

DESPATCH

EAST AFR. PROT.

C O
44417

No. 44417

RECEIVED
16

No. 636
1905
15 Nov.
Last previous Paper.

(Subject)
Forestry & Agricultural Dpts

Fr. letter from Conservator dealing with
qualifns. of staff. Does not consider selection
method a permanent method as Conservator Mr
Battersdale is a scientific man but not Mr. Baker, they
shd be kept on however. Meeting of 16th is rather
qualified man. Increase as to persons for continued

(Minutes.)

Forestry Department
Agricultural

Mr. ~~Head~~ Antrobus
See my minutes on the
Estimates - 27/12

I think that our policy shd be to work
things until we can get these scientific
departments thoroughly well organized. We
shall never make much progress until we
purchase ~~and~~ staff then with competent
men.

H. J. L.

It has been decided to ^{29/12}
ask Mr. Smith, the head of the Forest Dept.
to visit the Post to report on the
future of organization of the Dept. The question of
the future organization of the Post to Forestry Dept is
being considered in Dept. of Agriculture P. 17/12 at once

Put by

Subsequent Paper

24/11/05

C. O.
44417
16 DEC 05

Commissioner's Office,
Mombasa.

November 28th 1905.

AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 556

(Incl. 1.)

Sir,

Comm
W. O. D.
Mr. Linton
No. 37.

With reference to my telegram No. 227 of today's date and previous correspondence respecting the Forestry and Agricultural Departments, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch from the Conservator of Forests dealing with his own qualifications and those of his Assistants.

2. I do not myself think that Mr. Linton has a sufficient specialised knowledge of forestry to be considered suitable for the permanent appointment of Conservator though he might continue to supervise the two Departments until his agreement expires in September 1906, when a thoroughly competent and efficient

man

F. J. Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON.

man ought in my opinion to be secured. The Forestry Department is a very important one and needs an energetic head. A man in the prime of life should be selected and not a retired Indian official. The latter might possess the requisite qualifications but would be hardly likely at the end of his career to take much interest in the development of a new country.

3. As regards the Assistants Mr. Battiscombe is the only one who understands scientific forestry. He is a good man and should be retained. Mr. Baker is capable and energetic and although he has no technical training it might be advisable to keep him on, though officers selected in future ought certainly to have previously studied forestry. This is really essential and it would be better to delay making any appointment at all until thoroughly competent man could be found rather than introduce untrained Assistants into the Department.

4. In submitting the estimates for the financial year 1906-7 I have kept the Agricultural and Forestry Departments separate and have inserted expenditure for experiments

experiments, in connection with the former. In taking
this course I have not wished in any way to ignore the
language used by His Majesty's Treasury in paragraph 6
of Mr. Saventish's despatch of February 17th last to the
Foreign Office, but I have concluded that, had the
result of the conference which presumably took place
between the Colonial Office and Treasury during the
autumn been unfavourable to the continuance of the
experiments, I should have received instructions to omit
the expenditure connected with them from the estimates.

If, however, I am mistaken in this and it is
decided to discontinue the experiments the necessary
alterations will doubtless be made when the estimates
are received at the Colonial Office. In that event I
would venture to suggest that it might be advantageous
and beneficial to settlers to introduce a system of
bonuses with a view to encouraging the experimental
cultivation of the more valuable economic products.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

J. H. Hallen

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COPY.

Forest Department,

410
44417
Recd

16 DEC 1905

Nairobi,

October 27th 1905.

Sir,

In answer to your No. 1, I have the honour to submit the following observations on the questions you raise therein.

2. As you are doubtless aware the pure sciences required for Agriculture and Forestry are very similar and in fact a forest training often includes the attendance of lectures on Agriculture, Chemistry, Zoology, Botany and Geology.

I studied Forestry at the Durham College of Science during the 1905-6 session, and at Munich University Forest of School 1907-8. Practical Forestry, drafting of working plans etc. I studied in the Zurich Town Forest 1908 April and May.

When in Egypt, 1902-1903, I gave the lectures on Forestry which were required at the School of Agriculture.

3. Mr. Pattiscombe is the only trained Assistant

Conservator

Acting Commissioner,

MOBEASA 2

Conservator in the Department. He attended Forestry lectures in Edinburgh and studied practical forestry in Germany. He is capable of drawing up working plans and organising forest work. I do not think that a more competent Assistant could be obtained.

*Change of
1.1.1914*

1. Mr. Foot had a forest training but I do not think that his health will ever be such as to allow him to be a valuable Assistant. I am of opinion that Mr. Foot has returned to Forestry at too advanced an age to readily assimilate the peculiarities of forest conditions in a new country.

6. Mr. Baker has the valuable assets of youth, zeal, activity and a very fair knowledge of the country to weigh against his lack of a special forest training. Mr. Baker will do a non-complicated piece of work quicker than any other of the Assistants but he has not sufficient technical knowledge to be fully entrusted with any work involving important principles of forest management. I would strongly recommend that Mr. Baker should be allowed leave to take the ordinary German course of Forest training. He already has a fair knowledge of the pure Sciences, Chemistry and Botany, and is capable of identifying a

fair specimen. He has diligently studied the ordinary literature on forestry, but of course cannot fully realise the application of forest principles without seeing tropical forest methods. I am of opinion that his three years' experience in the Department should not be lost.

6. Mr. Jackson has been in the Department for nearly two and half years and holds the certificate of the Dehra Dun Forest School. He is a good surveyor and draughtsman which are important qualifications in locating new forest areas and defining the known forests. At the same time he is distinctly the weakest Assistant Conservator as he appears to take almost no interest in his work. I believe that if Mr. Jackson wished he could be a most useful officer, but the late Conservator of Forests could get little work out of Mr. Jackson and I have been similarly disappointed with his work.

I have &c., &c.,

Sd/- Andrew Linton,
 CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

*See now
 1/30501/06*

The Acting Commissioner.

to

Enclosure

In U. S. P. J. Jackson's despatch
No. 624 of November 2-25 1905.