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John Marie

In the reply to this Letter the following Number should be quoted.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

1121

C O . ₹256_

31 st January 1911

Sir,

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Fiddes' letter of the 18th instant (25538/1910), relative to the proposed revision of the Leave and Passage Rules for the East Africa Protectorate, Uganda and Nyasaland.

In reply I am to state that, although My Lords cannot agree that the amount of leave allowed in the Home Civil Service should be any criterion of the length of time to be spent in this country under Colonial Regulations. They feelable to assent to Mr. Harcourt's recommendations in the main, subject to the modifications suggested below as regards certain subsidiary features of the scheme.

1. My Lords agree generally to the proposed classification of East Africa and Nyasaland as "healthy" and of Uganda as "unhealthy", but They wish it to be understood that this classification is only made for purposes of leave and that the question of pensions is not affected. They would enquire however, whether it is necessary to place the whole of Uganda in the "unhealthy" category. They were under the impression that the climate of certain districts, notably that of Ruwenzori, was good, and They would be glad to be informed whether Mr. Harcourt is able

to make any distinctions between localities in this Protectorate. Similarly My Lords would wish to be consulted before any district in the other two Protectorates is classed as unhealthy.

- 2. Under the rules as now drafted an officer allowed leave on "urgent private affairs" under paragraph 6 would apparently be entitled to the expenses of his journeys under paragraph 8. My Lords assume that this was not the intention of the Secretary of State and They would suggest that the rules might be made more explicit on the subject.
- the rules to leave spent in the Protectorates and They would enquire whether any limit, and if so of what nature, is set to the amount of leave which an officer can take locally.
- 4. Finally the proposal that the present system should be abolished, under which deductions of pay are made after a certain period of leave has been taken and are applied as allowances for substitutes, appears to Their Lordships to be open to considerable objection in the special circumstances of the case. In the first place the effect of the new rules will be to extend by considerable periods (especially in Uganda) the length of an officer's absence from his post, and My Lords feel grave doubt whether in practice it would be feasible to require his duties to be performed by his colleagues for the whole of this time without any extra remuneration. Even as it is, claims for special acting allowances are not infrequently put

put forward which on their merits are often difficult to realst, and My Lords fear that if the allowance available under the existing rules were withdrawn applications of this character would become more general.

The present moment, however, appears to Them the especially inopportune for the introduction of any change in this respect. Mr. Harcourt states that the question of introducing into the East Africa Protectorates a system of duty allowances is now under consideration, and My Lords are inclined to the view that this is the proper method of ramunerating the substitutes of officers on long leave. The system, however, amounts in fact to a deduction from an officer's empluments during the whole office leave and would therefore appear to be at variance in principle with Mr. Harcourt's present proposals.

Moreover the introduction of the scheme of duty pay into East Africa would inflict hardship on officers who had grown accustomed to full pay throughout the whole period of their leave, unless the duty allowances were made wholly or largely additional to existing salaries. Such an addition to salaries, however, would obviously impose a very heavy burden on the resources of the various Protectorates and one to which without the strongest evidence of its necessity My Lords would not feel justified in assenting.

On all these grounds therefore My Lords would urge Mr. Harcourt not to press his proposals in this respect and They would suggest that mutatis mutands the existing regulations should be allowed to continue for

the present pending the result of the enquiry into the scheme of duty pay.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servent,

Many

3 er 8 aprin for 50 95 10 Feb. 1941. bunediale fam the he ack the a huist of your hearifue of her 3, st of Jan. Making he linky the to the proposed nowien Trasing. of two hear and Passage Mr. #375 9/2 Rules for the East, again Mr. Balles 9 Mr. Fiddes. 9 and Maruland, from Mr. Just. & which I have to have Mr. Cox. Sir C. Lucas. has borned with himself Satisfactor fact him the In wear Ett are able to assent his kin mandations. 2. I have your to be way

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