

in Mr. Jackson's view
 that it is in practice
 impossible for officers
 in these positions to
 avoid offering hospitality
 to the numerous
 transient officials or
 private travellers who
 now visit these towns,
 and that this obligation
 amounts to a heavy
 tax on the small
 salaries enjoyed by
 them.

H. I. would accordingly
 be glad if the I.C. would
 issue a provision being
 made for the allowances
 referred to in the instructions
 for 1907-8.

J. A.
 NIA

EAST AFR. PROT.
 No 3316 25

C.O.
 3516
 Recd. 29 Oct 1911

NO
 905

(Subject)

Survey Department

Transmits Report by Chief
 in work of Dept generally and of
 & open or employ of Bureau

Capt. ... filed by ...

W. Read

I have sent to Capt. Douglas for
 reproduction the map enclosed in
 3249.

Nothing else at present except to
 let Capt. Smith see?

G.B.B.
 9/1

Captain Smith to see

above
 H.S.R.
 2 1/2

Part to
 H.S.R.
 11/1

Mr Read seen

Please let me have a portfolio of printed
 documents on this subject to hand

29. Things sent Capt. Smith ...

Commissioner's Office

3318

Mombasa, East

29 JAN 1905

January 29th 1905

AFRICA PROTECTORATE

CONFIDENTIAL

(Incl. 2.)



My Lord,

With reference to Mr. Lyttelton's Separate

despatch of August 21st respecting the proposed extension

of the Survey Department, I have the honour to transmit

herewith for Your Lordship's information reports by the

Chief Surveyor on the work of the Department generally

and of his Assistants individually. These reports were

prepared prior to the receipt of Mr. Lyttelton's further

despatch No. 525 of the 22nd ultimo giving directions as

to the reorganization of the Department.

As regards the employment of Indian subordinates

speaking from my own personal experience I should be

reluctant to advocate their services being utilized,

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

No. 295/5. 10. 33

London

It is generally speaking impossible to get good men,
I do not mean to say that in the constitution of the various
survey parties recently sanctioned Indian Subordinates
are not included.

3. Several of the points raised in the despatch under
reply have been dealt with in recent correspondence and,
as the Department is to be reorganized on the 1st April
next under Colonel Smith; who is now on his way home, and
will have opportunities of consultation with Your Lordship's
Office, I do not consider it necessary to offer any
further remarks at present,

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

Yr. Obedt. Servant,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

W. P. Smith

403
Enclosure No.

C.O
3316

REPORT ON SURVEY OPERATIONS IN BRITISH EAST AFRICA

The present Survey Department was established in April 1903 as a branch of the P.W.D. the *raison d'être* of the Department being set forth in the description for the purpose of opening plots in the neighbourhood of the Railway Zone. The staff consisted of the Chief Surveyor and one Indian Assistant, augmented a few months later by the addition of an Assistant, Mr. Waring.

Simultaneously with the creation of the Department the advantages of the country for settlement had been advertised causing a very large influx of prospective settlers from South Africa.

The Chief Surveyor was in May of the same year 1903 called upon to combine with his existing duties those of Land Officer with no existing survey and owing to the imperative necessity of settling the people on the land advertised as open for selection; every kind of makeshift had to be adopted to meet the situation. Applications were received for land in all parts of the country, and the position was further complicated by unsurveyed Forest Reserves also Native Reserves not only unsurveyed but undefined. All appeals for assistance in survey staff were stolidly refused with the result that in order to settle people on the land the most unsatisfactory makeshift was adopted of licensing outside surveyors who drew the Government survey fees laid down in the schedule, but the accuracy of whose work it was with no existent survey impossible to check.

Surveys of plots a long distance apart had to be done independently with no means of indicating their relative positions even on a map.

Wherever possible surveys were connected with the existing Railway line, this being our only base, the position of which was shown on existing maps.

maps.

In 1904 the staff was augmented by the addition of European Surveyors Messrs. Newton, Campbell, Kyle, and Clark and a Head Draughtsman Mr. Rand, Overy, the first named losing his life before he had been in the country a year.

The time of these gentlemen has been principally occupied in the survey of township areas and close settlement with the result that we now have an approximate plan shewing connected settlement for over 20 miles North of Nairobi, in addition to plans of Nairobi still incomplete Kisumu, Naivasha and Nakuru the survey of Mombasa Island is now about to be undertaken.

A trigonometrical survey of the Rift Valley is now in hand and we hope in a few months to have a connected plan shewing all farms between Kijabi and Njere Railway Stations on which the relative position of the Railway line is accurately fixed.

Mr. Lyttelton in his despatch speaks of the immense assistance afforded by Indian Subordinates Surveyors in India, with this remark I entirely concur, but our experience of the men sent thence to us bears out his rider that only the less satisfactory surveyors would be allowed to take service in Africa. Two of the Indian Subordinates who served for some time previously on the Uganda Railway have proved themselves most useful, but those sent out from India direct by the Indian Government have proved a failure.

No attempt at training natives of this country has been made, and at present such would in my opinion be money wasted, the African as represented by the Swahili and natives available for service here is lacking in ambition or sense of responsibility and even if they proved capable in the subordinate positions so usefully filled in India by the natives of that country, I am of opinion that the natives here after earning a certain amount would often leave just as he had become useful.

This year the staff has been increased by the addition of one European Surveyor, Mr. Townsend who arrived in August.

depend as required the forms filled in, in the case of each
 every official serving under me.

giving the foregoing history of the Survey Department I make
 attempt to disguise the fact that inadequate methods have
 been employed which will necessitate the repetition of a large
 portion later on, but the history is given to illustrate how
 an unsatisfactory position has arisen.

On writing the above I am informed that on the recommendation
 of Col. Smith who was deputed to report on the existing state
 of the Survey Department it has been decided to commence
 a trigonometrical survey of the country. I wish to place on
 record that this recommendation was made by me in 1903, and
 that such wasteful expenditure would have been obviated had
 my original recommendation been acted on in addition to which
 a great deal of the ill feeling of the settler against Government would
 have been allayed had some genuine effort on efficient lines
 been made to meet the situation, and I learn with much
 satisfaction that such effort is now to be made. The map
 proposed for shewing portions which it is considered essential
 for a survey should first cover follows by next post, but I
 do not in this connection point out until one knows what staff
 is proposed to be appointed, it is impossible to guarantee the
 time which will be mapped in any given time.

The contents of paras. 12, 13 and 14 are noted.

A. R. Hight.

C.S. & L.O.