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CO/533/121

TOTAL EXPOSURES →

obtained by Mr. P. J. Rainey.

During the two years 1910-11 and 1911-12, nine hundred and fourteen lions were killed in the East Africa Protectorate and this total only represents those of which I was able to obtain a record and there is no doubt that many more were shot and poisoned by farmers and natives of which no record was obtained.

During the last 12 months, excluding Mr. Paul J. Rainey's expeditions in which he killed 80 odd lions, bags of 17, 15 and 13 were made by some shooting parties and in the present year bags of 12 and 9 have already been made, and I have received a report of 22 having been killed on the Northern Guaso Nyiro. There is no doubt whatever that lions form the greatest attraction for sportsmen who visit the Protectorate and it must be apparent that if the present unrestricted slaying of lions is allowed to continue, a state of affairs will be reached at no very distant date, when lions will have become so rare in all but the most inaccessible parts of the country and the Game Reserves that only a very few sportsmen will be lucky enough to bag one.

Under such conditions there is little doubt that the revenue derived from Game Licences, which varies round about a figure of £10,000 annually, may be expected to be reduced to little more than half this amount.

A sum of £10,000 is of course not of serious a consideration to the country but it is nevertheless an acceptable addition to the revenues, more particularly in view of the fact that this sum is derived from the unoccupied areas, most of which are so suitable for settlement that it is unlikely any other

ENCLOSURE

No. 47 of

19

31997

MEMORANDUM

172.

(1)

With reference to the proposed amendment to the Game Ordinance in order to give some measure of protection to lions in certain districts of the East Africa Protectorate.

Lions have always been considered vermin, and the very idea of protecting them appears monstrous. However even the most rabid opponents change their views and become supporters of the scheme as soon as they clearly understand what the proposal is. For this reason I am particularly anxious that the members of the Legislative Council should thoroughly and clearly understand what is proposed before giving an opinion.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE GAME ORDINANCE 1909.

Title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Game Amendment Ordinance 1913," and shall be read as one with the Game Ordinance 1909 hereinafter referred to as the Principal Ordinance.

Definition.

2. In this Ordinance the term "lion" shall mean a male or female lion and shall include the young of lion.

Date of

3. The Third Schedule to the Principal Ordinance shall be and is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the words and

figures

lands liberty to destroy the animals which frequent their holdings in any way they please - an arrangement which cannot in my view give cause of complaint to any but those whose methods we desire to discourage.

7. The protection accorded by the amendment was extended to the Cheetah by special request of the Game Warden for the reasons cited in his memorandum. I accepted his suggestion because the destructive propensities of this animal are not such as to warrant its being classed as vermin.

8. Should it be the case that the explanation given in this despatch and the reasons adduced in the Game Warden's memorandum are considered insufficient to satisfy you of the propriety of the amending Ordinance, I would request that action be suspended until the arrival of that officer in England next month and that he be then heard by yourself in support of a measure which I am earnestly desirous to retain.

etc
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

Alonway Bayard

GOVERNOR.

3. In support of his views Mr. Woodsnam submitted a Memorandum, of which I enclose a copy, which clearly and effectively sets forth the reasons which have induced me to support the amendment and which in my opinion adequately answers any objections which may be raised against its retention. No such objections have however so far as I am aware been put forward by any person in this Protectorate.

4. In the days when lions were accounted for by legitimate means only, and settlers and sportsmen were content to trust to the rifle alone as a means of attack, there was no necessity for any degree of protection, but the question assumed a different aspect when Mr. Paul Rainey commenced hunting them with a trained pack of hounds which resulted in an immense increase in the number of lions killed and set an example which if generally followed would result in the extinction of the species in the areas in which it is followed.

5. The number of lions now allowed to the licenceholder is as the Game Warden points out sufficient to satisfy the ambitions of every true sportsman, but the introduction of the species in the Schedule has a more far reaching effect than mere limitation of number. It brings the lion under the definition of game, and so under the protection of Section 35 which prohibits its being hunted with dogs except on private land.

6. The principal effect of the amendment therefore is to prohibit the use of hunting dogs on all Crown lands situated outside the limits now imposed by the Ordinance while leaving to the owners of private lands

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QUEEN'S

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

C.O.
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Rcd
15 SEP 13

August 19th 1913.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 647

Sir,

4/2
2/508

Memorandum
by Game Warden

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 543 of July 9th in which you express a desire to be furnished with further information as to the necessity for the enactment of the Game Amendment Ordinance 1913. I have received this inquiry with some surprise as I would venture to express a doubt whether it has been made by your personal direction as I am aware that you are cognizant of representations which were made to me on the subject of lion hunting before I left England and which constituted the reason for my taking up the question as soon as possible after my arrival in the Protectorate:

2. Before broaching the matter officially I consulted Sir Frederick Jackson, whose experience of the fauna of this country is possibly unrivalled, and also the Game Warden regarding the propriety of extending a measure of protection to lions as eventually effected by the amending Ordinance. They replied to me in terms of cordial approbation of the proposal and assured me that the measure would be welcomed by all true sportsmen and lovers of animals in the country.

3.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

* No 21508

12014-50

prohibition of hunting with dogs is required

My chief objection to the Order is that the unfortunate native must get a permit before he can protect his stock from the lions and that native & uneducated European alike are (so far as I can see from the Principal Order on this one) in danger of a heavy fine if they are lucky enough to kill a lion in self-defence.

"Sanction, but say that the Government should keep an eye on the growth of depredations by lions among stock, & in particular among native stock. (I need not notice para. 1 - it is not the first Order that has come before unexplained).

WCS 16/9/13

(I regard it as a shocking case of discrepancy)

SR
Ref. am

Pr 12.9.13

I do not find anything in Webb to justify an order for 'preserving' lions. In the latter I say that there is no fear of extermination. The representations made as to Namby's proceedings were mainly directed against these supposed 'crimes'.

In writing as proposed I should say that it would have been better if Mr Worman's memo had accompanied the Order.

17.9.13

19.9.13