

EAST AFR. PROT.
 No. 15408

C. O.
 15408
 Recd
 Apr 30 APR 07

1907
 Apr 9
 Previous Paper.
 1909

(Subject.)

Attitude of Colonists Association
 towards the Natal & Transvaal
 The copy was issued to local press & of tel. cover with
 S. Africa in the flogging incident. Remarks as to the
 hostile attitude of the central committee & misleading reports in
 the press.

(Minutes.)

Mr. Read
 The Commr. is no doubt correct
 in saying that the violent anti-native
 feeling is mainly
 found among the bootleggers of Natal
 & is not shared by the bona fide
 settlers.
 The telegrams from the S. African
 Govts. are a sign of the times.
 2 telegrams appear the Commr.
 concurs to these telegrams

Subsequent Paper
 1909

W. Antrobus. Do proceed?
 H. S. R.
 4/5
 1907 3/5
 10
 11

Papers should be prepared for Parliament
without delay & these some of
Seditious for inclusion

422 16 57

I am not sure about publishing this
dispute. There is a good deal in
it which though deserved, will keep
up bad feelings

£ 17 0

C.O.
15408

Commissioner's Office,
Rec. 30 APR 07

Nairobi,

April 23rd 1907.

WEST AFRICA PROTECTORATE

Confidential (119)

My Lord,

In continuation of my Confidential despatch
(1f) of 27th ultimo I have the honour to transmit
herewith a circular contributed by the Colonists'
Association to the local press.

I think Your Lordship will agree with me
that this circular displays an amount of animus
against the Administration which would justify the
Government in regarding the Association as a
political organization pure and simple rather than
as an institution devoted to the advancement of the
legitimate interests of the planters and pastoralists
of the Protectorate.

C. 13499
Circular
Rec'd from "Daily
Mail"
to Premier
April 23rd
do.
April 23rd
to Premier Natal
April 23rd
to Governor
April 23rd
do.
do.

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.

5. I am of opinion, as I stated in the despatch alluded to above, that the sentiments which animate the central committee are not shared by the majority of the rural settlers, and the latter are disinclined to busy themselves with politics at all and are certainly far too much occupied with their own affairs to devote the necessary time and trouble to organize an opposition strong enough to counteract the agitating element, which is resident at Nairobi, has no other concerns to distract its attention and is able to control at any meeting which may take place the votes of the non-dovels whose very presence in the town testifies to their uselessness to the country.

It may interest Your Lordship to know that on the 11th ultimo, two days after the flogging outrage, whilst a certain section of the community was still clamouring for protection against a kikuyu rising, one of my Secretaries, M. Wanson, bicycled out to the farm occupied by Messrs. Easton and Co. in about 7 miles from Nairobi. On arrival he found the former just returned from a meeting held by the farmers of the district in conjunction with the kikuyu chiefs to arrange for a supply of labour. Not

one of the Europeans present had even heard of the
 doings at Nairobi. This incident may perhaps be taken
 as indicative of the interest taken by the genuine
 settler in his urban brother's politics and equally so
 of the likelihood of a Kikuyu rising, as suggested in
 paragraph like the enclosed from the "Star".

In any case, whether or no the Nairobi clique really
 voices the feeling of the colonists as a body, we may
 certainly expect a campaign of vilification and misrepresent-
 ation which will be carried on not only by the
 press but also in such English papers as may be disposed
 to accept contributions from here. In these articles
 facts will be disregarded and truth will be at a discount.

In this connection I had only quite the other day a
 telegram published in the "Daily Mail" after the occurrence
 of the flooring outrage which has been the occasion of
 this correspondence. The message was sent by Major Duff
 the Vice-President of the Colonists' Association, as he
 himself admitted at the trial. It states that the natives

who

who have alleged that insulted white ladies and gone unpunished by the authorities? Anything more disgraceful cannot be conceived. As I for my part know, neither the police nor the magistracy had anything of the kind to do in the matter. In front of the latter's court the trivial nature of the so-called insult has been already explained to Your Lordship. It is an incontrovertible fact that there is no more certain way of raising racial passion to fever-heat than to suggest that an outrage of this kind has taken place. The President, the Vice-President, and several members of the Committee of the Colonists' Association have not scrupled to endeavour to use an incident, which could not decisively be classed under that category, as a means of inflaming the popular mind to lawlessness; nor have they hesitated to justify their action to the people of Great Britain and the South African Colonies by communicating a garbled version of the facts to the press of those countries. I think it only fair to myself and my officers to place on record this expression of opinion as to the methods which have been adopted by the Colonists' Association in the past, and which may be expected from them in the future.

copies of the telegrams which I have received
from the Premiers of India and the Transvaal and the
copies of the same, and of my replies are enclosed
for your Lordship's information.

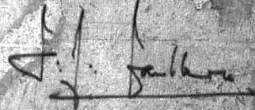
I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,



Acting Commissioner.

C O

15408

REC
RES 30 APR 07

scrupulous people have been circulating reports of the existence of a state of unrest among certain sections of the native population and the Acting Commissioner in order to reassure a dubious public has been moved to state that there is not the slightest ground for any such supposition. These reports are not only, it would appear "unfounded" but also "unauthorised" by the Little Tin Gods—and that is the unpardonable sin, and yet, would you believe it, there are sceptical folk who refuse to be reassured, who go so far as to say that the Acting Commissioner's knowledge of this matter is on a par with his knowledge of other matters affecting the welfare of the community and who brutally ask for the data upon which these conclusions are based! They even hint that the information gleaned from district officers is utterly valueless, that the natives are always on their good behaviour when the Sub-Commissioner or Collector comes along and that if the Acting Commissioner wants to get at the truth of this—as of all other matters—he should go to the Man Who Knows and is always pointedly ignored—i.e., the Common or Garden Settler! But, there, there! Isn't it a waste of time to pay any heed to the rabid outpourings of these jaundiced unbelievers?

Organize! Organize!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "STAR"

Sir,

Would you kindly publish the following resolutions passed at our Committee meeting on the 13th inst. That seeing that this Association is a political organization it shall be further organized as such. That the country shall for the purposes of organization, be divided into districts. That a member in each district shall be asked to undertake the duties of local honorary secretary, or that the districts settle their own boundaries and elect their own local honorary secretaries.

That the duties of a local honorary secretary will be—

1. To canvas all those who are in his district and who are not already members.

2. To keep the work and policy of the Association well before the eyes of his district, and so keep interest alive.

3. To report to the secretary all cases which come to his knowledge of injustice done by the Government, or any acts which are open to the hostile criticism of this Association, all cattle thefts where no redress can be got, labour questions, and such like.

4. To be ready in any case where the good of a district is threatened by any arbitrary act of the official in charge, to take steps to call a meeting of settlers in that district, to put in formal protest against such act.

5. The local honorary secretaries to be supplied with all information of the current work of the Association, minutes of Committee meetings &c. from the secretary.

I should be pleased to enter into correspondence with any gentlemen in the outlying districts relative to the subject matter of the above motion.

I am &c.,

W. MACLELLAN WILSON

Secretary

13th March, 1907.

CONFIDENTIAL
 Copy 19 of April 9, 1907



EXTRACT FROM DAILY MAIL.

NAIROBI PERIL, IN E. AFRICA.

Rifles served out to the Whites at Nairobi.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Nairobi, Thursday, March 14th.

In consequence of their having insulted white women and gone unpunished by the authorities, three negroes have been publicly flogged in front of Nairobi Court-house, in the presence of a large crowd, by Captain Grogan, President of the Colonists' Association.

Owing to sudden unrest among the natives at Nairobi, the citizens have demanded ammunition and rifles. The Acting Commissioner has agreed to issue them, and has appointed a defence committee.

Nairobi has a population of about 2,000, of whom 600 are Europeans and Eurasians. The East Africa Protectorate has a total population of 4,000,000, of whom only 2,000 are Europeans or Eurasians.

INCLOSURE 2003

Copy 19 of 1907

C. O.
15408
Regd
Recd 30 APR 07

Telegram from Pietersburg.

Dated April 4th 1907.

Have to-day received following telegram from Nairobi:-

* Mass meeting Europeans East Africa appeal for your intercession against sentences of imprisonment imposed on South Africans Becker, Grogan, Gray, Fichtel, for flogging natives publicly for insolence to white women*.

Government of Natal has no knowledge of this case which presumably has occurred in your territory and in any event we do not propose to take any action in the matter. Please do notify the sender of the message whose name is not given in the telegram.

Prime Minister.

C. O.

15408

REC'D

REC'D 30 APR 07

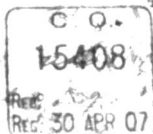
Copy.

Telegram from Pretoria.

Dated April 4th 1907.

Certain South Africans sentenced to imprisonment for flogging natives who insulted white women have appealed to me for intercession against sentence. While disclaiming all intention to interfere I sincerely hope that nature and details of offence which are unknown to me are such as leave an opening for Your Excellency's clemency on behalf of prisoners. Please communicate this to petitioners.

Premier.



Copy.

Telegram from Cape Town.

Dated April 5th 1907.

April 5th. My Ministers have received telegram from Nairobi asking them to intercede for Bowker and four others sentenced to imprisonment for flogging natives for insolence to white women and have been approached by prominent Cape Town citizens on subject. They ask me to make inquiries to represent that Bowker and the others belong to very prominent Cape families and that their position creates a very painful impression in the Cape Colony. They hope that some relief may be given. I therefore submit the foregoing for Your Excellency's consideration.

Governor

Cape of Good Hope.

C. O.

15408

REC'D
REG 30 APP 07

Case 9 RPL 9

COPY

Telegram to Governor, Cape Town.

Dated April 6th 1907.

Your telegram April 5. Telegram sent from Nairobi misleading. So-called insult to white women quite trivial and no justification for defiance of law. Court passed lenient sentence on offenders and I do not consider it a case for clemency.

Acting Commissioner.

Comme
15408

E.A.P.
403

E.A.P. Coffe

DRAFT

Gov. Col. Paddler

23 May '07

Sir
I have the honor to
ack the receipt of Mr
Jackson's coffe def
of the 9th ult. on
the subject of the attendance
of the Colonists Assocn
in regard to the flying
incident at
Kaindi

MINUTE.

- Mr Ellis 22/5
- Mr Read ?
- Mr Just
- Mr Andrews
- Mr Cox
- Mr Lewis
- Mr Hopwood
- Mr Churchill
- The Earl of Elgin

I appear the replies
which Mr Jackson
wished to send to the
Premiers of Natal & the
Treasurer of the Gov.
of the Cape in reply to
their inquiries as to the
circumstances of the incident