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C. O.

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1905
Jan
previous Paper.

(Confidential)

(Subject.)

Administration of Protectorate

Represents necessity of changes in connection with mode of administration, courts, currency, shipping, land laws, postal, base of offices, distinctions bet. urban and official population, and remarks as to late and present Comms.

(Minutes.)

In. Introduction

This letter contains various features of administration in E Africa if the criticisms are ^{well} founded. These would appear to be some room for improvement, which indeed is a priori ~~not~~ ^{reasonable}. But we cannot pursue the matter beyond a point now and I should merely acknowledge, with thanks, — S.D. (Enclosed papers to do with the F.O.) This is not a letter from a

Syndicate, but it is written
by a Mr F. G. W. Anderson who
refers to "the acquaintance ship
of our respective families in
the past"

As Mr Oliver says, we
cannot promise to do better
than the D.O.; and, as the
Private Secy has already acknowledged
the letters, I do not think
that we need write again.

I am afraid that all the
others also, like this writer,
and Hurdley, and others, are
finding fault with the D.O. and
saying how glad they are that
they are coming under the
C.O. will not take us any
letters when we take over the
Administration.

W.H. Feb 14

We are clearly not at present in a position
to express any opinion on the questions
raised in your letter

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CONFIDENTIAL.

MOMBASA (B.E.A.)

January 19th. 1904.

The Right Honorable Alfred Lyttleton. K. G. M. P.
H. M. Principal Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs.
LONDON.

Dear Mr Lyttleton :-

I write you this communication for the following reasons :-

Firstly. Because this country is shortly to pass from the control of the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office.

Secondly. Because we have at present no combined body of men to place our views before you collectively.

I believe you will give the communication some consideration :

Firstly. Because H. M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs some two years ago informed us by letter in answer to a representatively signed petition asking for a local advisory counsel " that H. M. Government is always prepared to listen to inhabitants of standing though it was unable to grant our request "

Secondly. Because of the acquaintanceship of our respective families in the past.

This country has a great future before it, and it will be difficult for you at first to grasp the reasons why it has so slowly developed more especially in the face of its great natural advantages over other less fortunate countries.

My opinion is that the reasons are confined solely to

All Communications should be addressed to the General Managers to avoid delay.

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January 19th. 1908.

two questions, viz :-

The mode of Administration and its Personnel.

Mode of Administration.

The system adopted here

is as follows :-

The Protectorate is divided into large areas of land called Provinces. Each of these several Provinces is ruled by a Sub Commissioner, each of whom adopt an entirely different policy thus creating a house divided against itself.

These Provinces are sub-divided into districts under the control of a Collector. The Collectors duties are as follows Magistrate, Drill Sergeant, Street and Road maker, Sanitary Officer, Controller of Revenue Expenditure, Book-keeper, and general corresponding clerk.

70% of his time is devoted to the control of petty native thefts, and other cases, entailing a fine of One Rupee or less.

The balance is left for him to travel over his district which consists of many hundreds of square miles to collect huttax, and learn the needs and requirements of each neighborhood.

There seems to be a remedy by which his multitudinous duties can be removed without additional expenditure.

At present each Collector communicates on all subjects with the Sub Commissioner who again communicates to the Secretarial Offices, and thus in matters of importance with the Commissioner. Would it not be possible for the Collector to communicate directly with the Secretarial department, and the sub-commissionaries at present devoted to the office of Sub Commissioner utilised for providing the Collector with additional help. This would ensure a general policy throughout the Protectorate.

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Courts.

Were ruled here by the Indian Penal Code, a Code impossible to apply to white people, and especially unfit to apply to the British Race. To-day the white man has not the right to be tried by jury. There are two Judges in the Proconsulate, and all matters of law and fact are left to the control of these Officials.

Currency.

The Rupee currency is the only legal tender. We, the civilian inhabitants, have made every effort to obtain if not the British coinage, at least the legalisation of the British sovereign. Farmers or others in Great Britain who might have a tendency to become settlers of this country see considerable in to him a foreign coinage a stumbling block.

Shipping.

In order for an emigrant to reach this country directly he must either ship by an Italian, German, or French vessel. You can quite understand this fact the strange coinage must have an adverse influence against this country.

Law.

As these laws are under re-consideration and re-construction nothing can be said on the subject, though it is advisable they should change as rapidly as possible.

Administration.

The Sub Commissioners are without exception men picked up by the Old Imperial East African Company and apparently kept on by the Foreign Office merely on account of their knowledge of the language without any regard whatsoever as to their ability. With the one exception viz:- Dr. Hinde, Sub-Commissioner of Kenya, they are without trade or profession.

The Collectors, or Sub-Collectors, are composed I believe without exception of young men straight from school

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and college. A remedy for this will be the formation of an East African and Uganda Civil Service.

LEAVE. Every 20 months an East African Protectorate Official is entitled to 4 months leave in Europe.

It is usual when the Official returns to remove him from the district which he had begun to learn something about to another district of a totally different character. It is difficult for the civilians to understand for what reasons it is necessary for the younger officials to have these advantages. The climate of Nairobi and the uplands is infinitely superior to that of Europe, and it would be infinitely better to the trade of the country as well as to the administration if the period of service was lengthened before this leave was granted. Not a few portions of this Protectorate where Officials are stationed can be termed unhealthy. There is little sickness amongst Europeans, and a very moderate death roll.

Distinctions between the Civil and the Official Population.

It is to be deplored that the system adopted in India during the old days should have been allowed to have crept in to a young country so shortly to become a Colony. This is one of those matters that is so difficult to explain to you, and is really only discernable on the spot. Such little matters as follows have all assisted in bringing about this state. The Native Police have been trained to salute at all times whether in uniform or without any Official member of the Services, no matter whether he be Treasury Clerk or Inspector of Roads, why at the same time he is not permitted to salute a civilian no matter what his position. It is almost ridiculous to see all kinds and conditions of Officials holding all kinds and conditions of

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positions parading the streets attired in Court Swords and helmets, and it would appear that it is necessary to uphold the dignity of an East African Protectorate Official, say a registrar of documents, to be turned out in this manner. These simple things cause considerable offence to any incoming intending settlers, and in no way aid the country in securing the good services. I have frequently met in London men who have visited East Africa and who had the intention before their arrival of settling and bringing capital who had changed their minds not because the country was not good enough or undesirable but because of the personnel of its administration. I have a batch of correspondence that will bear me out in this matter.

Sir Charles Elliot. As you are aware this country has already expressed its very decided opinions on the subject of our late ~~last~~ **most** able and upright Administrator, whose only fault as far as we can see was to endeavour to introduce Colonial Office methods whilst under control of the Foreign Office.

The return of this Gentleman as Commissioner of the East African Protectorate, or as High Commissioner of the two Protectorates would be very welcome.

Sir Donald Stewart. It is very difficult for any man to take up the position Sir Donald has been called upon to do and the country has great hopes that Sir Donald will be able to entice new settlers to assist us in the development.

Believe me, Dear Mr Lyttleton,

Yours sincerely,

A. J. Anderson