

1924

KENYA

52
C.O.
42135
4 SEP 24

FROM *Dep. Secy
Kenya*

DATE
1070 14th Aug, 1924

FOR CIRCULATION:

Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Asst. U.S. of S.
Perm. U.S. of S.
Part. U.S. of S.
Secretary of State.

Fishing Industry

*Reports action taken
with view to develop
of — It is proposed to
survey the fishing
and establish a
Fisheries Board*

Previous Paper

*W 98 29452
840 3944*

MINUTES

*First and substance of
para: 3 to Capt Caldwell
is quite whether he has
been able to do anything*

11.8 4.10.24

*Capt Caldwell cannot be
found by head of Sir C. Mackenzie
so far - he will write.*

*Went
Cald.*

10.9.24

*To Caldwell com. 15 Sept
Copy to Agric. 26 Sept
To Sir C. Mackenzie 25 Sept*

Subsequent Paper

*85
45241*

KENYA.
No. 1070

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
KENYA.



42135
4 SEP 24

14th August, 1924.

Sir,

With reference to Colonial Office despatch No. 684 of the 1st July, I have the honour to report that a Resolution was passed in Legislative Council on the 12th November last to the effect that Government should take steps to aid the development of the Fishing Industry by having a survey made of the Fishing Areas and the formation of a Fisheries Board.

2. It was decided as a preliminary measure in view of the unsatisfactory situation with regard to sea fishing and the lack of expert advice to approach the authorities at Cape Town. I attach copies of the correspondence which has passed in this connection. It is hoped that concrete proposals may soon be formulated for the improvement of the fishing industry - such must depend mainly on securing the services and advice of a fishery expert.

3. Fishing on Lake Victoria has suffered from long neglect and indiscriminate slaughter. I am advised that an expert inquiry into the subject is desirable and with the concurrence of my Executive Council Captain Caldwell, Assistant Game Warden, was instructed during his leave in England to approach Sir Charles Markham who had shown much interest in the subject when visiting Kenya, and enquire whether he is prepared to take action in regard to research work for improving the lake fishing industry on Lake Victoria. Further, Captain

HONOURABLE
H. THOMAS, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S. W.

Caldwell

H. G.
29/8/24
C.S.
2.24.
C.S.
5.24
C.S.
7.24.

Caldwell has been authorized to ask advice from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and put forward estimates of costs for this work.

See 37947

4. Kenya despatch No.949 of the 15th July last dealt with the activities of the Kenya Angling Association.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

J. M. Kenham

GOVERNOR.

Nairobi,

16th February, 1924.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the question of the development of a Fishing Industry on this Colony's coast has recently been engaging the attention of this Government. The subject is one concerning which there is little local information and no survey of fishing grounds has yet been made.

2. At present the fishing industry is entirely in the hands of Coast native boats which are capable of improvement and it is my experience that reliance has at present been placed for gauging the extent to which the industry should be fostered.

3. It is thought that your Department will be good enough to advise me generally on this occasion to handle this question at a stage of development, and I should be very grateful if you will be good enough to advise me generally on this subject. Any publications which your Department has issued would be appreciated more especially as they discuss methods of control, and administration. I should also be glad of your advice on the probable cost of engaging an expert to survey the fishing grounds and at what stage such a survey should be undertaken, and the possibilities of obtaining the services of an expert from South Africa.

I have etc.

sd. E. B. Denham.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

FISHERY ADVISER
TO THE CAPE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT,
CAPE TOWN.

Cape Town.

14th May, 1924.

Kenya Colony. Proposed Establishment
of a Fishing Industry.

Sir,

Adverting to my letter No. A120/B/215 of the 17th March last with regard to the Fishing Industry, I am directed to request that you will kindly favour me with information, however approximate on the following points in order that the conditions governing the local fishing industry may be taken into consideration in dealing with the questions raised by you.

(1) Number of men employed in the industry, the number of boats and nets, and line fishing there generally.

(2) How fish are disposed of, if preserved and by what methods, and to what markets exported.

(3) Some information as to the possibility of a larger market.

I have etc..

sd.

for Provincial Secretary.

The Colonial Secretary,
The Secretariat,
Nairobi,
Kenya.

671/1/25.

21st July, 1924.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 820/R/215 of the 16th May last, I have the honour to furnish you with information on the 3 points mentioned in your letter:-

(1) List of Boats, canoes etc. employed in the Fishing Industry on the Coast for the year 1923:-

Boats	67
Canoes	477
Fishing Stakes	178
Men employed	2000 approximately
Boats - no record but practically every boat has nets.	

(2) How the fish are disposed of etc.

(a) by sale of fresh fish to the various Markets in the Coast Towns.

(b) by sale of preserved fish locally and to Groups of Islands etc.

The native method of preserving is chiefly by sun-drying alone - this method is not recommended as the fish do not remain good for long. A certain number of fish are cured for local consumption by smoking.

(c) Messrs. Hewitt & Co. of Paga, Lamsu, carry on a fair trade in fish. Last season they bought and sold about 1,20,000 equal to approximately 150,000 fish during a season of 6 months duration.

Most of this fish come from the Tula Bank lying between Kiunga and Kigama. Their method of preservation is as follows:-

- (1) fish are cleaned.
- (2) dipped in a strong brine solution
- (3) thoroughly dried.

The fish was disposed off to Fowysland Estates at Suva. To Estates at Macuvalani, Kivodai and Tanga.

(3)

The Provincial Secretary,

F. O. Box 600.

(3) Some information as to the possibilities of a larger market:-

The fishing industry on the Coast is almost entirely in the hands of the Bajuns and the chief fishing grounds is in the Tala District lying between Kiunga and Kisumu. Other grounds are between Malindi and Kilifi Takungu and Mtwapa and between Mombasa and Vanga.

Further markets for preserved fish may very well be found by educating the Up-Country Native, in particular the Kikuyu and Kavirondo, to acquire the taste of such diet. The market then would be unlimited.

I am also informed that when fish is particularly plentiful vis when the supply exceeds the demands the excess fish are extensively used for manuring coconut trees etc..

2. I trust this information will be of use and I shall be very grateful for your advice on this question.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. DENHAM

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

O. D.
R 11 SEP
D 17

File 42135/14

Kuwa

581

19 Sept. 1926

Sir

And

sc

DRAFT.

R. T. Caldwell

Arnold
452111

MINUTE.

I have to inform you that
in a report of the Commission
the Government has reported
possibility of ~~developing~~
~~the fishing industry in~~
~~Kuwa, the Gov. has~~
~~reported~~

~~reported~~

- Mr. ~~...~~
- Mr. ~~...~~
- Mr. ~~...~~
- Sir O. Davis
- Sir G. Griddle.
- Sir H. Head.
- Sir J. Masterton Smith.
- Lord Arnold.
- Mr. Thomas.

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he would be
~~prepared~~ is prepared to take action
in regard to research work for
improving the ~~fish~~ fishing
industry on Lake Victoria.

The Gov. states that you were
also authorized to ask advice
from the Bd. of Agric. & Fisheries
and to put forward estimates
of costs for this work.

~~3. The S.G.S. ^{will} would be glad to~~

~~learn what you have been~~

~~able to do in this direction.~~

2. I am to ask you to report
whether you have been able
to make any progress in
this matter.

G. G. Smith