

EAST AFR. PROT.  
 No. 22385

22385  
 20 JUN 08

No. 908  
 1 May  
 previous paper

(Subject.)

*Alleged grievances of settlers*

Recd. communication with Mr Macmillan who considers that the settlers have no legitimate grievances.

(Minutes.)

No. Antislavery

Put by?

A. J. H.

23/6

Mr Macmillan confirms the conclusion at which we had already arrived through other sources of information.

18th June 13.

(A. J. H.)  
 Law Case

23/6

From conversations I have had with officials and other reliable persons from East Africa I am sure that a wholesale repatriation of these idle settlers is the only policy; it would cost nothing more than...

27/6

22385

Governor's Office  
Mombasa,

20 11 08

May 31st 1908.

360

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.  
Confidential (52)

My Lord,

I had a long conversation yesterday with Mr. MacMillan, an American gentleman of wealth who is well known to the Foreign Office in connection with explorations in Abyssinia and on the Blue Nile, and who owns a large stock property at Juja about 18 miles from Nairobi on which he resides, as well as a house and property in Nairobi.

2. Few people are better acquainted with the conditions of the Uplands than Mr. MacMillan and he has proved himself a good friend to the settlers, many of whom he has helped in various ways, and others he has taken on in his own employment when no longer able to carry on their farms.

3. He told me little I did not know before, on the other hand he fully confirmed some views I have recently expressed.

4. Touching on the alleged grievances of the up-country settlers he expressed the decided opinion that they had no legitimate grievance of which he was aware. The constant cause of agitation

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,  
Downing Street,  
LONDON, S. W.

agitation was the fact that a number of people had rushed into the country with no experience and little money with the expectation of making fortunes. Not only had these expectations not been realised but they now found that they had spent most of their money and that the best of them were hardly able to make a living, while those who had made no serious effort, of whom there were many, were going under.

5. Though there was doubtless a shortage of labour at the time preceding the Labour Meeting at Nairobi, this was used as a means for an agitation which, otherwise, would have found some other pretext for declaring itself, the bed rock of the situation being the want of means of obtaining a livelihood. He himself had been scarce of labour just at that time when the Kikuyu are in the habit of remaining in their shambas; since then he has had more labourers than he requires and has had to turn applicants away.

6. The country he thought was no place for the small man with neither capital nor experience, and finding that farming on the Uplands had failed to produce the expected result, and that it was difficult to earn a living out of mealies, potatoes, and beans, in the present conditions of the uplands, the settlers turned round and attacked the Government, who had invited them here. We made a great mistake, he thought, in opening up the country to small men, and inviting them to come from South Africa. Not only should we not have invited them but, he considered, we should not have allowed them to enter. The question as to what we are now to do with them was a serious one, and he thought we should have

to

to repatriate a number. He looked upon the bacon factory as the best hope for the struggling settler.

7. \* As the prospects on the Coast he spoke hopefully, and the same of the prospects of ranching, provided, and here is the danger, that the country is not swept by the epidemic of rinderpest now prevalent in Jubaland.

8. This conversation was interesting because I feel sure that had Mr MacMillan thought that the settlers had a legitimate grievance we were able to remove he would not have hesitated to tell me.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,



E. D.  
R. 75  
D. 74

you  
22385

t.A.P.

363

Lucy

15 July '08

DRAFT.

t.A.P. Secret

you  
Sir J. Hayes Sadler

answ x 9702

Sir  
I have the honor  
to acknowledge the receipt of  
your letter dated (52)  
of the 21<sup>st</sup> of May  
in which you  
refer to a conversation  
with Mr. Marshall  
on the condition of  
the white settlers in  
the t.A.P., in which  
he expressed the  
view that it would  
be necessary to refer to  
a number of them.

MINUTE.

Mr. This 6/4

Mr.

Mr. Just.

X Mr. Antrobus. 6

Mr. Cox.

Sir C. Lucas.

X Sir F. Hopwood 6.7

X Mr. Marshall 6.7

X The Earl of ... 6.7

for room

See Mr. Sadler's  
minutes on green  
slip.



2. There can be no doubt  
that the presence of a  
number of white settlers  
who are either unwilling  
or unable to earn a  
livelihood by their  
industry, is a source  
of danger to the order  
& good government of  
the Prot., and, if,  
as I understand, to  
you were in Mr.  
Merrill's view that  
there are a number  
of persons in this condition,  
I should be glad if  
you would furnish  
me with an estimate  
of your <sup>estimation</sup> views as to

the desirability of  
of a policy of  
rehabilitating them at  
the together with  
an estimate of the  
probable expenditure  
involved.

3. The Govt. would of  
course take over  
the farms of such  
settlers allowing  
them compensation  
(where the holdings were  
not already forfeited),  
in cases where the  
value exceeded the  
cost of rehabilitation