

DOMESTIC

EAST AFR. PROT.
S. AFRICA

No. 38436

C O
38436Rec'd
Nov 07

Individual.

(Subject.)

Cattle Disease

Visit to South Africa

Reports on visit

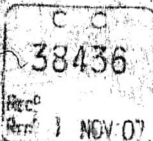
1907

previous Paper.

(Minutes.)

Act: says that Lord Selkirk has read the report with much interest - & sent copy of the same to the Gov^{rs} of the S.A.P. & Uganda for info. & - send copy of report to the Gov^{rs} of S. Afr. - also

1/2 copy of report of
Cattle Disease



26 Windsor Street,

Edinburgh. 29th October, 1907.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a short report of my official visit to the South African Collieries during the months of June and July of this year.

My visit was both interesting and instructive and I beg to thank His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Collieries for the sanction he so readily granted me.

I have the honour to be,

38436

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1 NOV 1907

RESUME OF VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

by

R. J. STORDY,

Chief Veterinary Officer, British East Africa.

June and July, 1907.

RESUME OF VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

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R. J. STORDY,

Chief Veterinary Officer, British East Africa.

Having been granted by His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies two months' special leave for the purpose of visiting the South African Colonies to meet the Veterinarians of the different Colonies and to learn from them the means which have proved most successful in the prevention and suppression of live stock diseases, more or less prevalent, and which have proved such a menace to colonisation in extensive tracts of the African Continent, I left Mombasa on May 29th last for Beira, where I arrived on the morning of June 6th. I departed the same evening for Rhodesia, reaching Salisbury, the Head Quarters of the British South Africa Company, the following morning.

Mr Stewart, the Chief Veterinary Officer, was on furlough, but District Veterinary Officer Bevan was good enough to place at my disposal all necessary information. I learned from him that the mortality from horse sickness this year had been exceptionally high, and I had the opportunity of witnessing several

I had also the opportunity given me of visiting a number of cattle recovering from a peculiar disease called "stiff sickness", a disease which, I believe, is known to have occurred in various parts of South Africa, but of whose etiology little is known. This disease has never come under notice in East Africa.

With regard to sheep, the nostril fly "*Oestrus Ovis*" is known, but is not the pest that it is in East Africa.

Rabies is still very prevalent in Rhodesia. I had the privilege of spending a day in the Pasteur Institute at Salisbury, where I was instructed in Pasteur's Method of Inoculation for hydrophobia. Most interesting data are to be found in the Medical Records kept at this Institute of patients who have died of this disease due to having been bitten by rabid dogs. The importation of dogs from Rhodesia into East Africa is prohibited.

I examined the ticks of the various districts of Rhodesia. I found the *Rhipicephalus decoloratus*, *appendiculatus* and *evertsi*, the striped legged bont, the variegated amblyomma and many other ticks common to East Africa.

From Salisbury I proceeded to Bulawayo, where I had the pleasure of meeting Mr Jarvis, Acting Chief Veterinary Officer in the absence of Mr Stewart. He gave me a general idea of how the Veterinary Staff was administered as well as such valuable

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through Bulawayo some days previous to my arrival.

Before leaving Bulawayo, I had the privilege, through the courtesy of Mr J. G. Macdonald of the Consolidated Gold Fields Co., of visiting Rhodes' Farm in the Matopos. East Coast fever had been prevalent on the farm, but by a system of dipping every twelve days, moving the stock and destocking infected areas, the disease had been stamped out. Here also, as throughout Rhodesia, the permit system for moving stock is in vogue. A farmer desiring to move stock sends in an application to the Commissioner of the district to which the stock is to be moved, who grants permission, provisionally upon each farmer through whose farm the stock must pass countersigning the permit. In this way each farmer is made a live stock inspector for the time being, and his own interests naturally prevent him allowing diseased stock passing through his farm.

From Bulawayo I proceeded to Kimberley, where, by the courtesy of the De Beers' Diamond Company, I visited their stock farm at Vauritz-Fontein. The farm is situated on red soil, which contains a large quantity of lime. The soil is of a porous nature and is well watered. The farm carries a large stock of horses and mules. Anthrax is common in the district and all horses immediately upon importation are inoculated with Pasteur's Vaccin. A new importation of 150 North American mares were in-

Leaving Kimberley I next proceeded to Johannesburg. I then
 to Pretoria where I spent a most interesting and profitable week.
 I had the privilege of meeting Dr Theiler, the Government bacteriolo-
 gist of the Transvaal, whose reputation is world-wide, and from whom
 I obtained very valuable information with regard to his investi-
 gations into tropical diseases.

He informed me that he is very sanguine that success will
 attend his many experiments with regard to immunizing horses
 against horse sickness. His experimentation on mules have already
 proved very successful. The difficulty which he experiences is
 to standardise his protective serum to combat the virulence of
 the virus of different districts, and I have arranged to forward
 to him horse sickness virus from various localities in East Africa
 which will enable him to provide a serum which, it is hoped, may prove
 of great use in the East African countries. All experi-
 ments regarding prophylaxis of horse fever, lung disease, spi-
 rochaetosis were all of a highly interesting and instructive
 nature and I was most fortunate in being privileged to carry away
 all valuable information which will certainly be of great service
 to the industry in East Africa.

Mr. G. J. G. Director of Agriculture, Chief Veterinary Officer
 G. O. Gray and the Veterinary Officers of the Transvaal Staff gave
 me very valuable data with regard to the measures adopted in the

The movement of natives' cattle was, as in the case of many ^{other} of the colony, very troublesome to deal with. The Colony was spending large sums of money in fencing and in providing mules and horses to supply transport in infected areas where it was necessary to absolutely prohibit the movement of trek oxen.

During my stay at Peitermaritzburg I visited Dr Fitchford's Laboratory at Allerton, and was shown his experiments with regard to horse sickness and his method of preparing anti-venom serum for the prevention of death from snake bite.

From Peitermatitzburg I proceeded to Durban to obtain information with regard to the Veterinary arrangements for the exporting and importing of live stock. The following are some of the regulations now in force:-

1. Argentine live stock are not allowed into the harbour until such time as they have been passed by the Port Veterinary Officer in the outer anchorage.
2. All Australian cattle on arrival are quarantined for one month to prevent importation of contagious pleuro-pneumonia.
3. No live stock from East Africa are allowed to enter.

(In the case of cattle I consider this regulation quite reasonable but I fail to see why this order should be made to cover

From Durban I travelled to Bloemfontein. Mr Hamilton, Acting Chief Veterinary Officer, was good enough to give me all the publications issued by the Veterinary Department of the Orange River Colony.

The Colony is comparatively free from live stock diseases with the exception of contagious pleuro-pneumonia, which, however, is not very extensive. The colony is taking great precautions against the introduction of East Coast fever by fencing the Natal border.

Leaving Bloemfontein, I next visited East London to inspect Messrs Cooper's farm of Ganubie. The farm, previous to their purchase of it, had the reputation of being one of the worst tick infested areas in the Colony, and was bought by the Messrs Cooper in order that they might institute experiments to demonstrate the efficacy of their dip in exterminating this pest. The experiment has been very successful and is an object lesson of what can be done by judicious dipping.

From East London I went to Grahamaton and visited the Cape Colony Laboratory there, which is under the control of Mr W. Robertson. I was fortunate enough to be able to witness the preparation of contagious pleuro-pneumonia virus. The operation is a simple one and is one which I intend to introduce into East Africa, unless the new method of Dujardin and Beaumetz should prove more efficacious.

From Grahamstown I proceeded to Cape Town where I met Mr Borthwick, Chief Veterinary Officer of the Colony. He gave me much information regarding veterinary matters in the Colony and supplied me with a selection of regulations, pamphlets and publications issued from time to time by his Department. I also visited the entomological laboratory at Rosebank which is conducted by Mr Lounsbury, Cape Entomologist, and saw the experiments which were being carried out there with regard to the part played by ticks in the propagation of disease among the lower animals.

I have attempted to state in a few words the results of my various visits, but would like before closing to point out what a valuable asset the existence of fencing along both sides of the railway systems is to the South African Colonies. If one studies any of the maps of these colonies it will be seen that very often the spread of contagious disease has been stopped at one side of the railway by the fencing preventing it from spreading to the country on the other side. The fencing of the Uganda railway will be a great boon to the Veterinarian and stock owner, in as much as it would often prevent the spread of disease and the surreptitious movements of cattle, but I am well aware that at the present time such fencing could not be maintained against the incursions of big game. It could only be after

inarians of these Colonies, have discussed with them the best measures to prevent and eradicate the many diseases which affect live stock in Africa, have received from them much interesting data, and have entered into reciprocal arrangements with them with regard to the notification of outbreaks and the progress of contagious diseases in our several spheres. In this way I hope that benefit will accrue from this exchange of opinion, and I venture to suggest that, if an Annual Conference of Veterinarians were held, it would give an opportunity to them of communicating to each other their experiences, which would be of great assistance in their endeavours to cope with those diseases that have proved such a scourge to our African Colonies.

In conclusion, I desire respectfully to thank His Excellency Lord Selbourne, the High Commissioner of South Africa, for obtaining for me the facilities of travelling over the railway systems in South Africa - a distance of nearly 6,000 miles. I also wish to tender my sincere thanks to all those who, officially or otherwise, have assisted me during my official visit to South Africa.

Wm. J. Hardy

(F)

7 November 1907

My Lord,

I have the honor to

transmit to you, for your
info, the accompanying
copy of a report by the

Chief Veterinary Officer of
the E.A.P. on his recent
visit to South Africa;

and
2. I have to express my
thanks to your Lordship
for the facilities afforded
to Mr. Stoddy, and to
request that you will
also convey my thanks to
the various Govts and
officials who have
assisted him in his work.

DRAFT.

South Africa no: 587.
H.C.

The Earl of Selborne

MINUTE.

- Mr. Boddington 24/11
- Mr. Read 4
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Antrobus.
- Mr. Cor.
- Mr. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Mr. Churchill.
- The Earl of Elgin.

Report
(ref: 38436)

38436

E.A.P.
S. Africa

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(Hed)

7 November 1907

My Lord,

I have the honor to

transmit to you, for your

wife, the accompanying
copy of a report by the

Chief Veterinary Officer of
the E.A.P. on his recent
visit to South Africa;

and
2. I have to express my
thanks to your Lordship
for the facilities afforded
to Mr. Stoddy, and to
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South Africa no: 587.

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The Earl of Elgin.

Report
(ref. in 38436)

C. D. 38436
R 4
D 5

SAP
S. Africa

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~~4 Oct~~

6 November 1907

Sir,

I am directed by the
Earl of Elgin to ack. the
recd. of your letter of the
29th of October, and to
inf. you that his Lordship
has read with much
interest your report on
your recent visit to
South Africa for the
purpose of consulting
the Veterinary Officers
of the South African
Colonies.

DRAFT.

R. J. Sturdy Esq

MINUTE.

- Mr. Bottonley 24/11
- Mr. Read 4
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Antrobus.
- Mr. Cox.
- Mr. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Mr. Churchill.
- The Earl of Elgin.

dft - one overleaf
[Signature]

Earl 623 15 Nov 07
Cty for 494 314

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copy of 38436, incl. 1, & then
to Secy of SAP & [unclear]

6 November 1907

The Secretary
Board of Agriculture
& Fisheries

Sir,
I am directed by the
Earl of Ripon to transmit
to you, ~~to be laid for the~~
info: of the Board of
Agriculture and Fisheries,
the accompanying copy
of a report by the Chief
Veterinary Officer of the
S.A.S. on the tour
which he recently made
in South Africa, for the
purpose of enquiring ~~into~~
~~into veterinary matters~~
There

(See 24/11
in Book 4)

Robert
(Encl. to 38436)



(12/11)