.

Q. What were the circumstances of his arrest?

A. We went up to the office after breakfast and sent for Abdi Harun, he came and was put under arrest from information we had he had been at the source of the trouble we had with the men. On the previous evening after the A.D.C's enquiry the other five headmen who were present accepted his decision and this man stood apart distinctly insolent and said that he would not accept the finding and would go to Bombasa. Next morning three of the headmen turned out with their men and later on two more went. I am not certain whether he went or not, he has not been working properly since he came, he has complained of sickness. I was induced to arrest him partly at his own request partly because I had heard that he was at the root of the trouble with the men.

Q. What was this man's status?

A. He posed as a headman, his name does not appear on the engagement roll.

Q. When did you find out that his name was not on the roll?

A. When they arrived.

- Q. When you found this out what course did you pursue.
- A. I treated him as a headman and he had received Rs.10/- in Muzbura and 10/- here.
- Q. Who arrested him.
- A. The police.
- Q. What happened next.
- A. He struggled a little at first but then went quietly and the askaris com enced to take him off towards Takaungu. Two of the other headmen came up to me and stated that Abdi Hatur recognised that he was in the wrong and I informed them that it was too late to take any action he was going at his own request. Mr. Logan was in the store and I looked down the road and saw that the police were surrounded by a mob with sticks and stones trying to get the prisoner away. I went into the store and took two sticks one of which I handed to Mr. Chivell who joined us and went to where the police were held up. There were about 13 police, they were ordered to fix bayonets and proceed with the prisoner, by this time we were surrounded by a large crowd of Somalis and I saw some of the headmen trying to keep the men back. We got away again with the prisoner I was a little behind I saw a man lying by the roadside with his head badly cut I do not know how he was hurt. Volleys of stones were thrown at us and the position was becoming extremely dangerous and we were unarmed. The order was then given to fire high, the Somalis were on every side. I myself said several times "Piga juu". The firing was individual. After the firing the mob stopped and we proceeded to Takaungu. When the mob came round the prisoner tried to escape.

- Q. Did you see anyone fall.
- A. No I did not know anyone was hit until we received news at Fakaungu, the headmen brought the news.
- Q. When did you return.
- A. After the message was sent to Mombasa (about 10.30).
- Q. When you returned did you see any wounded men.
- A. Yes three were brought in, two with bullet wounds one with a scalp wound probably caused by a stick. One was shot through the body and arm and one through the thigh. One died last night.
- Q. What was the name of the man who died.
- A. Mahomed Harun.
- Q. When you arrested the man Abdi Harun to send him to Mombasa what did you propose to do.
- A. To prosecute him in Mombasa for incitement to disturbance and other charges.

Read over

(sd) Charles H. F. Gedge.

William Marston Logan A.D.C. Isakaungu.

On oath.

Yesterday morning November 27th, I ordered the arrest of a Somali head an Abdi Harun. Three askaris arrested him and led him down the road. I remained in the office with Mr. Chivell. Almost at once we were called and told that the askaris were being mobbed. We went out were joined by Mr. Gedge and I sent the rest of the squad to assist the other askari. On reaching them I found the prisoner in the middle of a bunch of Somalis. The Somali headmen beat this bunch away and I got the prisoner between the askaris again and ordered them to fix bayonets and take him on. We Europeans followed. We began to be stoned and for some 20 minutes were pelted. As long as we could we tried to get away without making any reply. Mr. Gedge however was hit twice and it was only by dodging and considerable luck that we were not all hit and hurt. As the stones continued to be flung from a range of 40-50 yards I ordered a volley to be fired in the air. This had no effect and I then told the men to fire over the heads of the Somali. We all three repeatedly shouted "Juu". After 3 rounds were fired by each of the 8 askaris firing the Somalis fell away and we took our prisoner on to Isakaungu without further incident.

- Q. What did you arrest prisoner for.
- A. For disobedience to a lawful command of his employer and also for inciting to disobedience the Somali employes.
- Q. How near where the Somalia when you gave the second order to fire.

- A. The nearest were within about 40 yards.
- Q. How many Somalis were in the mob.
- A. From 130 to 200.
- Q. Whereabouts did the firing take place.
- A. About 400 yards from the factory on the way to Nakauanga.
- Q. Did you see anyone fall when the police fired.
- A. No.
- Q. Were any of the Somalis armed.
- A. They came armed with sticks.
- Q. Did you warn the Somalis that you intended to fire.
- A. I told one of the headmen and he returned and told them.
- Q. Did you tell him through an interpreter.
- A. I told the interpreter in English and then told both the interpreter and headman in Swahili.
- Q. What time elapsed between your warning and the order to fire.
- A. About 4 minutes elapsed before I gave the order to fire when I gave the warning I ordered the sergeant to fire one shot in the air as a general warning.
- Q. What was your precise order re firing on first occasion.
- A. Piga rasasi juu.
- Q. What was your order on the second occasion.
- A. I repeated the same order and added usipiga watu.
- Q. What led up to the arrest of headman.
- A. My decision in the enquiry as to the strike on the previous day. I was sent for by the manager on the 26th and I came out and spent the day listening to the men's complaints.
- Q. Did your enquiry result in finding out the cause of the strike.
- A. Yes.



- Q. When did you learn anyone had been shot.
- A. The fact was reported by the headmen at the office at Takaungu.
- Q. What did they report.
- A. They reported that four men had been hurt.
- Q. Did the manager request you to arrest the headman.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you see the wounded men.
- A. No.

Read over.

(sd) W.H. Logan

A.D.C.

20/11/13

Nov.

William Richard Chivell

Manager Powysland Plantation.

On oath.

Q. Were you present at a disturbance on this Estate yesterday 27th November.

A. Yes.

Q. What was the cause of the disturbance.

A. The arrest of a heathen called Abdi Barun.

Q. What were the circumstances of his arrest.

A. He was arrested for inducing the Somali labourers not to work. On the previous evening he himself asked to be arrested and to be sent to Mombasa. Both Mr. Gedge and myself asked the A.D.C. to arrest him. Mr. Gedge Mr. Logan and I went up to the store. I sent one of our interpreters to call Abdi Barun and he came to the store and Mr. Logan ordered the police to arrest him. From his actions I judged he would go quietly the police at first seized him but then loosed him and he went quietly as far as the well and then he attempted to go off to the camp and the police took hold of him and he struggled and then a number of men working in the camp rushed up and attempted to release him. Then Mr. Gedge Mr. Logan and I went down to assist the police the other Somalis then attacked us by throwing coral stones at us and they were waving sticks and the police surrounded the prisoner and marched him off to Takaungu, stones being thrown at us all the time. When we got some little distance Mr. Gedge had been hit on the shoulder and Mr. Logan ordered the police to fire high, the three of us constantly urged the police to fire high. The firing was done independently not volley.

Q. Did you see anyone hit.

A. No.

Q. What was the effect of the firing.

A. It had practically no effect it did not stop them stoning us. As far as one can judge they only stopped when they found someone was hit.

Q. Did the men eventually disperse.

A. They eventually stopped and we got out of range of the stone throwing.

Q. When did you find out that anyone was wounded.

A. At Takaungu where some headmen came and told us.

Q. Did you see any wounded men.

A. Yes on my return to camp.

Q. How many men were wounded and where.

A. Two men wounded by bullets, one was shot through the arm and body and the other through the thigh.

Q. What happened to the wounded men.

A. We put them in the store and attended to them as best we could, one died last night and the other is still alive.

Q. Had they any medical attention except what you were able to give them.

A. No.

Q. What is the name of the man who died.

A. Mahomed Harun.

Q. How near were the Somalis to you when the order to fire was given.

A. The nearest were fifteen yards away, they were spread out in every direction.

Q. Was any warning given before the order to fire.

A. No.

Q. About how many Somalis were there in the mob.

A. Between one and two hundred.

Q. Did you see any headmen or interpreter between the Somali mob and the police.

A. I saw two or three headmen.

Q. Did you hear a headman or interpreter warn the mob.

A. No.

Q. Did you see anyone else hurt.

A. Several were hit by sticks when the Somalis were all round the police.

Q. Have you had any more trouble with the men since the incident occurred.

A. No.

Q. When the mob assembled were all the Somalis collected.

A. Not all some were away cutting bush.

Q. Did the wounded men make any statement to you.

A. No.

Read over

(SA) W.A. Chivell.

Hanomed Abgulla

Corpl. E.A. Police stationed at Takaungu  
duly affirmed.

I was at Takaungu and the clerk sent the Sergeant and me off with 10 men we were 11 in all. We proceeded to the plantation of Mr. Gedge we came before Mr. Logan and we fell out and waited, these men were then told off to arrest the niapara (headman) of the Somalis, I do not know his name we took the headman and when we got to near the well he called out and his wife came out with a big stick and gave the prisoner the stick, the Sergeant who speaks Somali took away the stick and threw it away. When the Somalis saw their headman arrested many collected and they surrounded the police. Our officer Mr. Logan was in the store and I told him that the Somalis had surrounded the police and he came out with two Europeans belonging to the plantation but the Somalis were not afraid of the Europeans and threw stones at them and they took big sticks and knives, and their headmen reasoned with them and told them not to attack the Europeans but they would not listen to them and said that their headman who was arrested should not go. They blew whistles and more and more came to help their friends and we saw that we were being overcome and we fixed bayonets to deter them and they still came on some caught hold of our rifles and tried to take them. We got on some way further and they still came on and threw stones. We then received the order to "piga bunduchi juu" (to fire high) to frighten them they however threw stones more than ever. The Europeans were hit by stones. We fired one by one in the air and eventually we got space

to proceed to Takaungu. When we reached Takaungu 3 headmen came and said 4 men were wounded.

- Q. If you fired in the air how did it come about that men were wounded.
- A. I do not know there was much confusion.
- Q. How many cartridges did you fire.
- A. Three.
- Q. Did you see anyone fall.
- A. No I did not see anyone fall.
- Q. Who order you to fire.
- A. I received the order from the sergeant.
- Q. How near where the nearest Somalis.
- A. About 15 yards.
- Q. Were any police hit.
- A. Some were hit by stones, I was struck by a stick but I warded it off with my rifle.

Read over.

(d) in Arabic.

Ralph Holmes

Assistant Surgeon E.A.P.

On oath

I arrived at Kilifi about noon today I was taken to a Somali camp on the Kilifi plantations by Mr. Gedge in one of the houses I was shown a dead body of a Somali male about 25 years who was said to be Mahomed Harun. The body was well nourished and death was apparently due to a gunshot wound. The orifice of entry of the bullet was the outside of the right elbow the bullet had pierced the elbow and entered the abdomen about 1 inch below the last rib passing through the abdomen, the orifice of exit being on the left side. I did not perform a post mortem examination I estimate that death had occurred 12 to 16 hours previous, there were no other marks of violence.

Q. Did you see any other wounded men.

A. Yes. One Farce Mahomed suffering from simple gunshot wound of right thigh, orifice of entry being on inside of a right thigh and exit through right buttock. Condition of patient fair I saw two other men, one Duhal Gutaleh suffering from contused scalp wounds and the other Mesan Agal suffering from contused scalp wounds, neither case serious: probably due to blows from stick or other blunt instrument.

Read over

(sd) R. Holmes

Asst. Surgeon.

## Finding

On November 27th 1913 in an encounter between some police from Takaungu and a number of Somalis employed on Powysland Plantations shots were fired by the police and the deceased was shot.

The circumstances are briefly as follows:-

The Manager of the Estate requested the A.D.C. Takaungu to arrest a Somali headman named Abdi Harun who it was claimed had been inciting the Somali labourers to disobedience. This was done and the police proceeded to march the prisoner through the plantation to Takaungu. A mob brought together an assembly of a large number of Somali labourers who attacked the police with stones, the police had by this time been joined by the A.D.C. Takaungu and Messrs Gedge and Chivell. Being under the belief that they were in danger of being overpowered by the Somali mob the A.D.C. ordered the police to fix bayonets and a little later ordered the police to fire over the heads of the crowd, the police each fired three rounds, in spite however of the warnings to fire high two men were hit one of which was the deceased.

It would therefore appear that one or more of the police in the excitement of the incident depressed their rifles and so caused the casualties. I therefore find that the death of the Somali known as Mahomed Harun was due to misadventure and was caused by a rifle shot fired by a constable and who was ordered to fire by the A.D.C. Takaungu (Mr. Logan) and that the A.D.C. Takaungu, Mr. Logan gave the order under the belief that he and his police were in danger



danger of being overpowered by a mob of riotous  
Somalis.

(sif) C.W.Hobley

Provincial Commissioner, Seyidie.

Mombasa,

December 1st, 1913.

In Despatch No. 200 of 23 1914

Provincial Commissioner's Office,

Mombasa,

4th February 1914.

No. 32/112/12

I have the honour to forward for your information a report made by Mr. Skene upon recent disturbances which occurred at Powsland with the Somali labourers.

4. As I mentioned before in my report of 2/12/13 I am still of the opinion that Mr. Gedge's presence at Kilifi operates a distinct irritant to the Somali temperament, and I would venture to advise that a hint be given to Mr. Gobb that probably matters might improve if Mr. Gedge's energies were employed elsewhere.

5. The new manager might then have a chance of seeing if he can deal with the Somali and obtain a fair day's work out of him. If he cannot, I would certainly recommend that the firm should repatriate these men to their own country.

*etc*  
I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

*B. W. Hobley*

Provincial Commissioner.

The Hon'ble  
The Chief Secretary,  
Nairobi.

District Commissioner's Office,

Malindi,

31st. January 1914.

O.S/13/14.

Powysland Somali labourers.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that in conformity with your instructions I proceeded to Takaungu in connection with the trouble which the management staff of the Powysland plantation of Kilifi has recently had with the Somali labourers.

From my conversation with Mr. Gedge I understand that the following events took place there:

During the first days of last week the temper of the Somalis had become sullen owing to an unavoidable shortage of ghee in their ration. The shortage had however been made good, but they nevertheless remained discontented and when Mr. Millington, the Assistant Manager, made an observation through an interpreter to one Ismail Nayala about his work the latter replied in Somali, uttering a very gross insult, to the effect that Mr. Millington might go and copulate with one of the headmen whom he had some reason to dislike. Mr. Millington naturally did not understand the remark at which the other Somalis present laughed.

Later in the day the insulting language of Ismail Nayala was translated to Mr. Millington and to Mr. Gedge who ordered the headman to flog Ismail Nayala. After a while the headman returned and reported to Mr. Gedge

The Hon'ble,

The Provincial Commissioner,  
Mombasa.

their

attempting to do so would result in a trivial fight, and they requested Mr. Gedge to do the flogging himself. The latter then proceeded with Mr. Millington to comply with his request and went to the place where Ismail Nayala was working. On the way there he met one of the headmen who warned him that serious trouble would ensue if the flogging were administered, but Mr. Gedge considered it then too late to withdraw, and so proceeded to fulfil his purpose.

On arriving at the place where Ismail Nayala and some others of his section were working, Mr. Gedge ordered Ismail to come out on to the road to be flogged. Ismail refused to comply, and those who were with him becoming very excited, detached the heads of their hoes from the handles which they clubbed, and adopted a threatening attitude generally.

By this time Ismail Nayala was edging away and Mr. Millington made an attempt to seize him, whereupon the Somalis crowded round the two Europeans and attacked them, both by throwing the heads of their hoes at them and by striking them with the hoe handles at close quarters. Mr. Gedge was knocked down and received several bruises on the arms, but Mr. Millington was more severely dealt with and got several very heavy blows on the back and shoulders.

The two Europeans finally extricated themselves from the "melee" and returned home.

Mr. Gedge, on my seeing him, informed me that he wished to prosecute six men out of those who had assailed him and Mr. Millington. But on my representing to him from a legal point of view the Somalis were only one of themselves from an assault in the shape of flogging which Mr. Gedge and Mr. Millington were

Mr. Gedge then very wisely decided not to prosecute them, as I pointed out to him that the situation would be made much worse if the men were tried and acquitted on the score of having acted in self defence. 463

Mr Gedge then decided to charge Ismail Nayala under Section 405 I.P.C. "insult with intent to bring about a breach of the peace", but the difficulty was how to arrest the man, Mr. Gedge and the other Europeans being of opinion that an attempt to do so at present without a strong body of police to overawe the Somalis would certainly result in another riot and probably bloodshed. I reported the situation briefly to your office by wire.

In the meantime I began the trial of Mohamed Deria headman on Powsland plantation, who had been charged a Somali with "criminal intimidation" before the trouble above narrated had taken place, and who had been arrested at Mombasa at Mr. Gedge's instigation. Mohamed Deria had been remanded back to Takaungu for trial in the ordinary course of business. On hearing the evidence against him I changed the charge to one of "instigating an assault" Sections 109 and 352 I.P.C.

On Mohamed Deria giving me the names of the witnesses whom he wished to call in his defence, I asked him if he would like to call Ismail Nayala. This was the man whose arrest was now required; Mohamed Deria replied, somewhat to my satisfaction, that he would also like Ismail to be called as a witness in his defence, as Ismail knew what had occurred in relation to the charge brought against him (Mohamed Deria) He was therefore sent for and came before me together with six other witnesses called by Mohamed Deria.

After Ismail Nayala had given his evidence before me at Takaungu in Mohamed Deria's case he was quietly arrested under the charge mentioned above. But as he

he appeared to me to be too ill to undergo his trial there and then, without anyone to conduct his defence, I ordered him to be remanded for a fortnight and sent him, with your concurrence, to Mombasa hospital for treatment. He was shipped under police escort on the following morning by dhow for Mombasa.

Mohomed Deria was found guilty under the charge made against him and was sentenced to two months rigorous imprisonment.

On the following day I visited Powysland plantation and found Mr. Gedge in a despondent frame of mind in regard to the Somali labour, and expecting ~~more trouble~~. On making ~~an inquiry~~ ~~of some~~ that the Somalis had stopped work at 10 o'clock in the morning instead of at 12 noon, doubtless in order to hear the result of the trial of Mohomed Deria whom I had already started on his journey to Malindi gaol. But at 2 p.m. I understood from Mr. Montgomerie that they had all returned to work as usual except some women who had some trivial complaint to make which was settled there and then by Mr. Montgomerie after which they also returned to work. But the headmen were I believe fined for the two hours labour lost in the morning, and Mr. Gedge considered that there would be more trouble as soon as they realised this. I was given to understand however that Mr. Gedge had handed over charge of the labour to Mr. Montgomerie, and as the personal equation is a very great factor, if not the main factor, in dealing with coloured labour, I trust that Mr. Gedge's prophecies of evil will not come to pass.

But, even under the best circumstances, according to the data given to me by Mr. Gedge and Mr. Montgomerie, Somali labour, as a business proposition, appears to be doubtful. For instance, a Somali can only cut a thousand

sisal leaves a-day while a Kikuyu or a Kavirondo will cut fifteen hundred. A Somali costs in pay and rations sixteen rupees a month plus sixty rupees a year for passage to and from Berbera, as compared with ten rupees a month only for the entire expenses of a Kikuyu. Somali labour can therefore only be considered as a "pis-aller".

Mr. Gedge told me that he had wired to Mr. Whitlark, the Secretary of their company at Mole, suggesting that Mr. Montgomery should proceed at once to Moshakoe where he is known, in order to recruit labour, and if successful in getting a sufficient number of Akamba labourers, Mr. Gedge urged that the Somalis be repatriated without delay.

The reply to this wire had not been received when all being quiet at Powsland and Mr. Montgomery expecting no immediate trouble, I started on my return journey to Malindi.

etc

I have the honour to be,  
 Sir,  
 Your most obedient servant.

~~Sd~~ R. Skene.  
 District Commissioner.

Encl 5 in NO

INCLOSURE No. 5 466

In Despatch No. 200 of 2. 3. 1914

In reply please quote No. S. 7221 & date.

Mombasa,  
December 12th 1913.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Archer's despatch No. 1573 of the 23rd of September, I have the honour to inform you that the Somali indentured labour brought down to Kilifi from Berbera by Mr. Powys Cobb is giving considerable trouble and a serious riot took place on the 27th ultimo in which the police were forced to fire and two Somalis were wounded, one of whom has since died.

2. A full enquiry has been made into the incident and one of the grievances appears to be due to some misunderstanding as to the date upon which their pay commenced.

3. The Somalis one and all maintain that it commenced from the date on which they engaged which is presumably the date on which the contract was approved by the Magistrate at Berbera viz. October 16th 1913. The Management however point out that, in the early part of the agreement, the date of the commencement of the term of service was left blank with the object of inserting the date of disembarkation upon the arrival of the men, and the correct date of disembarkation

The Commissioner,  
Somaliland Protectorate,  
Berbera.



disembarkation viz: November 7th was accordingly inserted here. The Somalia claim that they are being cheated out of a month's pay as they understood in Berbera that their pay commenced from the date of engagement.

4. I should be glad if you would cause enquiry to be made into the matter and inform me of the result at your early convenience.

I have etc. etc.

H. B. 11/17

GOVERNOR.

Berbera,

7th January 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1121 of the 12th ultimo on the subject of the Somali Labourers recruited by the Coast Labour Society.

2. The Agreement executed by Mr. H. H. Henderson on the 26th October 1913 on behalf of his principals, as will be seen from the attached copy\*, states specifically in the 1st paragraph the period of service, the rate of pay, and the date of the commencement of the employment, namely the 26th October 1913. There is therefore no ground for the contention that wages were not payable during the voyage. A copy of a report from the District Commissioner, Berbera, is enclosed for your information which will, I think, provide an explanation of the error on the part of the Coast Planters Association.

I have etc. etc.

~~Sgt~~ H. A. Byatt.

H. M's Commissioner.

His Excellency

The Governor,

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

NAIROBI.

\* Independent and the copy in enclosure 2 except the passages printed here. 1143

AGREEMENT OF SERVICE.

( In accordance with the Somaliland Native Labour Regulations, 1901, and the Native Labour Amendment Ordinance 1913.)

This is to certify that the persons named in the attached schedule, natives of the Somaliland Protectorate, agree to serve Harold Hume Henderson of Mombasa, British East Africa, the accredited representative of the Coast Labour Society, East Africa Protectorate, affiliated to the East Africa Coast Planter's Association in the East Africa Protectorate, for a period of one year from the 26th day of October 1913, in the capacity of agricultural laborers for a payment of Rs.eight per mensem in the case of adult males, and Rs.five per mensem in the case of females and minors, such payments to be made monthly in arrear.

~~The cost of passages of laborers from Berbera to the East Africa Protectorate shall be borne by the said Harold Hume Henderson.~~

[See p.]

Further the said Harold Hume Henderson undertakes to provide every person named in the schedule hereto with proper housing accommodation, with free medicines and medical attendance as provided in part I of the Somaliland Native Labour Regulations of 1901 and also with free food on the following scale, viz: one pound of rice half

half a pound of dates and two Ozs. ghee per diem, during the whole period of employment.

Further the said Harold Hume Henderson undertakes that in the case of labourers who may be accompanied by their families or dependants, such labourers shall not be required or compelled to work, or live apart from such families or dependants during the term of this agreement, and that all the promises of the employer contained in this agreement shall extend to such families and dependants as well as to the labourers, provided that any children or dependants of a labourer who may accompany him otherwise than as labourers shall not be entitled to free rations.

Further this agreement may be renewed upon the same terms and, for a period not exceeding one year from the expiration of this agreement by a further agreement between the parties to this agreement executed before and attested by the Magistrate of the District in which the labourer is for the time being employed, and may be further renewed from time to time in the same manner, and on the same terms for successive periods of twelve months from the date of expiration of the last period of renewal.

Further the said Harold Hume Henderson undertakes on the expiration of this agreement

agreement or any renewal thereof, to return any or all of the labourers named in the attached schedule to Berbera if requested to do so, either by the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate or by the Commissioner of the Somaliland Protectorate.

Further on the expiration of this agreement or of any renewal thereof the said Harold Hume Henderson agrees either at the request of a labourer or labourers or of the Government of the East Africa Protectorate or the Commissioner of the Somaliland Protectorate, to place any labourer or labourers on boardship and to provide him or them with a free return passage to Berbera and with food, as prescribed, sufficient for the journey.

stat {

Further every labourer shall before leaving Berbera be provided by the said Harold Hume Henderson with one blanket.

~~S~~- H. Henderson. Signature of Employer

Signature or mark of labourers on schedule attached.

Approved by me

~~S~~- J. L. Berne

Magistrate 1st Class, Berbera, Somaliland.

This 26th day of October 1913.



District Commissioner's Office,

Berbera,

5th January 1914.

Sir,

With reference to the despatch No.S.7221 dated December 12th 1913 from His Excellency the Governor of British East Africa I have the honour to report that the agreement between the Somali indentured labourers and Mr.Henderson: representative of the Coast Planters Association: was signed before me on the date of the embarkation of the labourers for British East Africa viz: , 26th October 1913.

I cannot understand what the management of the Association refer to, in stating that the space in the early part of the agreement was left blank. The date on the agreement, the original of which I attach for your inspection, is distinctly stated, Mr.Henderson affixed his signature to this agreement and was furnished with a duplicate dated copy of the same.

It is probable that the agreement referred to by the Management, was a preliminary draft supplied to Mr.Henderson for his information as to the nature of the document which he would be called upon to sign.

On

On more than one occasion I personally explained the terms of the agreement to the indentured Somalis, and distinctly told them that their pay would commence from the date of their departure from Berbera viz: 26th October 1918.

I have etc. etc.

Sd/- J. L. Berne

District Commissioner,

Berbera.

800. 11450/1914.

10519

474



E.A.P.

(No 331)

8 April 1914

Sir,

DRAFT.

I have the honour

E.A.P.

to acknowledge the receipt

No 331

of your despatch, No.

Mr. H. Balfour

200, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March

MINUTE.

relating to the

Mr. Kiser 7/4/14

recruitment of

Mr. Bottomley 8/4/14 p

Somali labourers

Sir G. Fiddes.

from Somaliland

Sir H. Just

for the plantations

Sir J. Anderson.

on the coast, and

Lord Emmott

to inform you that

Mr. Harcourt.

in view of the

facts disclosed no

further recruitment

\* No 11450

Ansud/20679

6/12 - 8 April 14

Original



can be allowed

2. I shall be  
glad to be informed  
whether Mr Sedge  
has been removed  
as suggested in para.  
2 of Mr Hobley's letter  
to the Chief Secretary of  
the 4<sup>th</sup> of Febr<sup>y</sup>\*

9/1/1900

\* See Vol. 4 in No 11450