

EAST AFR. PROT.

14856



14856

Moynagh R.F.

Mica Tessa

1914

22 Apr.

Last previous Paper.  
Gov/14239

Notes retraction of rent to Rs 1 per acre  
per annum. accepts 10% royalty  
provided that valuation is made at the  
Coast.

Instead Sir J. Fiddes

They agree with the proposals

(a) to reduce the rent from Rs 1 per acre

(b) to reduce the 10% royalty

out, but, based on selling price less

cost of transport to the wharf, etc.

that they ask that the royalty should

be fixed at the outset - i.e. that it

would be based on the selling price

of mica at the time of shipment

and not on the ultimate selling price

of the particular parcel of mica

to whom by whom.

They are that on proposed scheme

much delay & complication would

they cannot guarantee the accuracy

of the return of mica for the year

Two cases 4 May 14  
Copy Gov 14239 case 11 May 14  
Copy to Mica Tessa 4 July 14 Gov 14239

next subsequent Paper.

1/10/14

are not in their hands. But they could  
figure it out according to the figures  
to find out whether the price is  
whether [it is] not absolutely clear that  
whether they will brought to their parties,  
or they have to wait for their ordinary  
market value on the London market.

His proposal in other words work  
for the Government & I am not clear  
on that & since the valuation would be  
based. The "Soy Ed." is too - or 24 more  
than [the newspaper of]  
the [W. G. and land mica] - is too vague  
for us to act on, firm [at all]  
events; we are very [dark]

and what they [do] is [unclear]  
work. When we see [unclear] it  
together [unclear] understood them to  
speak of 4 1/2% as an average price, but  
in the 1929-31 they talk of 1% & here of  
8% & make 10% of 8% work out at  
[unclear] the 8% is before deducting  
[unclear] 10% [unclear] 10% [unclear] 10%

They do not accept our offer to  
set off net against royalty, of course  
because of the condition as to reduction  
of area which is attached to it. This  
means to show that they have some

They should  
be interested in  
sales of mica  
shipment for  
it appeared  
there was  
fluctuation in  
price. So far as  
the mica  
market is  
concerned, between  
1929 and  
1931 the price  
was under 10%  
H. J. R.



4856

14

C.O.  
11038

26, Northolme Road,

HIGHBURY, N.

1491

28nd. April, 1914

47

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies,  
Colonial Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.



Dear Sir,

Yours 12331/1914 dated 15/4/14.

I have to acknowledge, with thanks, your letter of the 15th. instant, as above, and am pleased to note that you are willing to reduce the rent from Rs.5/. per acre per annum to Rs.1/. per acre per annum.

I regret however to note that you do not feel disposed to alter the ~~amount~~ of Royalty chargeable under the lease.

I pointed out to Mr. Hall today, when once the Mineral leaves the coast it passes out of my control, and although I would do my utmost to conscientiously fulfil my obligations towards the Government, I could not reasonably be expected to guarantee the returns made by any third parties. You will be more able to fully appreciate my position, Sir, when I state that Mica is not invariably sold by Public Auction - the larger proportion of sales being by private treaty - and as shipped sizes are not always required immediately, Mica sometimes has to be stored for

\* No 297

reasons

/2/

stored for considerable periods, 18 months to 2 years not being exceptional.

Water, Ivory, both much more valuable commodities than Mica, are valued at the Coast, yet there are few articles that fluctuate more in value than these two exports

To have to wait for perhaps 18 months to get complete returns is going to create a tremendous amount of trouble and complication and errors are certain to crop up.

For these reasons, then, Sir, I ask you to deal with the Mica at its port of shipment. The average value can easily be obtained by a reference to the S/Notes of Nyassaland Mica placed on the Market. From actual Sale Notes of Blantyre Mica, the average price of a late Shipment worked out at rather more than 8d. per lb. Taking ours at this figure, or say 8d. for ours is slightly superior, we will get 1d. per lb. for all Mica shipped.

We will therefore accept the 10% Royalty provided you can meet us by declaring a valuation at the Coast, and with your permission, will not now accept the offer contained in the latter part of Para 2 of yours.

I have the honor to be,  
yours faithfully,

Wm Aynagh