

EAST AFR. PROT.
14230

14230
RECS
MAY 19 1914

Belfield 27

Fencing wire issued to Settlers

1914

25 inch.

Reports since connected with writing off Rs 418 value of fencing wire issued to a Mr Wilson who diffcultly anticipated in collecting value of wire issued to other settlers.

Last previous Paper.

8352

Wthead.

The Govt has discovered that his dep of 9 May 1913 (78352) was written under misapprehension. The wire (as all the previous supplied) issued to Mr Wilson and sections 5 and 6 (1) of the District (Fencing) Order 1908 (amended) payment is not due from Mr Wilson.

The fence was put up by the Govt and it was anticipated that Mr Wilson would take down the Govt fence and say why then was anticipated) Mr Wilson declined to take down and the Agricultural Dept took it down and neglected to erase the debit against Mr Wilson in their a/c's. The Govt have the wire, as money is not lost.

Partly

Subsequent Paper.

? put by.

at once O.P.D. 24/4/14
H. J. K. [Signature]

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA

No. 267.

March 25th, 1914.

Sir,

40/1832

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 431 of the 6th of June 1913 on the subject of the issue of fencing wire to settlers by the Agricultural Department.

2. I regret to find that there appears to have been a misunderstanding over the matter. The circumstances under which I addressed you in my despatch No. 340 of the 21st of May 1913 were as follows: In 1912, owing to the break of East Coast Fever, the Agricultural Department considered it necessary to wire fence round the farm belonging to Mr. W. McLellan Wilson in the Kyambu District. It was expected that Mr. Wilson would eventually take over this fence and the cost, amounting to Rs. 413, was accordingly debited to Mr. Wilson's account.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

account. Mr. Wilson, however, disclaimed his intention of so doing, and when the fence had served its purpose it was taken down by the Agricultural Department which however omitted to cancel the debit against him in the books. This point was not made clear when the outstanding account was challenged by the Audit Department, and under this misapprehension it was thought necessary to apply for sanction to write off the amount.

3. With regard to the enquiry in paragraph 2 of your despatch under reply, fencing wire has been issued by the Agricultural Department to a number of estates in accordance with the provisions of the Fencing Ordinance of 1904 (Ordinance No. 10 of 1904). This Ordinance provides that the cost of the wire is repaid to the department by the land owners at the rate of 10% per annum, by equal annual instalments commencing two years after the fencing is completed. These instalments are all being regularly paid, and the land owners concerned have all given satisfactory security as required by section 5 of the Ordinance. There is therefore no reason to anticipate any difficulty in the collection of the remainder.

4. I regret the delay in replying to your despatch, which has been occasioned partly by the necessary perusal of considerable past correspondence, but mainly because, as the original queries were raised by the Audit Department, it was thought advisable to await the return of Mr. W.A. Kempe, Senior Assistant Auditor, before giving a final reply.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

A. Conway Bayfield.

GOVERNOR.