

DESPATCH



EAST AFR. PROT.
No. 31259

31259
Recd
REG 31 AUG 07

Governor No. 338



(Subject.)

1907

Aug

Land Dept

Last previous Paper.

In letter of 10th inst. of Lands & more. by Dir. of Surveys. Agrees most advisable course at present is to increase staff of Land Office by appointment of a Land Ranger at £300 p.a. Recommendations Mr. W. G. Scholfield. Funds can be provided out of savings.

825

(Minutes.)

Mr. Read

20/8

It was recommended at the meeting of the Committee that we should agree to the proposed appointment of a Land Ranger, who will relieve the Land Dept. of some of the extraordinary duties referred to by Major Hills in 1895. It shall be safe & advisory of the proposal as a temporary measure so far as this financial year is concerned, if it is to be included in the Estimates?

At the Committee meeting it was agreed to call the Govt to provide in the Estimates for an additional subaltern & two additional men in the Land section - have found the the high. Copy of which section - the cost being estimated at £1,700 p.a. - with a view to getting a list of the copy of high work.

I submit that which should be provided for the Land Office. I am very glad to hear of the success of the proposal. I am very glad to hear of the success of the proposal.

To T. W. ... 435/100

Last subsequent Paper

20/8
10/11/07

has the necessary knowledge and experience for the work.

4. The Treasurer informs me that there will be no difficulty in providing the Committee's funds out of savings on the Estimates.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

W. J. Sullivan

INCLOSURE ^{1 in} 200 X

Despatch No. 311 of 1907

31259 29

Recd
21 JUL 07

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR GENERAL FOR LAND

NAIROBI.

18th July 1907.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Secretary of State in his despatch No. 228 dated 23rd April 1907 commented on Major Hills' report on the Survey of this country before receiving my minute thereon which was forwarded with your Excellency's note.

I asked the Director of Survey to favour me with his remarks, and attach his note.

2. It is unnecessary to say anything regarding the Sotik Survey, and the formation of the Land Board. The former has been carried out; and the Land Board will very shortly come into existence.

An attempt is about to be made to train the youths of the country in Survey. The results will be reported in due course.

3. The only question that has now to be dealt with is that raised in para (4) of Major Smith's report. It is quite possible that I used the word "Cadastral" in too loose a sense. The main point is that in this Protectorate, owing to the small staffs of all Departments, we are obliged to ask the Survey Department to undertake some duties which do not perhaps strictly speaking pertain to it. But this is inevitable in a new country.

The Land Office contains only two Officers, whose time is fully occupied, and the Department of Public Works is still very short handed.

At the same time it is only fair to the Survey Department that the fact should be known that its staff is engaged.

Yours faithfully,
The Governor,
East Africa Protectorate
Nairobi.

30

of survey and the making of maps. Other miscellaneous duties have necessarily to be performed, and are willingly performed.

To take the several cases mentioned in the Director's notice:

(a) When Mr. Burton Wright went on leave there was no one to put in his place, with the experience of Mr. Waring, and that Officer (whose post is that of Deputy Director, Cadastral Branch) was appointed Acting Land Officer.

(b) The work here mentioned was in the Public Service, though it may have referred necessarily to public lands.

(c) The work here mentioned is of the Land Office, and it was urgently required by the Survey Office, the District Surveyor was detailed for the work.

(d) Dr. ... was the Surveyor at ... is requested to be ... Land Officer or the ...

(e) ... work.

(f) The ... of ... must be done by the ... with ... of the Survey Department, ... Land Officer. If the ... available as ...

(g) ... partition of private lands is ...

(h)(i) There must remain for the present at the Survey Department. The duty under (h) requires the professional knowledge of a map maker; and as all maps are kept by the Survey Department, (i) also must remain with it. But I hope the latter may in time be taken over by the Land Office.

(j) It seems ... that ... was put up the ...

(k) I think that this is properly Land Office work.

work, and in dealing with the question further on.

(1) In sending up the estimates for the current year, we asked for a road section of the Industrial Branch. The ideal is for the Survey Department to lay out the roads as it proceeds with the survey of the properties.

So far the Public Works Department had done this, except in the Sotik where we asked the Survey Department to carry out the work as no Public Works Department Officer was available.

6. It will be seen from the above remarks that there is real need for help, and I agree with Major Smith that the increase at present had better be in the Land Office. The existing staff consists of a Land Officer (salary £600) and an Assistant Land Officer (salary £300). We require another officer, to be called Land Ranger, who would be available for outside inspection work his spare time being given to the office.

In forwarding my criticisms on the proposals to amend the Crown Lands Ordinance I remarked that if the District Surveyors we had asked for were sanctioned it was hoped that these officers would be able for the present to do what Land Rangers are expected to do.

I was over sanguine in this opinion. The District Surveyors may be able to help on the Coast, and in Waivasha and Kisumu Provinces, but not in the Ukamba province where far the largest number of settlers have taken land. We are at present receiving great help from the administrative staff or District Officers but this is not an ideal arrangement. These officers have multifarious duties to attend to besides they are not all qualified to report on land. Some experience is needed for this work.

6. We may find that we shall require more than one Land

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COPY.

MEMORANDUM.

- (1) With regard to Colonial Office despatch I have to remark that the shapes and sizes of the sheets therein laid down had already been adopted by me.
- (2) With regard to Setik I should like to record the fact that I have not altered my opinion. An opinion which I formed fully realising the advantages which are now accruing to us.
- (3) Appreciation of work done previous to the organisation of last year will be found in my report of July 1906, wherein it is stated that the work could not have been done better with the very insufficient staff and resources which were then available.
- (4) In your covering letter paragraph 3, you say "Will the Licensed Surveyors must do nearly all the Cadastral work as they are in fact doing now" I cannot agree.

Using the word in its most extended sense to make it include all duties connected with the Survey of Crown Lands; it is not the case. In this sense of the work the Cadastral Branch has been continuously employed on Cadastral work with two exceptions:-

- (a) Mr. Waring was employed as Land Officer during Mr. Barton Wright's absence.
- (b) Certain miscellaneous drawing and reproduction of maps for purposes other than public lands have been done in the Cadastral Branch.

In the restricted sense of the word that is to say the production of Cadastral on large scale sheets for land purposes

(3)

latter Cadastral work.

(g) Partition and sub-division of private lands. This should be private work, registered by the Land Office and checked by Cadastral Branch.

(h) Compilation and recording of land selections upon general charts. This should be Land Office work.

(i) Showing of maps to the public. This should be Land Office work.

(j) Putting out of bearings on the ground. Except when owner is on the spot at the time of survey; this should be Land Office work.

(k) Report on properties should be Land Office work, aided in part by administration.

Laying out of roads. Public Works Department or Land Office.

Some of the above duties are taken over from the Cadastral branch and in some cases involve a considerable increase in the staff of the Land Office. The consequences to the Land Office would be a very material increase of their work. It would be following the line of the recommendations made to press for an increase of Land Office staff to handle the work of my Department.

It should not be forgotten that I am assuming that we do not get the staff of District Surveyors that I have asked for. If they are granted some modifications in my remarks would be necessary.

C. E. Smith, Major, R. E.
Director of Surveys.

Nairobi.

June 6th 1907.

9

31259

For 5th
2259



15
25

36

and 4409

25 October 1907

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge

the receipt of your letter no. 338 of the 6th of August, and to inform you that I approve of the appointment of Mr. S.W. J. Scholesfield as Land Ranger in the Land Office at a salary of £300 a year. This arrangement must be regarded as temporary for the remainder of the financial year, but the appointment should be included in the draft estimate for next year for consideration with the general question of the Land and Survey Dept. & the necessary, it will

DRAFT

East of Port (no: 583)

for
Lt. Col. J. Hays, S. of the CA

MINUTE

- Mr. Balfour 24/x
- Mr. ... 24
- Mr. Just
- Mr. Antrobus
- Mr. Cox.
- Mr. Lucas
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Mr. Churchill.
- The Earl of Elgin.

29431, 26-20

its not well in any way
to reflect on the ~~topographical~~
work which has already 37
been done by the Topographical
-ical Branch, but it is
evident that the present
staff of that Branch
is inadequate for the
execution of any extensive
topographical work, which,
I am sure, could not be
considered to be carried out
in conjunction with the
Topographical Branch,
as that branch is Topographical
and the ordinary work,
I consider, therefore, that
it will be well to form
a separate branch for the
additional work and
for the ~~topographical~~ Topographical
Branch, which could be
described as the Topographical
and Topographical
Branch. The ~~estimated~~ total
extra cost is estimated at
about