

1924

KENYA

653

C.O.  
21327  
5 MAY 24

From *Gov*  
to *London* 376 18 April 1924

in Circulation -  
Mr. *Bottley*  
Mr.  
Mr.  
Inst. U.S. of S.  
Perm. U.S. of S.  
Part. U.S. of S.  
Secretary of State.

*New Motor Road  
to Mungalla*  
  
*Send report and  
photographs*

Previous Paper

*46*  
*20772*

MINUTES

? *Hebe* & *ask him to convey appreciation*

*in July 3 JHC*  
*7.5.24*

*was 9.5.24 at*

*Hand up - 11 May 24*

Subsequent Paper

*50/20342*

KENYA  
No. 576



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
KENYA.

1st April, 1924.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit for your information a copy of a Report, with photographs, by Mr. L. D. Galton-Fenzi, Honorary Secretary of the Royal East African Automobile Association, upon the new motor road linking up Nairobi and Kampala with Mongalla in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

Report  
Photographs.

A map of the route which is being prepared will be forwarded in due course.

2. I have addressed inquiries to the Governments of the Sudan and Uganda relative to the possibilities of an increase in traffic which may be expected in consequence of the opening of this route.

3. I trust that I may be allowed to convey an expression of your appreciation of the public spirit of Mr. Galton-Fenzi and Major H. Hemsted, his companion on the journey, the net result of which is not only to open a new route to the Sudan but also considerably to facilitate communications between the countries concerned.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

*R. G. ...*  
GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE:

J. S. THOMAS, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

BOWING STREET,

LONDON, S. W.



Telegraphic Address: "Royalauto."

NAIROBI, 16th March, 1924

His Excellency the Governor General,  
Khartoum,  
SUDAN.

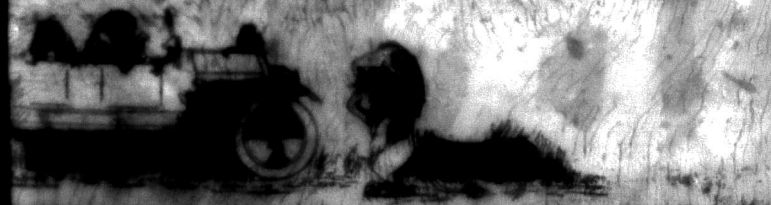
Sir,

I have the honour to append a report of my tour from Nairobi to Mongala, dating from the 2nd March, when I left Kisumu, to the 11th March, when I arrived back in Nairobi.

2. I would like to express to you my very warmest appreciation for all the courtesy and hospitality which I have received from you personally, and at the hands of the Soudan Government through your officers H.E. the Governor of Mongala, Major Walsh, Mr Allen Smith, Major Barker, O.C. Equatorial Battalion, and all your other officers, and I should be very much obliged if you would convey my thanks officially to these gentlemen.

3. I should also like to record the wonderful achievement of Major Walsh, who, I believe, unaided, built this splendid connecting link between the border of Uganda, and the Soudan and Mongala. I have seen many roads in my time, but, as an engineering feat, I do not think that it could possibly be improved on, as the alignment is excellent and the gradients so well judged that it is a top-gear run for a car from Kitgum to Mongala. The only difficulties which I can see are the few patches of black cotton soil which can easily be overcome (vide my report), and the present method of culverting and bridging. I am of opinion that the great majority of these culverts and small bridges can be replaced by ramping the approaches which only leaves the two bridges over the Kinnetti and Laloi Rivers, which I think should be replaced by masonry structures. Taking into consideration the condition of our all weather roads in Kenya, I feel certain that the Kitgum - Mongala road could be made passable at all times of the year, at small expense, and I understand that this will considerably help in the solution of the carrying problem in the Southern Soudan.

4. I should also like to especially mention Mr. Allen Smith, your Public Works Department Officer, who is the essence of energy and capability, and with whom it was a real pleasure discussing the





Telegraphic Address: "Royalauto."

NAIROBI: 16th March 1924

His Excellency the Governor General,  
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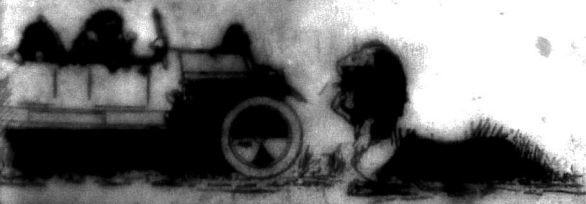
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NAIROBI 16th March 1924

ROUTE DISTANCES.  
(Accommodation and supplies).

NAIROBI - KONGALA.  
KAMPALA - KONGALA.

NAIROBI/NAKURU 106 miles  
Hotel: Petrol & Oil.

NAKURU/ELDORET 98 miles  
Hotel: Petrol & Oil.

ELDORET/MALAKISI 105 miles  
Rest House: Petrol & Oil

MALAKISI/M'BALE 48 miles  
Rest House: Petrol & Oil.

KAMPALA/JINJA 53 miles  
Hotel: Petrol & Oil

JINJA/M'BALE 125 miles  
Rest House: Petrol & Oil.

M'BALE - SOROTI 75 miles  
Rest House: All supplies can be obtained.

SOROTI - LIRA 76 miles  
Rest House: All supplies can be obtained.

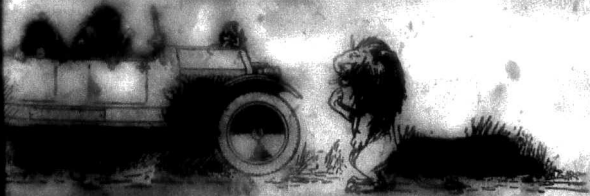
LIRA - KITGUM 76 miles  
Rest House: All supplies can be obtained.

KITGUM - MADI OPEI 28 miles  
Rest House: Supplies can be obtained.

MADI OPEI - TERETENIA 19 miles  
Rest House: Supplies can be obtained.

TERETENIA - IKOTO 20 miles  
Rest House: Supplies can be obtained.

IKOTO - TORRIT 70 miles.  
Rest House: Supplies can be obtained.





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and the Royal Aero Club, London.*

Telegraphic Address: "Royalauto." - 1 - NAIROBI.....192

TORRIT - LYRIA 38 miles  
Rest House: Supplies can be obtained.

LYRIA - MONGALA 49 miles  
Rest House: All supplies can be obtained.  
This is the Head Quarters of Mongala Province and is the Port  
of call for Mail Steamers.

DISTANCES.

Total Distance NAIROBI - MONGALA 810 miles.  
Total Distance KAMPALA - MONGALA 631 miles.

TIME TAKEN BY CAR (running time)

NAIROBI - MONGALA 35 hours.  
KAMPALA - MONGALA 29 hours.

- - -





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and the Royal Aero Club, London.*

Telegraphic Address: "Royalauto."

NAIROBI, 15th March, 1924

ROUTE REPORT.

NAIROBI to M'BALE.

Certain sections of our main trunk road between Nairobi and M'balu are, I regret to say, in poor condition. The section Nairobi to Nakuru can be used all the year round, but portions of it are rough. From Nakuru to Eldoret the road is impassable at present during the months of April, May, June, July and August. This is owing to the very heavy wagon traffic bringing goods to and from Londiani station and which cuts the earth road to bits. Now however, that the new Railway to Eldoret will be completed and ready for carrying traffic in a few months the heavy wagons which destroy the road should be a thing of the past, and in that case I hope that within the next year or so we may have an all weather road as far as the Uganda border. From Eldoret to Malakisi the road is generally in fair condition, and from Malakisi to M'balu it is excellent.

KAMPALA to M'BALE.

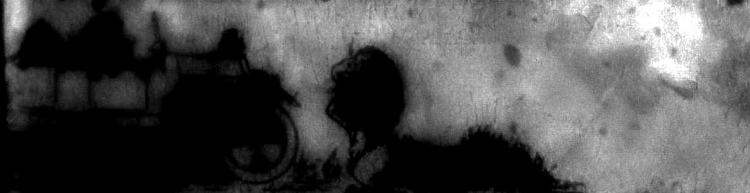
Our roads in Uganda very nearly approach perfection, and they can be used all the year round no matter what the weather is. As far as M'balu the road is metalled, i.e. two narrow strips of rocks about 2' wide are sunk into the road and then covered over with smaller metal and mud. These strips carry all the wheeled traffic, and after considerable wear show very little signs of deterioration.

M'BALE to LIRA.

This section is in excellent condition as an all weather road, the only difficulty is the crossing of the Ferry at Agw 22 miles from Soroti, but a new P.W.D. Masonry bridge is being created and should be completed within three or four months. From Soroti to Lira the road is excellent all the year round.

LIRA to KITGUM.

The section Lira - Kitgum is also in splendid condition, but there is one difficult river the Asua which has to be negotiated. At this point there is a cutting about 50' deep and about 40 yards wide.





NO. NAIROBI  
662

Telegraphic Address: "Royaleuro." - 3 - NAIROBI. 192

further expense will be sufficient to metal the bad parts of the road in the Uganda fashion, and once this is done there should be no further trouble or up-keep for some considerable time to come. There is no doubt about it that Major Walsh has constructed an exceptionally fine road, the gradients are very easy and it is a top gear run for practically any car from the Uganda border to Mongala. To substantiate this statement I might mention that on my return journey in a 13.9 Morris Cowley car carrying ~~between~~ between eight and nine hundred pounds weight of luggage etc., we averaged nearly thirty miles an hour over the whole distance which speaks for itself, and I do not think that we ever had any necessity to change gear. I have pleasure in enclosing some photographs which I took on the journey and which I think will be of interest and will show you the magnificent country and scenery through which the road passes.

(Signed, L. D. Galton-Fenzi)

Hon. Secretary,

ROYAL EAST AFRICAN AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION







Photograph  
 THE NAIROBI

663

*Printed and Published by the Royal African Society, London,  
 at the Royal News Office, London.*

NAIROBI

192

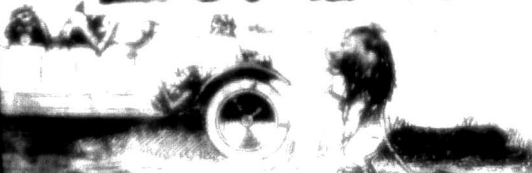


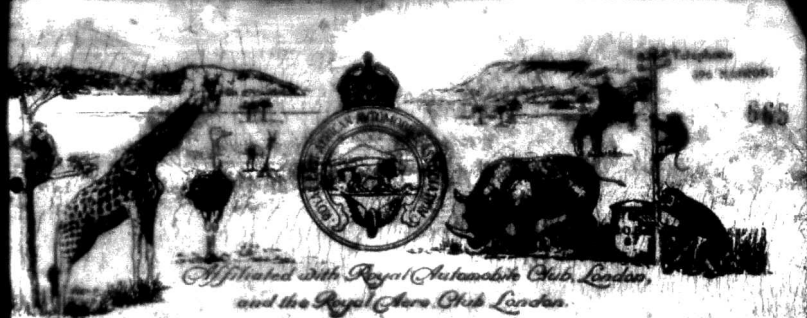


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 and the Royal Aero Club London.*

"Royal Aero Club"

NAIROBI 192





Telegraphic Address "Royalauto."

NAIROBI.....192



The women of the tribe  
 are busy spinning the  
 shikhi hand of the





London, E.C. 4

Kovulungu

NAIROBI

192





Telephone  
3 2 1 0 2 0 2 1

ROYAUME

NABORI

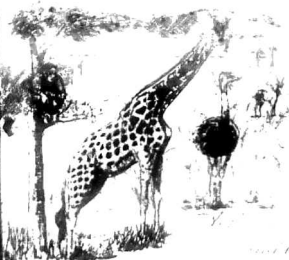




Telegrams: "Lantern" "Royal Lighthouse"

NAIROBI .....192





21, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4  
and 1, Regent Street, London, W. 1

elephant, lion

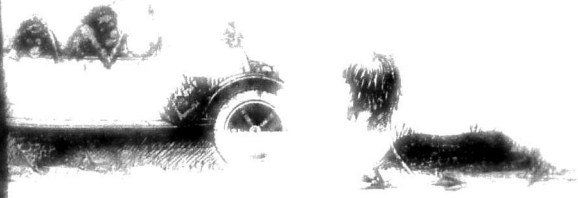
Royal African

NAIROBI

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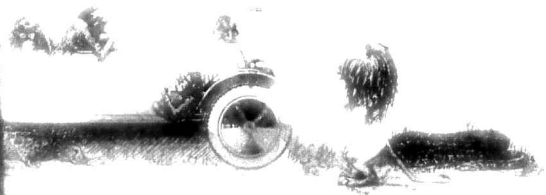




190 NAIROBI

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Kenya

NAIROBI

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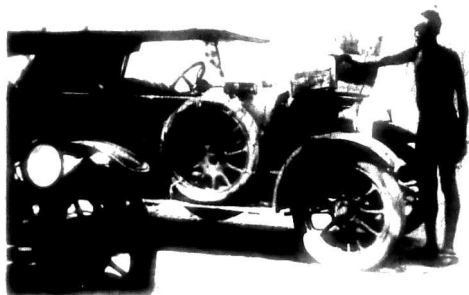


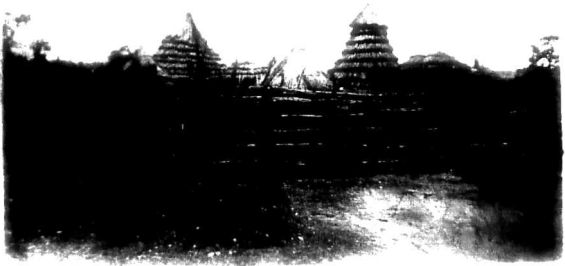


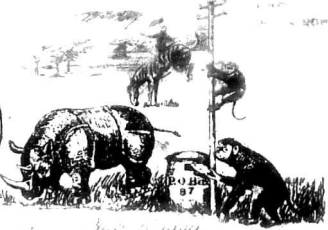
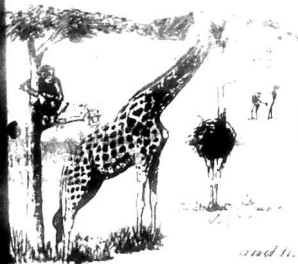
Illustration sent by the Hon. Mr. W. H. ...

"Royal ..."

NAIROBI

.....19.





*and the Royal Aero Club London*

Telegraphic Address

Royalauto."

NAIROBI.....





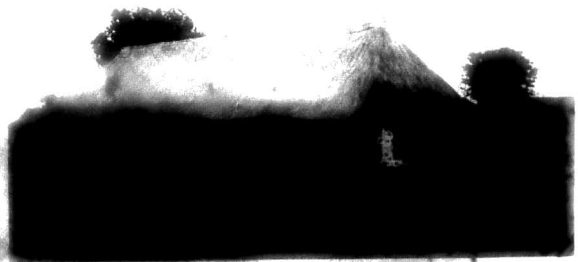
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202 N. 11000

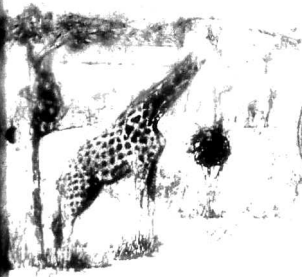
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NAIROBI

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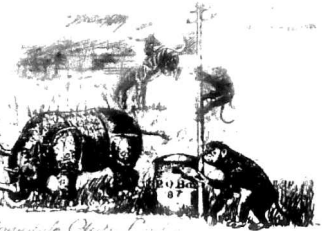
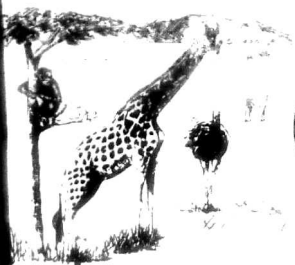
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The East African Press, Ltd.*

NO. 10, MARKET STREET, NAIROBI.

NAIROBI.

192





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ROYAL MAIL

ROYAL MAIL

NAIROBI,

192





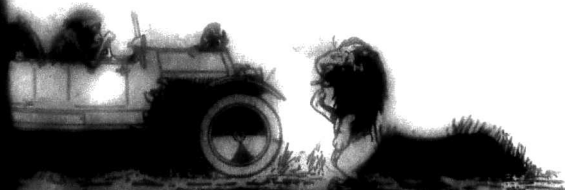
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Telegraphic Address "Royalauto."

NAIROBI.....192



30 Major Barbo, O.C. Equator...  
Batalion, Mongolia  
Zooloquia





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NAIROBI.....192



30. Major Barber, of Equatorial  
Battalion, Mongolia. Zoological Institute







Telegraph  
396 NAIROBI

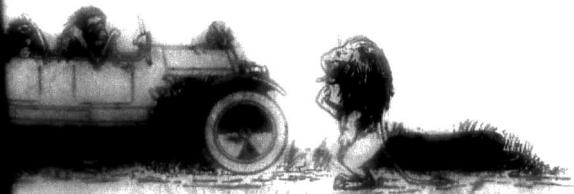
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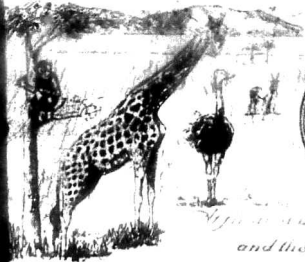
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31 P



Telephone  
FOR NAIROBI

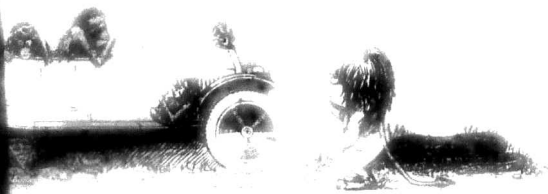
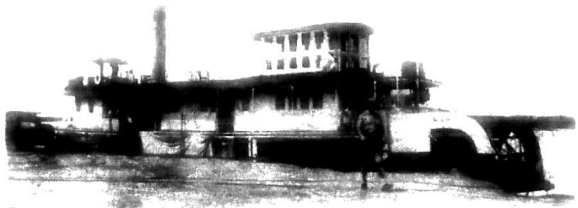
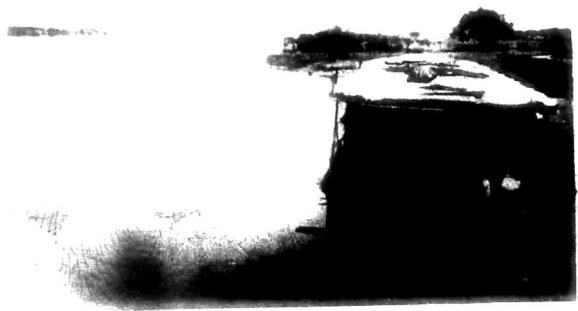


*Agents for the Royal Automobile Club, London,  
and the Royal Aero Club, London.*

Telegraphic Address "Royalauto."

NAIROBI

192





Registration No. 111/1911

Royalauto.

NAIROBI.

1911



Kenya

682

21327/24

~~Sgt~~

13 May 1924

DRAFT.

pa  
No 470  
London

Sir

MINUTE.

- Mr. Burt May 9
- Mr. Calder 9.5
- Mr.
- Sir G. Davis.
- Sir G. Grindle.
- Sir H. Read.
- Sir J. Masterton Smith.
- Lord Arnold.
- Mr. Thomas.

I have to ack the recd  
of your despatch No 376 of the  
10<sup>th</sup> of April, forwarding a  
copy of a Report by the  
Hon Secy of the Royal  
East African Automobile  
Association on the new motor  
road linking up Nairobi  
and Kampala with

Mongalla in the Anglo-  
Egyptian Sudan.

As I shall be glad if  
you will convey an  
~~expression of my appreciation~~

~~of the public spirit of~~

Mr. Fulton Fenzi &

Major H. Hemsted,

his companion on the  
journey, an expression

of my appreciation of the

public spirit shown by them

in this <sup>undulating</sup> matter.

Signed J. H. Thompson

Mongalla in the Anglo-  
Egyptian Sudan.

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you will convey an  
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~~of the public spirit of~~  
Major Genl. Fenzi &

Major W. Hemsted,

his companion on the  
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of my appreciation of the  
public spirit shown by them

in this <sup>underlying</sup> matter.

(SIGNED) J. H. THOMAS