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Paper

EDUCATION

LEVYING OF A RATE

Board of Education has submitted a strong recommendation for both Europeans and Indians. Cost of native education should be met entirely from general revenue. Sets out reasons of Board and is an entire agreement.

Li. H. Chad

I think the Governor has a view

Letter: 5 of our despatches on 49275

I have to set out of the report, the Education Commission said that no income should be earmarked for education, that there should be no selling of part of areas of land the income from which should be devoted to education, & that the parents must pay fees. So far so good.

Then the Commission set on to consider how general revenue could be increased so as to provide for the Govt. contribution towards the cost of education, & in this they failed, as we thought, rather valiantly.

The following despatches said that the

The Government's share of the expense of  
education must be charge on general  
revenue and the burden of any additional  
expenditure must be laid on general revenue  
and not be committed to any particular  
source.

There was no question then of a  
local education rate which would be  
to do with the local contribution to  
the cost of education and would not  
prevent local authorities (or groups) or  
the State of the land making a local  
contribution to the cost of education  
in the country. I expect that under the day  
to day system of local education  
rates and a local rate for the  
purpose of the local contribution and  
the State of the land making a local  
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In reply to the other lines, the  
claim is put out that local education  
rates are placed on local authority which  
will <sup>be</sup> the rate of <sup>the</sup> <sup>land</sup> <sup>contribution</sup>,  
which will control local education.

ask the Gov. what is proposed on these  
subjects.

in some books

[It is fairly certain, from the books  
showing the details of the land tax proposals,  
that the land rate will give  
a considerable]

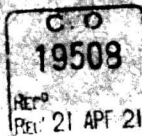
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3rd March, 1921.

Sir,

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49276/20

With reference to Lord Milner's despatch No. 1535 of October 26th on the subject of the report of the Education Commission, I have the honour to inform you that the Board of Education at its first meeting has submitted a strong recommendation that a local rate be levied for education purposes, both European and Indian. The details of the recommendation are that one third of total cost of such education shall be met from a tax on alienated land not exceeding ten cents per acre, the revenue derived from land alienated to Europeans being devoted to European education, and from land alienated to Indians to Indian education; that similar provision be made in municipal rates; and that in townships where no assessment of site values has been made a rate be collected from plot holders on a basis to be arranged later. The Board recommends that the cost of native education be met entirely from General Revenue.

2. Lord Milner was unable to accept the principle of a local education rate in paragraph

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

paragraph 5 of the despatch quoted above.33)

The Board however urge that such a rate is not only reasonable but vitally necessary. They point out that as long ago as 1909 Professor Fraser was brought over from India to advise on the education of this Colony but that lack of funds has consistently hampered his proposals being put into effect. They call attention to the increasing immigration of European and Indian settlers and traders to whom the absence of educational facilities resulting either in the expense of sending their children to England, South Africa or India or in the growth of an illiterate population will prove in the future as it has proved in the past - a serious handicap. They point to the Arab population of the Coast area which since the abolition of slavery has sunk into indolence and poverty and to the consequent neglect and deterioration of the Coast plantations; to the insistent demand of the country for a large supply of intelligent public artisans and to the prospect of increasing the labour supply by enlarging the useful outlets of the native population generally.

3. The Board consider that certain sections of the community should be allowed to exercise their desire to develop the principle of self help by accepting direct Taxation which will be definitely earmarked for the education of their children. While excluding native races from their proposals for taxation the Board recommend that the funds so urgently needed for European and Indian education be found by means of an  
 education

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3. The Board consider that certain sections of the community should be allowed to exercise their desire to develop the principle of self help by accepting direct Taxation which will be definitely earmarked for the education of their children. While excluding native races from their proposals for taxation the Board recommend that the funds so urgently needed for European and Indian education be found by means of an  
 education

education rate producing one third of the total expenditure on such education. They have been careful to insist that the proceeds of a rate collected from Europeans shall contribute to the maintenance of European education and that collected from Indians to the maintenance of Indian education. They argue further that the acceptance of this principle is in accordance with the recent political growth of the Colony.

4. In conclusion the Board submit that the considered opinion of the man on the spot who is vitally interested in the intellectual as well as the material advancement of the country should receive sympathetic treatment and argue that if he be prepared to impose on himself a rate with a special allocation to educational provision, he should be fully entitled to do so as it cannot be contended that a rate which if not imposed for educational purposes will not be imposed at all can operate to the reduction of general revenue.

5. With these sentiments I am in agreement and I trust that you will be able to give favourable consideration to the principle proposed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

*Edward Watney*

GOVERNOR.

Downing Street,

9 May 1921

Sir,

I have etc. to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 304 of the 3rd of March on the subject of the levy of a local education rate to meet the cost of non-native education in Kenya.

Lord Milner's remarks on the question of revenue for education purposes have, I think, been to some extent misunderstood. In the section of their report dealing with Revenue, the Education Commission very properly deprecated any proposal to establish particular sources of revenue for education purposes, and they pointed out that the cost of education must to some extent be paid for by the parent.

They proceeded, however, to make suggestions as to certain sources of

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land or property which is the subject of the rate, there could be no objection to the proposal now made.

5. While, however, I agree to your proceeding, on this understanding, to give effect to the recommendation of the Board of Education, I may point out that a local education rate implies a local authority which will levy the rate and which will presumably control local education, and I shall be glad to be informed, in due course, what is proposed on these points.

6. I entirely agree that the cost of native education should be met from General Revenue.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) W. H. ...