

C.65073/29 [No. 9].

No. 2

PROOF.

COLONIAL OFFICE
to
FOREIGN OFFICE.

[Answered by No.]

SIR,

Downing Street, S.W.1, 4th October, 1929.

I am directed by Lord Passfield to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th August* regarding the British Guiana-Surinam boundary and to state, for the information of Mr. Secretary Henderson, that he is not in possession of the information necessary for him to comment on the point raised in the first four paragraphs of the Note from the Netherlands Minister but is requesting the Officer Administering the Government to furnish observations upon it.

2. As regards the determination of which branch of the river is to be considered the upper course of the Courantyne, the position, so far as this Department is concerned, is made clear in the letter from this Department of the 23rd July, 1900†, and appears to find confirmation in the enclosure to the letter from the Foreign Office of the 27th February, 1913‡.

3. The Secretary of State sees no objection to the proposal to fix definitely by treaty the frontier between British Guiana and Surinam. In view, however, of the state of the Colony's finances, the question of cost will require careful consideration.

4. The Secretary of State further concurs in the proposal to inform the Brazilian Ambassador that the matter is under consideration, and the Governor of British Guiana will, as suggested, be instructed to take no steps for the time being towards placing buoys in the Courantyne.

I am, &c.,

R. DARNLEY.

* No. C.65073/29 [No. 8]. † Not printed ‡ No. 7292/13. not printed

B.G.—Surinam Boundary.—(C.17881/2). 24.

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