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 No. 2544 ⁰⁵/₂₆

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(Subject.)

Meeting of 5 Dec

minutes of

(Minutes)

W. Reed
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Colonial Survey Committee

Meeting of the ⁵ 17th of December 1905

Present—

- Col. R. C. Holland, R.E., Director General, Indian Surveying
- Majr C. F. Close, C.E., R.E., Topographical Section, General Staff, War Office
- Mr. H. J. Reed, Colonial Office; and
- Capt W. S. Douglas, R.E., Topographical Section, and
- Mr. W. C. D. Howley, Colonial Office

1. Reconstitution of land and survey departments, East Africa Protectorate.

The Survey Report of the 17th of December was read and considered.

It was agreed that as serious inconvenience would be caused by postponing the topographical work for the present, especially as the progress both of the topographical and the cadastral work must depend on that of the trigonometrical survey, but that a certain amount of topographical work was inseparable from a proper cadastral survey. Major Close pointed out that in principle the cadastral survey had been delayed pending the preparation of topographical work.

the postponement of provision for a
 topographical ^{should be accepted} section, but that
 the Treasury should be informed that
 the expert members of the Committee
 held strong views as to the waste of
 money which would be involved if
 the topographical survey were postponed
 for four years, as the Treasury proposed,
 and that, therefore, the Secretary of
 State reserved the right to raise
 the question of an next year ^{especially} (having
 regard to the ~~importance~~ ^{importance} of the
 subject) ~~to be taken up in the future~~
 in the Protectorate or otherwise.

It was decided that a preliminary
 work might safely be begun before
 the 1st April 1906, but that ~~subsequently~~
~~the work should be deferred~~

discussion of details should be postponed
 until the arrival in England of Lieut. Col.
 Smith R.E., who would, probably, be recommended
 for the Directorship of Survey.

2. Lagos Survey

The reply of the Acting Governor to the
 despatch of the 20th of August was considered

~~It was agreed that~~
 The excellence of Mr. Cotton's work was recognized
 and it was decided that a despatch should be
 sent ~~by the Secretary of State~~ ^{by the Secretary of State}

sent asking that some of the maps sent out in
 August should be returned, particularly the
 the maps which had been mapped on different
 scales, and that Mr Cotton should also be
 asked to state what maps he had prepared
 drawn up and submitted out to send home
 original drawings or plans ^{in the possession of the Survey Dept.} which would be
 of use for the preparation of a general map
 of the colony.

It was agreed that the detailing portion
 of the instruction ^{to be given to} Mr Cotton should
~~be given to him~~ ^{be given to him} and the details of the re-arrangement
 of the Survey Department of Government
 should be postponed until
 after his arrival or leave.

3. Northern Nigeria Survey

Mr Dallas's report of the 23rd of
 September was read, but it was decided, as
 agreed at the previous meeting, to take no
 action until the return of Captain Cameron's
 party in May next.

4. British Central Africa Survey

Mr Harris was unable to attend the meeting, but
 it was mentioned that he was willing to postpone the
 question of a trip on the coast, as well as of the
 survey.

General survey, in connection with the
 Estimates for 1906-7, but that priority
 should be given to the letter ^{referred} forwarded
 by Sir Alfred Sharpe. Mr. Harris had
 also expressed his opinion of the inadvis-
 ability of appointing another surveyor
 proposed by Mr. Dallas, pending the
 re-organization of the Department.

It was agreed that arrangements
 should be made for Mr. Ferris's visit
 at Southampton.

The Committee recommended that
 despatch should be sent pointing out
 that Major Allen's ^{was} ~~had~~ ~~not~~ ~~been~~ ~~calculated~~
 for a temporary purpose, ^{and} ~~which~~ ~~should~~
 through the country in connection with the
 boundary Commission ^{and} ~~could~~ ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~regarded~~ ~~as~~ ~~likely~~ ~~to~~ ~~accumulate~~
~~deliberately~~ ~~and~~ ~~that~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~felt~~ ~~that~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~advisable~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~re-~~ ~~considered~~
~~a~~ ~~department~~ ~~base~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~purpose~~ ~~of~~ ~~conducting~~ ~~the~~ ~~survey~~
~~recommenced~~ or that a new one should be
 laid down ~~at~~ ~~in~~ ~~a~~ ~~more~~ ~~convenient~~ ~~spot~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~line~~
 work already done adjusted to it.

5 Candidates for Survey Appointments

It was decided that testimonials from
 previous employers should, where possible,
 be obtained on a form adapted for that
 which had already been prepared for
 reports on the qualifications of civil
 officials of various Survey Departments.

proof of the proposed form was considered and approved.

It was pointed out, however, that few candidates in this country would be suitable except for casual work, and Col. Kelland mentioned that a large number of men well qualified for this work would be available from the Ordnance stores.

Major Close allocated the work by the Appointments Committee at Oxford and Cambridge to supply candidates and to supply for any instruction which might be considered necessary.

The case of Mr Woodruff, who was considered for Uganda, was discussed, and it was agreed that he might, subject to medical examination, be considered for further employment out of Uganda.

6. Financial and Orange River Colony

Delgaty, who attended the meeting at the stage, agreed to put before the Government concerned the representations which the ~~Department had received~~ ~~proposed to make~~

of the railway of the southern part of the Transvaal for auxiliary and with the provision of free railway transport for the Colonial Dairy Section now at work in the Orange River Colony were discussed with Mr. Just.