

did have occurred, but in the
eyes, he fears that he
cannot usefully add
anything to what is
stated in the telegraphic
communication.

R. L. Anderson
H. L.

DESPATCH

EAST AFR. PROT.

No. 21729

21729

REC'D 16 JUN 08



ORDER No. 252

(Subject)

1908

Sleeping Sickness in Kamerondo

1st May

Residual Paper.

Sends report by P.M.S. resp. prevalence of
disease & states measures proposed to prevent
spread - asks for sanction of copies of £2000.
& for immediate appl. of temporary med. office.

(Minutes.)

Mr. Antrobus

As far as I know this is
the first official info. we have
had about Sleeping Sickness in
the E.A.P. - tho' of course it was not
likely to respect the artificial
boundaries between Uganda, &
German & Africa of the E.A.P.

As a matter of fact, it now
appears that in North Kamerondo
it has existed since 1905 &
is believed to be dying out.
S. Kamerondo has only recently
been attacked.

It is proposed to deal with the
disease in the same way as in

250 pms & 1 sheet
Copy to Sleeping Sickness Bureau } 13 July 1908

Residual Paper.

Uganda, by removing the people
 from the infected area, & isolating
 them already afflicted, in segre-
 -gation camps. The difficulty
 of doing so will be increased by the
 fact that the people has begun
 by picking on the ~~best~~ streams
 which are the haunts of the fly
 which conveys the infection

The Gov. proposes an expense of £2000
 for the year including the salary
 of an additional temporary Medical
 officer. He intends to meet it
 out of savings, but we ought to go
 to Treasury for assurance as the
 amount is no large, & with doubtless
 we can get it next year.
 We ought certainly to spend the
 money - especially as the contribution
 of the Province (in the shape of
 Hut Tax (£25,384) is, I should
 think, in excess of the amount expen-
 -ded for the benefit of the natives
 there.

10/6
 Medical and other expenses
 to the Province
 June 18

Col. Seely
 Lord Curzon

Act as proposed
 17/6

17/6

17/6

21729

283 C.O. 21729



Governor's Office
Mombasa,
May 25th 1908.

16 JUN 08

Handwritten signature

~~OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR~~

(No. 252)

(Incl. 5)

My Lord,

I have the honour to submit a report by the Principal Medical Officer drawing attention to the increase of Sleeping Sickness in Southern Kavirondo where the disease is reported to be spreading along the river Kuja and its tributaries.

2. The introduction of this disease in this part is of recent date, but the comparative rapidity of its movements and the percentage of people reported to be infected show that the mortality will assume large proportions and measures must be taken to check it as far as possible.

3. Attached is a Memorandum of the discussion held at Kisumu in connection with Sleeping Sickness in Kavirondo on the 27th of last month. The report of Dr. Milne referred to will follow. In Northern Kavirondo it was hoped that the disease was dying out, and though this is probably the case, recent investigations have revealed the fact that there is a large area of fly infected country bordering on the Lake, and that the disease is still prevalent.

The

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.

M.O. 39/1908.
Memorandum.

Handwritten marks at the bottom of the page.

4. The measures proposed to deal with Sleeping Sickness on this side of the Lake are noted in the inclosures to this despatch.
5. They comprise the general movement of the people from the infected areas and the establishment of segregation camps in clear country. In Southern Kavirondo it is thought that many of the people can be got to move without difficulty after the crops are reaped in August next.
6. In Northern Kavirondo there will be greater difficulty. In November last instructions were issued to the District Officers to endeavour to get the people in Northern Kavirondo to move away from the vicinity of the Lake, but with very indifferent results, and the difficulty is enhanced by the absence of responsible Chiefs with an authoritative hold over their people. I have never been in favour of actual coercion en masse, which would be a difficult and costly measure to carry out and would require preparations beforehand on an extensive scale. But I consider that a great deal may be done by systematic persuasion at first in South Kavirondo, watching the effect, and afterwards if necessary, moving village by village to fly free country and gradually depopulating the fly infected areas.
7. A meeting of the Chiefs of the infected areas is being arranged at Kisumu by the Provincial Commissioner and I am sending a Medical Officer and a surveyor to select a fly free area, and a site for a segregation camp, and afterwards to do the same in North Kavirondo.
8. In the meanwhile I would ask Your Lordship to sanction

sanction the expenditure of £3,000 which I shall be able to meet from general savings on the year, to provide for the Medical and Administrative measures it will be necessary to take before the anticipated move can be commenced and to carry it on to the close of the financial year.

9. I would request that a temporary Medical Officer be engaged at once for the segregation camp and be sent out as soon as possible. It is with great difficulty that the Principal Medical Officer can spare Dr. Wiggins for the purpose for which he is now being deputed. Your Lordship will observe that I propose to start operations in South Kavirondo as soon as the next harvest is reaped in August next, arranging beforehand to impress on the Chiefs the object of, and the necessity for the measures we propose to adopt, and selecting the area to which the people can move. Having started operations thus in South Kavirondo, I would propose to do the same in North Kavirondo, where the presence of a segregation camp will, it is hoped, materially aid as an incentive to the natives to desert the fly infected Lake shore.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

W. G. Wiggins

Indes. no

21729

P. M. O's OFFICE.

Nairobi.

16 JUN 08

16th May 1908.

286

Sir,

I have the honour to direct attention to the presence and extension of Sleeping Sickness in Kisumu Province, more especially in South Kavironda.

The disease was introduced among the people living along the shore of Kavironda Gulf some 5 years ago from Usoga and since then has gradually crept along the Eastern shore of Victoria Nyanza as far as the Anglo-German boundary. Three years ago isolated cases were reported near the mouth of the Kuja river, and during the past year it has rapidly spread along the Kuja and its tributaries, the Angotche, Nyumye, Mageri and Oyani. These rivers have more or less steep banks, thickly wooded or covered with scrub in which the Glossina palpalis abounds.

The districts affected are locally known as Kadem, Signa and Sakwa, and comprise an area of roughly 110 square miles.

The population of this area is at present estimated at 15,200, and as a result of a recent investigation of Sleeping Sickness in this district it was found that 45 to 50 per cent were infected with Trypanosomiasis.

The number of deaths that have occurred from the disease in this area could not be ascertained but judging from the following facts, (1) that it is of comparatively recent

Secretary

to the Administration.

2.

recent introduction, (2) that no marked diminution in the population has been reported by the District Commissioner and (3) that the Medical Officer who has just investigated the disease in this area states in his report that he saw cases in various stages ranging from a few weeks up to a year and says "the vast majority of the cases gave a history of 2 to 4 months sickness", I do not think that as yet the mortality has been very great. As already stated 45 to 50 per cent of the people are infected and there can be no doubt that in the near future the death rate will be appalling.

The comparatively rapid spread of the disease is doubtless due to the fact that the people spend a large portion of their time in fishing, for although they are rich in cattle, sheep and goats, and are also keen agriculturists, they (men women and children) will walk 8 or 10 miles to these rivers and, wading in the water, fish the whole day long.

To preserve these unfortunate people from being completely wiped out I would strongly urge the necessity of moving them as early as possible from their present location to a part of the country, fly free, and where they would not have easy access to these rivers, and the establishment of a segregation camp in their new locations. There is ample suitable land available and the Administrative Officer in charge of the district does not consider there would be much difficulty in carrying out their removal. I do not think it would serve any useful purpose

WINDWARD ISLANDS

SAINT VINCENT

64 13th
No. 95 of 10th August, 1896.

Administrator Thompson;

His Excellency,

Sir Charles Bruce, K.C.M.G.

to,

&c,

&c,

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

&c, &c, &c.

Survey of Treasury Chest held on
1st ultimo. Forwards Report of

to establish a treatment camp among them in the infected area, because so far no known method of treatment has been successful and even were any method successful they would be constantly exposing themselves to re-infection.

The only hope of saving those not already infected lies, in my opinion, in their early removal to another locality, and this should be commenced as soon as their present crops are reaped. I would also propose opening a segregation camp in the new locality for treatment as soon as their removal is begun.

They are aware of the measures which have been adopted by the German Authorities and are eager for treatment, in fact some have been under treatment by the German Doctors at Shirati and their symptoms have been temporarily ameliorated. The establishment ^{of a} camp would act as an inducement to them to abandon their present habitations and would doubtless materially assist in their entire removal.

These proposed measures would however entail the expenditure of a certain sum of money for which no provision has been made in the current year's estimates.

An extra Medical Officer would be required, also an Indian Hospital Assistant and subordinate and genial staff.

The people would effect their own removal at practically no expense to Government and have expressed themselves as willing to assist in erecting grass bandas for a segregation camp, but for superintending the latter and also the building of bandas for the M. O. and his staff an Indian carpenter would be required. A staff of camp sweepers

6

3.

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6

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

SAINT VINCENT.

No. 67, of 18th August, 1896.

Governor

SIR CHARLES BRUCE, K.C.M.G.

TO

The Right Honorable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

Ac., Ac., Ac.

For issue of Postage Stamps
for St. Vincent.
The necessary in-
struction may be given
to the Chief Agents as
to -

1 Enclosure.

4.

sweepers would be necessary and also men to act as camp police.

With regard to the question of food, in their present locations there is abundance of food but on removal to a new locality there would probably be a shortage at first before new crops could be cultivated and reaped, this would have to be provided against.

The following is a provisional estimate of the expenditure which would probably be incurred for the 8 months from August 1908 to March 1909.

1 M.O. at £400 per annum	}.....£300-0-0
" Camp allowance £50	
2 Hospi. Asst. at £96 per annum.....	64-0-0
4 Dressers at Rs. 10/- per mensem each...	21-8-8
4 Sweepers " " 4/- " " " ...	8-10-8
4 Natives to act as police Rs. 4/- -de- .	8-10-8
3 Water carriers at Rs. 4/- p.m. each...	6-8-0
3 Wood boys " " 4/- " "	6-8-0
1 Headman " Rs. 6/- p.m.	5-4-0
2 Cooks " " 4/- " each.....	4-5-4
1 Interpreter " " 20/- "	10-13-4
1 Carpenter (6months) at Rs. 90/- p.m. ..	36-0-0
Drugs and equipment.....	100-0-0
aterial for building, doors, windows &c.	120-0-0
elling expenses of M.O. from England)	} 60-0-0
carriage of goods &c.	
o natives, including labour for) planting)... 250-0-0	

2000 -0-0

In

WINDWARD ISLANDS

SAINT VINCENT

65 13^R

13th of August 1895

Administrator Tempson.

- to -

His Excellency,

Sir Charles King, K. C. M. G.

do. do. do.

- to -

Right Hon. Mr. Justice,

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, Esq.

Chief Justice Trafford. Reports

There will be no sittings of Court

during the absence of leave for six

months from 3rd November, granted to -

5.

In North Kavirondo, south of the Nzoia and Yala rivers in the chieftainships of Kadimu, Sakaa, Gani, Asembe, Uyome, Semi and Sari, there is a considerable number of cases of Sleeping Sickness. An investigation was carried out in November last by the District Commissioner and Dr. Forster. A hut to hut inspection was made and 276 cases of the disease were found, the number of deaths during the past 2 years was stated by the Chiefs to have been 2,151, and the present population was estimated at 35,000.

These chieftainships skirt the northern shore of Kavirondo Gulf, the inhabitants formerly lived almost entirely by catching fish, which they transported by canoes to Usoga and sold for bananas.

In recent times, however, having had many deaths from Sleeping Sickness, a great many have moved their villages inland, relinquished to a large extent the fishing industry and taken to agricultural pursuits.

The Chiefs state that the disease is dying out and there is a considerable amount of evidence in favour of this statement. In 1903 there was an average of 100 cases of Sleeping Sickness in the U.S. Hospital at old Kisumu and the numbers of admissions since then have decreased so greatly that 18 months ago there were only 2 patients who were transferred to the General Native Hospital and the U.S. Hospital was closed.

I have been informed by the members of the G. M. S. Mission in N. Kavirondo that the people would be difficult to move to another location, that any attempt in this direction

6.

direction would meet with a good deal of individual resistance and if carried out would have to be done by force.

There is not a very large number of cases in the locality, and I am of opinion that if the villages still remaining on the Lake shore were moved a mile or a mile and a half inland and their watering places seen to and thoroughly cleared of scrub (they all draw water from the Lake or the Yala river) the disease would be effectually checked and gradually die out. In this connection I would suggest an Officer of the Administration being detailed to superintend the carrying out of these measures.

The complete removal of these people would be an onerous and difficult undertaking, and would mean the moving of 8,800 huts and a population of at least 55,000 souls.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



Principal Medical Officer.

Notes 2 in 20

INCLOSURE No. 4

25th May 1908

21729

16 JUN 08

MEMORANDUM of discussion on possible procedure in connection with Sleeping Sickness in Kavirondo, between the Provincial Commissioner Kisumu, the Honourable the Principal Medical Officer, and the District Commissioner Kisii, held in the Provincial Commissioner's Office at Kisumu on the 27th April 1908.

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The Honourable the Principal Medical Officer explained that he had been requested by His Excellency the Governor, to take up the matter with a view to the introduction of measures to deal with sleeping sickness cases in Kavirondo.

The first point dealt with was Dr. Milne's report on his recent visit to Karungu district. Mr. Hemsted (the District Commissioner, Kisii) explained that sleeping sickness cases were on the increase in the Karungu part of his District, and the natives had already requested him to ask the Government to do something. He was of the opinion that by careful management the natives might be induced to move away from the infected areas without serious trouble.

The Provincial Commissioner pointed out that the areas extending South from the Sio River past Gangu Swamp and including Kadisa, Sakwa, Uyoma, Sembo, Semi, and Sari were infected areas, and that the South bank of the Yala for some miles up the river was reported affected, and suggested that any scheme dealing with the disease should include these areas.

It 10

It was pointed out that a fairly large amount of land on both sides of the Railway from Muhoroni beyond Kibigori was at present unoccupied and was believed to be free of "fly". If on inspecting, this land was found to be favourable it might be considered as a possible area on which to locate the natives of the infected locations North of the Kavirondo Gulf.

Mr. Hemsted pointed out that there were available areas in the Karungu district which might be used for moving the Karungu infected natives to.

The Principal Medical Officer stated that in his opinion the only way at present to deal with the sickness was to form isolation camps at places free from fly and far enough removed to preclude the possibility of natives returning to the rivers or lake to resume the work of fishing, this occupation being the principal means of coming into contact with the fly.

It was the undoubted opinion that if isolation camps are formed they should be located at places available for settlement so as to enable the natives concerned to settle down permanently away from the fly infected areas.

The question of the removal of the natives was seriously considered. It was recognised that a strong love of country (district or location) exists among the Kavirondo, and when it is remembered that those natives affected have for all known time indulged in fishing both as a pastime and as a means of procuring food

food, and that their migration will entail their severance from this pursuit it can be readily understood that their removal will not be free from difficulties. Indeed in so far as the people North of Kisumu are concerned the Provincial Commissioner has already had enquiries made, and amongst other methods has taken advantage of a recent visit by the Revds. Willis and Pleydell to Kadimu to find out the native mind on the subject. These missionaries are of the opinion, as a result of their enquiries, that while no organised resistance would be offered to any Government effort to remove the people, yet individual resistance would be universal. They are of the opinion that coercion would be necessary, but considered that a scheme of removal could be carried out if dealt with in detail, i.e. removal of a village at a time.

It was generally conceded that any personal influence would count for a great deal in any scheme of removal. In Karungu Mr. Hemsted has a considerable amount of such influence. In the Districts North of Kisumu however such influence is not possessed by Government officials because no one of the officials here has been long enough as yet in the country to inspire sufficient confidence. It might be possible to enlist the Missionaries to assist in this work, and we should also require to win over to our ideas the leading Chiefs in the locations concerned.

Any scheme of removal is not impossible provided there

there is ample ^{land} to remove the people to.

WAYS & MEANS - An important detail in connection with any such scheme as the foregoing is that of ways and means. We do not however consider that the expense would be very considerable when considered in proportion to the seriousness of the question at issue. The main items for consideration would be as follows:

1. Food for natives removed pending their reaping food from new shambas in their new locations - say about Rs.2/- per mensem per individual. Estimated number to be dealt with now about 35,000, which means about 8,000 huts.
2. The engagement of extra police during the period of migration.
3. The engagement of one or two additional Medical Officers temporarily.
4. The temporary engagement of at least four additional Europeans to assist in the scheme.
5. Purchase of tents for Doctors (vide 3) and European Assistants (vide 4), also transport and other expenses.

There would also be a certain amount of temporary decrease in the Hut Tax receipts. This however would not be a serious item.

During 1907-08 there was an increase of Rs. 95,649
in

in the Hut Tax collection in Kavirondo over and above the estimated collection. This excess collection has been due to more persistent and efficient collection. It might not be considered unreasonable if part of this excess was applied for to be devoted to carrying into effect this possible relief to a sorely stricken people who cannot help themselves.

It is generally recognised that no half measures will meet the requirements of the case, and that anything done to be effective must be of a drastic nature.

S/- JOHN AINSWORTH

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.

Kisumu April 30th 1908.

has
21729

EAP



23 June 08

DRAFT

The Secretary to the Treasury
23926.

MINUTE.

- Mr. Bampf. 11
- Mr. Ellis 22
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Antrobus.
- Mr. Cox.
- Sir C. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Col. Seely.
- The Earl of Crewe.

has
23926

Sir, directed by the Earl of Crewe I am to transmit to you, to be laid before the L.C. of the Treasury, a copy of a report from the Governor of the East Africa Prot^o, in which he reports the measures which are being necessitated by the prevalence of sleeping sickness in Kavirondo, and asks sanction to the expenditure involved, ^{estimated} amounting to £2,000, which would be met from general savings in the current financial year.

Lord Crewe has stated that there can be no doubt of the necessity for this expenditure.

has
252

City of 21729
Slavery, Simon Bureau
number of copies to the Royal Society

ask for their Lordships
Sanction & it

^{and}
Said

~~(Signed)~~ R. L. ANTROBUS