

X 1930

KENYA

X 1930

16346

16346

C0533/403

Census 1931

Previous KE-3331/26 10282/24 (Ken. Nat. Census) L.C.C.	In Keatwood - Room 1 Room 2 Room 1	✓ 24/2/31 19/3 28/5	
Subsequent 7274/31 Dec 18314/321 native census	In Keatwood KEA In Keatwood Room 297	26/5 11/9 18/7	
YEA 12/11			
In Keatwood 24/11			
F.S. Allen 2/12			
W. Morrison 2/12			
W. Clouston 3/12			
In C. H. Munday 3			
S. S. Wilson 8/12			
Dr. Shields 15/12			
G. C. H. 16/12			
S. C. Bottomley 16/12			
Room 297			
YEA 27/12			
In Keatwood 20/12			
W. P. 3/12			
YEA 7/2/31			

of how home 679

20 October 1

Reports has issued instructions for census of all non-native inhabitants and of all persons residing in houses and houses to be taken in March 1931 under direction of Mr. A. Walter; states as to allowances to persons named to act as assistants and trusts no objection balance of expenditure will be inserted in 1931 estimate

Q.D. will be interested

Opporunity again being made making no effort to take a census of the native population. I think that is in a way a pity though it would no doubt be a difficult job. But it would cost a lot of money & time & we can hardly at the present time urge them to spend either.

Diji have been let off talking a crime altogether, so have Jamaica. Cayman is contacting itself with an accurate count of Columbus & an estimate of the rest of the island - all this on the grounds of money.

I imagine the sums mentioned in para: 2 are all in allowances & not for menson. On this assumption we may? approach

See 7047/26 below.

This sum is unnecessary
JMA

the OAG's proposal. & a dupl.
of no. 1 might be sent to the Rep. Genl
27 info. E. Eastman
24.22.30

(There is a large bundle of
General H. a this subject
& several circs. have been
sent. I attach the H.
but they are wanted for
other action & should be
released as soon as possible.
I also attach a copy of the
Myanmar Census of 1926
to show what an African
country can do when it really
tries)

Released 27/11 as the
paper requires more
investigation
JMA
29/11

I think the allowances must
be monthly allowances. The amounts mentioned
are less than those approved in 1926 - see
7331/26, which were not all-in, but monthly
allowances. I think, therefore, it would be
safer to approve on the assumption that the
present allowances are monthly.

I attach a note on the question
of the native census, and I agree that
financial considerations alone preclude us
from pressing this suggestion on the Colonial
Government.

JMA
21/1/30.

1a

This seems unnecessary
JWA

The OAG's proposal & a draft
of notes might be sent to the Rep. Genl
27. infn
C. Robinson
24. 22. 30

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General H's a this subject
& several circ's have been
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of the native census, and I agree that
financial considerations alone preclude us
from pressing this suggestion on the Colonial
Government.

JWA
21/11/30

I suppose there will be complaints
but I don't see how we are
to press the Kenya Govt now
to extend the census to
natives.

? ask. approve proposed
enumeration of enumerators -
but express regret that
census is not to be extended
to natives & enquire what
Govt. of Kenya have in view as
to possibility of native
census in the near
future.
see Parliament
31.12.20

Kenya will probably initiate a good deal of
quite legitimate criticism sometime, when
it is realized how little they know about
their native vital statistics, but I agree
that there is nothing to be done at present

G. L. M. Dawson
3/12/30

Si. S. Wilson

Before we write to Kenya on the
Polvinson proposal, I should like a
decision whether or should
take the possibility of forming
Kenya to take a native census.
You know how African
will take this sort of thing, and
last year's disturbances in the S.P.

1a

of Nigeria arose directly
out of what was expected
as undue ineptness with
an ulterior motive.

W.C.B.
3.12.30.

Sec of State
(through Dr. Sticks)

I think it is a pity that Kenya
is not going to have a complete
census, but I doubt if we ought
to press them.

S.H.B.

8.12.30.

I do not see much good in a partial
census, especially as we have a European
one only a few years ago.

Could the Native census not be
done in sections, e.g. by tribes? - It would not,
& census, synchronous, but it would build
up a body of information which would
be useful and the money cost would be
spread over some years. A complete one
could then await better times.

As proposed, but also
ask the D.A. carefully about how
something of this sort could be
done - numerical accuracy is less
important than estimates founded
on discreet enquiry, not necessarily
simultaneous - P 1612

me given.

1 submit draft for comment

A copy of the report might perhaps
be shown to Sir Joseph Byrne?

Edmund

17.12.30.

acknowledged

19.12.30

To Gov - 1012. / And Cons - 23/12/30.

Remr. (w.
copy of 2) as to
* above

Do you wish to take action as A
or should this be left?

Edmund

Copy of 1 & 2 sent -
allip

31.12.30

To Sir J. Byrne - 30. 2 JAN 1931
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

(w/cs 1 & 2)

H. L. - Gov Conf - Cons - 12 JAN 1931 Draft on
/ 5656/A/29

P.T.O.

H. After hour 31 14 January 31
departs has appointed Mr. R. Arnold Stokes (M.A.)
P.V.D. to act as enumerator of Kaitiaki and
Paritutu in connection with forthcoming census,
subject to covering sanction.

Dupe
date on his file

? as in file:

[Signature]

2.31

J Miller
9/2
mail

100
100
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE
18 FEB 1951

in Kaitiaki

to reply to his 2 yet.

J Thomas
23/5/31

B. U. 21/6/31 20/6/31
8/6 26/5
above

6 Gov. Bygone Conf. 72 (1932) 13 May
State reasons for not embarking on census of
whole native population and reports that a
meeting of two commissioners considered but
minutes records was accurate estimate
in Kaitiaki

Any action required please
(15/6/31 below)

16/6/31

[Signature]
15/9/31

Thomas
1/9/31

[Signature]

See para 21 No 2. 18514/32 as
to native census

J Miller
26/11/32

KINYA NO. 72

Copy
Orig. on 15856/A/27

6
6

CONFIDENTIAL

13th May, 1931.

My Lord,

I have the honour to refer to the first paragraph of Your Lordship's confidential despatch of the 23rd January, 1931, and to Your Lordship's enquiry whether the proposed investigation by the "cross-section" or sampling method to obtain statistical data relating to native labour within and without the Native Reserves, as contemplated in paragraph 4 of Sir Edward Drigg's confidential despatch No. 136 of the 21st October, 1929, had been undertaken.

158/A/27

1. It is with regret that I have to inform Your Lordship that it has not yet been found possible to carry out this investigation nor does it appear likely that I shall be in a position to give instructions for its performance in the near future.

2. I am quite convinced of the importance of such an investigation as the one proposed, and am anxious that it shall be carried out at the earliest possible opportunity but I have been reluctantly compelled to put aside the idea for the present owing to the fact that the Labour Section has not the requisite staff. The number of Labour Inspectors is now only three and the entire time of these officers is taken up in carrying out actual inspections ...

HENRY RICHES MEMORABLE LORD FAIRFIELD, P.C.
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOCKING STREET,
LONDON, E.C.4.

KENYA NO. 72

Copy
Aug on 15856/A/29

6

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD PASFIELD, C.B.
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOCKING STREET,
LONDON, E.C. 4.

inspections and in dealing with complaints.

4. To obtain the statistical data required would, if they were to be of real value, occupy the entire time of one officer for a year and in the present conditions of financial stringency in the Colony there appears no immediate prospect of detaching an officer for this duty.

No. 2

5. With reference to paragraph 2 of Your Lordship's despatch No. 1018 of the 23rd December, 1930, financial considerations do not provide the only reason for the decision not to embark on a census of the whole native population in connection with the Imperial ^{this} census of 1931. The project was referred to a meeting of Provincial Commissioners in March 1930 for their advice and they gave it as their unanimous opinion that "no more accurate figures of native population would be obtained by any elaborate methods of counting than those obtained at present from hut counters' records." In view of this opinion it was decided that it would be not only a waste of money but also a waste of time and effort to undertake a census on lines other than those of the annual count for taxation purposes. In this connection I take the opportunity of informing Your Lordship that this annual count which is made by Native "hut counters" and checked as may be necessary by District Officers is believed to provide an approximately accurate census of the adult native population. Owing to the traditional superstition which among most tribes of Kenya holds it to be unlucky for an owner to count his possessions, or at least to report the number of his possessions to a stranger, no reliance whatever can be placed on the numbers of children recorded on the nomination of their parents and as a consequence

estimating ...

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estimating ...

8

estimating the total population in most cases recourse is had to accepting a percentage based on the total number of adults. For this purpose the number of children is normally taken to be 27% of the total population.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

J. BYRNE.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
GOVERNOR.

KENYA:

No. 31



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
KENYA

14 January, 1931.

RECEIVED
6 FEB 1931
COL. G. ...

My Lord,

With reference to paragraph 3 of Kenya despatch No. 679 of the 20th October, I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that, subject to Your Lordship's covering sanction I have authorised the Statistician to engage Mr. Norman Arnold, Stores and Costing Clerk in the Central Workshops, Public Works Department, to act as enumerator for the areas of Muthaiga and Parklands in connection with the forthcoming census on the same terms as those proposed for Mr. Llewellyn Griffiths, namely an allowance of £25.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

Str. Williams

ACTING GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD PASSFIELD, P.C.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1

Amac 119
18 FEB 1931

9
14

4/10

K. S. P. V. A.

DOVING STREET,

CONFIDENTIAL

12 January, 1931.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 3 of my Confidential despatch of the 28th December, 1929, and to enquire whether, as contemplated in paragraph 4 of Sir Edward Origg's confidential despatch No. 156 of the 31st October 1929, an investigation was actually undertaken in 1930 by the "cross-section" of sampling method in order to obtain statistical data relating to labour within and without the Native Reserves. If such an investigation has been made I shall be glad to learn the results.

8. In this connection I would also refer to my despatch No. 1018 of the 23rd December, 1930 regarding the question of a native census.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) PASSFIELD

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING

THE GOVERNMENT OF

KEH...

O. O.

Mr. Eastwood. 18/12

Mr. Allen 9/12

Mr. ~~T...~~ 19/12 30/12

Downing Street,

23 December, 1930.

Sir C. Bottomley. 19/12

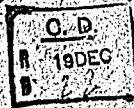
Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Sir G. Grindall.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.



Sir,

84

Und No. 6

DRAFT.

KENYA

No. 1012

OAG

Copy to Sir J. Byng 20 JAN 1931

(No.1.)

I have, etc., to ack. the receipt of your despatch No. 679 of the 20th October, on the subject of the Census to be taken in March 1931, and to inform you that I approve the proposed remuneration of enumerators.

2. I am ^{regret} sorry that it has not been possible to arrange for a complete census of the whole population of the Colony, which, as I am sure you will agree, is a matter to be undertaken as soon as practicable.

I realise, however, that it would inevitably cost a considerable amount of money, and at the present juncture

I should be ^{any} ~~more~~ reluctant to propose for additional expenditure upon

850

11

3. On the other hand, it has occurred to me that it might be possible for a complete native census to be carried out in sections, i.e., ^{Gibe} district by ^{Gibe} district over a period of years. The results would not, of course, synchronise; but a body of information would be built up which would be very useful and the money cost would be spread over a longer period.

I regard numerical accuracy as of less importance than ~~the~~ estimates founded on discreet enquiry, not necessarily simultaneous, and if it were possible to proceed with my suggestion a complete simultaneous census could then await better ^{a more convenient ~~opportune~~ time.} times.

4. I should be glad if you would consider this suggestion and inform me of your views upon it.

I have, &c

(Signed) PASSFIELD.

NOTE AS TO NATIVE CENSUS.

12
la

(50429/25)

In a despatch dated the 10th October, 1925, the Governor of Kenya reported that action was being taken to provide for a census of the non-native population on the 1st February, 1926, and for a census of natives to be taken at a date to be determined subsequently. The despatch also enclosed one, in which he informed the other East African Governors and the British Resident at Zanzibar similarly, adding that it would, of course, be a great advantage if a census of the natives of East Africa could be taken at the same time, and he proposed, therefore, to list this subject for discussion at the Governors' Conference which was held early in 1926.

unofficial
~~Governors'~~

(53745/25)

About the same time, the ~~Governors'~~ Conference met at Tukuyu, and one of their resolutions ^{asked} ~~was~~ the Governments of the five territories to collect and disseminate better native vital statistics.

721

(3212/26)

The summary of the proceedings at the Governors' Conference included the following in regard to the question of native census: "The Conference took note of the resolution of the Tukuyu Conference, and considered - That the Governments concerned were fully alive to the necessity of the provision of better native vital statistics". - The Secretary of State's despatch of the 21st August ⁴⁷⁶ dealing with the Conference resolutions as a whole, but did not refer to this question.

AS

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1a 12

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As regards the census to be held in 1931, provision to the extent of £800 for the preliminary expenses was made in the first Supplementary Estimates for 1930, where it was explained that it was proposed to take in 1931 a non-native census of the whole Colony, and a complete census of the towns of Mombasa, Nairobi, and possibly, any other upcountry towns for which complete details of population are required. The full expenditure is estimated at £3,000, and an additional £2,200 has been provided in the Draft Estimates for 1931.

(2 of 16291/30)

Reference may also be made to the remarks on the question of the census in the report on the Statistical Department of the Conference of East African Governors, 1926-1929, which contains the following remarks with regard to the census:-

26545/30

"Proposals for taking a complete Census in all Territories were submitted to the various Governments early in 1929. The Kenya Government have decided to take a Non-Native Census in 1931, together with a complete census of all people residing in the principal towns. Uganda has agreed in principle to a complete Native Census to be taken on a modified system which has been worked out in the Central Statistical Office, and will shortly be submitted to all the Governments concerned. The Governments of Tanganyika, Zanzibar and Northern Rhodesia.

Rhodesia, have stated that they do not intend to take a complete census, and no further information has yet been received concerning a programme for a Non-Native Census in 1931. The whole of the work connected with the Kenya and Uganda Census will be dealt with on the Hollerith Machines, and the Tables compiled and submitted to the Governments concerned in the form of a complete report.

KENYA
No. 679



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
KENYA.

RECEIVED
10 NOV 1930
COL. OFFICE

20th October, 1930.

My Lord,

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that, after consultation with my Executive Council, I have issued directions that during the month of March, 1931, a census shall be taken

- (a) of all ~~non-native~~ inhabitants of the Colony;
- (b) of all persons residing within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Nairobi; and
- (c) of all persons residing within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Board of Mombasa.

Mr. A. Walter, Statistician to the Governors' Conference, has been appointed Superintendent of the Census, the date of which has been fixed for the 6th March.

2. I have authorised the Statistician to engage two Europeans and four Asiatics to act as enumerators in the town of Nairobi. The Europeans will be employed for work in Muthaiga and Kilimani and the Asiatics in the central portion of the town. The work performed is part-time work and I have authorised the following remuneration, subject to Your Lordship's covering sanction:

Llewellyn Griffiths,	£25.
Chaturbhai Umedbhai Patel,	£15.
Rambhai Goverdhanbhai Amin,	£15.
John Joseph Marcel Lucas,	£15.
Antonio Beaugene Nanty,	£15.

*Copy to Sir J. Byng 2 JUN 1931
Lund - 16/12 - 23/12/30. See
see*

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD PASSFIELD, P.C.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

16
EID

3. Mr. Griffiths is not at present in employment but is a candidate for the Police. The Asiatics named above are at present employed in the Native Registration Department and their knowledge of the town will be invaluable. The name of the second European to be employed has not yet been submitted.

4. I trust that there will be no objection to the officers named being allowed to work overtime and draw the allowance recommended. This is both the most economical and the most efficient procedure and is, I understand, the procedure generally adopted in census work in other Colonies.

5. As Your Lordship is aware, a sum of £800 was voted in first Supplementary Estimates, 1930, for preliminary expenses in connection with this census. The balance of the estimated expenditure, namely, £2,200, is being inserted in Draft Estimates, 1931.

I have the honour to be,
 My Lord,
 Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

Wm. Williams

ACTING GOVERNOR.

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I have the honour to be,
my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

W. Williams

ACTING GOVERNOR.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

C0533/403

END

TOTAL EXPOSURES →