

1911

EAST AFR. PROT.
UGANDA
18433

C.O.
18433
Recd
JUN 6 1911

Serial
Date
May
previous Paper.
1940

Preservation of Game

Deputation fr. Soc^y for Preservation of Fauna
to Secretary of State
Memo. of proceedings.

minutes within.

Part of ✓

Mr. Harcourt received from the Deputation from the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, consisting of Mr. E. N. Burton, Sir A. Pease, Mr. Howard Whitbread, and Mr. Rhys Williams.

The principal subject of discussion was the Southern Game Reserve, in the East Africa Protectorate and Sir A. Pease was the chief spokesman, as he had recently come from the Protectorate, and was well acquainted with local feeling on the subject. He said that, in the neighbourhood of the Reserve, the settlers as a whole were ~~not in favour of~~ ^{opposed to} the abolition of the Reserve, but that he was in favour of giving them adequate protection against the risk of damage to their crops by the big game. Two courses had been suggested - (1) fencing the boundary of the Reserve along the railway; (2) fencing the settlers' farms. The first alternative was unsatisfactory, as the Game would still escape from the Reserve at the open ends etc., and he ~~was in favour of~~ ^{advocated} the second course, it being understood that the money required ~~should~~ ^{would} be advanced by the Government and treated as a charge on the farm to be repaid by the settlers. As the farms affected lay close together, the problem of fencing was simplified. He was unable to say what the cost of fencing would be, as it depended on the distance of the farms from the railway, i.e. on the cost of transporting the material.

With reference to the suggestion that, if the Southern Reserve were abolished, the Northern Reserve would form an ample sanctuary for the Game, the Deputation produced a letter from a traveller who had recently visited the latter in which he stated that it was hot and sandy and that there was very little game there - the contention of

of the Deputation apparently being that the Northern Reserve was never likely to become a Reserve containing numerous the species of Big Game found in the Southern Reserve.

Mr. Harcourt assured the Deputation that he was anxious to do everything in reason for the preservation of the Game. He explained that a despatch had been sent to Sir P. Girouard suggesting what had indeed been already put forward by representatives of the Society, that where there was an excessive increase in certain species of Big Game in the Reserve, steps should be taken to reduce their number by issuing special licences to kill these particular species in the Reserve. With regard to the fencing of the Reserve along the Railway, Mr. Harcourt was inclined to agree that this was no remedy. With regard to the proposal that the settlers should be required to fence their farms, Mr. Harcourt pointed out that this might lead to a demand on their part that the Reserve should be thrown open.. He stated that, before proceeding further in the matter, he would await the Governor's reply to his despatch, but that he was anxious that the reserve should, if possible, not be broken up.

The question of the minimum limit for ivory tusks was touched on, and Mr. Harcourt said that the Foreign Office had been asked to ascertain whether the other Governments concerned would co-operate with His Majesty's Government in raising the limit.

The part played by certain species of antelope in keeping up the virus of sleeping-sickness was referred to, and Mr. Harcourt made it clear to the Deputation that he could not allow any animal to be preserved which was proved to be implicated in the spread of the disease.

H. J. R.

19.5.11.

of the Deputation apparently being that the Northern Reserve was never likely to become a Reserve containing numerous the species of Big Game found in the Southern Reserve.

Mr. Harcourt assured the Deputation that he was anxious to do everything in reason for the preservation of the Game. He explained that a despatch had been sent to Sir P. Girouard suggesting, what had indeed been already put forward by representatives of the Society, that, where there was an excessive increase in certain species of Big Game in the Reserve, steps should be taken to reduce their number by issuing special licences to kill these particular species in the Reserve. With regard to the fencing of the Reserve along the Railway, Mr. Harcourt was inclined to agree that this was no remedy. With regard to the proposal that the settlers should be required to fence their farms, Mr. Harcourt pointed out that this might lead to a demand on their part that the Reserve should be thrown open. He stated that, before proceeding further in the matter, he would await the Governor's reply to his despatch, but that he was anxious that the reserve should, if possible, not be broken up.

The question of the minimum limit for ivory tusks was touched on, and Mr. Harcourt said that the Foreign Office had been asked to ascertain whether the other Governments concerned would co-operate with His Majesty's Government in raising the limit.

The part played by certain species of antelope in keeping up the virus of sleeping-sickness was referred to, and Mr. Harcourt made it clear to the Deputation that he could not allow any animal to be preserved which was proved to be implicated in the spread of the disease.

H. J. R.

19.5.11.



Read.

Please see & send me

copy of game laws.

The fauna Dept is on

19th at 11:30

13/5

TELEPHONE
955 VICTORIA.



May 12^{to} / 11.

Dear Mr Harcourt Ans^{d.}
13/5
sending game
bags. L.A.

I now send you
a letter from my
brother in law who
is serving in East
Africa - which will
I think give you a
my fair idea of the

the game laws, to
 destroy lions even
 difficulties under the game reserves.
 settlers have to a majority of the
 particularly when out there are
 they are in the view of sportsman and
 of the game reserves return for what
 I do not think there would be a most
 there should be a reasonable concession
 reasonable objects game may I
 to giving some extent a copy of the

the game laws, to
 destroy lions even
 difficulties under the game reserves.
 settlers have to a majority of the
 particularly when out there are
 they are in the wood sportsman and
 of the game reserve return for what
 I do not think there would be a most
 there should be a reasonable concession
 reasonable objection game may I
 to giving some estimate a copy of the

game Laws' for
own use.

Please do not trouble
to return the enclosed
letter

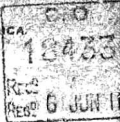
Yrs faithfully

John Gilman

The Rt Honble.

Lewis Harcourt Esq
Colonial Office

KILIMA KIU,
U.L.U.,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA



2/11/11

My dearest May

A letter arrived from you this evening having one
 a signed check also two & rather fed up with the
 but I was sure the delighted to get it.
 however you say you had just been dining with the
 Mr. Chamberlain so I will shortly answer to his father's
 anxious expression - as we don't heard " no."
 But - we have got it in the necks properly
 last Tuesday evening a big case coming into my room
 & said that 6 lions were in an outside house (the one
 I had spent about 3 weeks in building, a perfect mess
 of barbed wire) I hurried down there but they had all
 disappeared into a thick mist except one which I
 promptly blew up & then proceeded to examine the
 havoc, the lion had torn the house about as the
 it was made of stone, killed 50 birds and
 on 60 that we had brought up like an own children
 they certainly were the pride of the district.
 I sent a man off to St. Helen's other hills & if you know the
 I need hardly say they came over to 20 miles the Saturday
 to help me bring the huts to the place, we sat up all night

for them & hunted the following day, but could find
none over a $0\frac{2}{3}$ so though they must have been
distinct my friends & the natives yesterday to the
one from, incidentally we killed a leopard.

I thought I might as well leave all the dead birds in
bags where I could catch another live bird; but
on my way this way I saw from my bed room an
old devil with a long black mane strolling about
with a stick in his mouth, throwing a
cloth I ^{collected} ~~collected~~ my 250 & 300 & stalked up

about 30 yds, hit the bull with the machine
slings the 200 which went off before I could
& missed the next bullet I took him to the wire
deflected also missing, the lion by this
was kind as my first bullet was a few
feet high for his house which is very low,

he began come straight towards me & tried to
the door down a corrugated iron one, hit clean
a piece of the wooden frame work 3 inches by 4.

Some 100 yds for a few seconds that I saw
standing there he closed himself & I fired the 200
spoke with the next bullet, he turned on to the
magnificent though nearly 10 ft long with a
mane let it run rather a striking performance & it

I saw another man in a white shirt & a white cap
was having lunch on the veranda across the
I absolutely finished backing him alone in the

KILIMA KIU,
ULU,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

think Providence must have put this fire into me
I discovered quite by chance tonight that the
second barrel of my 300 was out of order (I fired
3 shots out of the right barrel this evening) rather
luckily was it, also that the door had been
this evening when the lion charged it.

I'm rather fed up with lions just now & in view of the
immense amount of destruction they have done to ostrich
farms in this neighbourhood I shall probably be willing
to jack sharp unless otherwise are complied with,
to ask a question of the House, suggesting that it
is this the face of proceeding, Kerman (100 words) in
the matter of one rescue which in the other side of the
lion from here was done away with, having heard over
there in scores & on its way 7 miles away they can come
over here & go back again during one night easily.

Yes! we got a bit more than we bargained for
we bargained this place, though we have passed beyond
in the short time we have been here that it is
an important place for ostriches, or would be if the
Hermann curse were done away with.

S enough of this soap point.

I shined like a few matters at home now, in fact
should go off my head with delight at the beauty

& comforts & amiable society of London, I was
if it all after 3 years on end, but I have no wish
return definitely, life here is really glorious,
& so delightfully independent & irresponsible.

Very glad to hear you had some good fun for the
- Leicester, I hope you are going to repeat the
performance, I suppose now ^{to} think, Secun is nearly over
I rather fancy that about this time next year I
- be on the bring with my nose turned towards
time passes very quickly here with plenty to do

with the same result.

The removal of the body was carried out without further delay.

Ulu Settler's Association.

Southern Game Reserve.

The following resolutions have been passed at Kitanga by the Ulu Settlers Association:—
That the Association recommends to the Government.

1. Systematic poisoning of vermin within the Southern Reserve to be commenced at once under the supervision of the Game Warden and a sufficient staff.
2. Native residents within the Reserve to be encouraged to destroy vermin by the offer of rewards.
3. The erection of a game proof fence along the Railway from Nairobi to Kiu and thence to the Akamba hills.

The meeting was also unanimously of opinion that the throwing open of the Game Reserve to sportsmen would be of no material benefit to farmers of the District.

T

(F

9-

th

wi

at

ba

en

ha

ou

A

(R

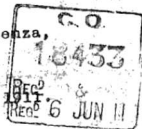
kil

N

11, Piazza dell'Indipendenza,

Rome.

21st. April



Dear Rhys,

I have seen Senator De Martino, the Governor of Italian Somaliland, who is in Rome now till about May 20th, when he returns to his Governorship. I spoke to him on the subject of the protection of game in Italian Somaliland and he has expressed himself as being very much in sympathy with the scheme and anxious to do all he can on the same lines. I also mentioned to him the necessity for restricting the sale of Ivory below a certain weight and he quite saw the force of the argument and I think he will urge the Government to follow the action adopted in the British Colonies. He is anxious to have all the details of the laws and the proposals of the Society for the Protection of the Fauna of the Empire. I think we can confidently count on the entire support of the Governor of Italian Somaliland and also of the Governor of Erythrea, whom I know personally very well, but whom I have not yet seen since my return to Rome.

Will you have all the necessary papers sent to me in triplicate please, one set for each of the Governors and one set for the Colonial Section of the Italian Foreign Office. I know the man in charge of this Section very well and can take the papers and explain them to him. I have little doubt that I shall be able to enlist his entire sympathy and support also.

Yours ever.

Pinebush

225

Personal

Quirtrough

4075

all add to

18433

May 13 1911

Dear Harcourt

I have been persuaded by Edward North
 Buxton to join a deputation on Friday, which
 you have kindly said you would receive, on the
 subject of the Southern Game Reserve. I have
 by today's post put my views before him. He,
 like some others, imagines that there is an
 agitation amongst the Settlers in the Inchoakos
 district near the Game Reserve in favour of the
 Reserve being thrown open. This is not so - not
 one desires it - Woosnam your excellent new
 Game Ranger has canvassed all of us & all have
 declared themselves against it. There is another
 proposal viz. to fence off the Reserve along the
 line of the Railway (its northern boundary) and
 the Settlers have expressed a preference for this
 and also wished to have Vermin poisoned in
 the Reserve - by Vermin they mean Lions
 Wild Dogs, Leopards, Hyenas, Jackal etc.
 With regard to poison I would beg you before
 you sanction that, to consider the great danger
 of it - you cannot poison carcasses of Zebra and
 buck without a great risk of poisoning the
 natives many have already died agonising
 deaths from Settlers poisoning game for
 ruin & others have died horrid deaths in
 steel traps set by carcasses - Again you
 will poison all the leaves & plants of the

and again, poison is not effective with the most destructive of the Carnivora, wild dogs will not touch dead meat they will always kill their own game - Lions can sometimes but very rarely be poisoned where there is any quantity of game - they prefer to kill their own dinners - One man I know set poison for lion and only killed a lot of his own dogs and a number of natives.

As to fencing off the Rinkway I do not think it at all sound - and it will be very costly to the Government - unless the fence is made to go all round the North by the Abri River, the Abri & Kapiti Plains will be filled by migrations of game from North of the Abri River - I doubt if fencing the railway will do much to ~~for~~ diminish the game North of the railway - which is decreasing gradually but surely in many places.

To fence the railway will prevent the Ostriches in the Reserve from coming on to our Plains to nest - and as we are Ostrich farmers this will be a serious matter to us.

My plan is I am sure the only effective & sound one & it is this viz: -

For Government - to supply fencing to the Settlers at cost price (wire & poles) and for the Settlers to fence all their farms. The Government supervising the fencing to secure effective fencing and to

recover the cost (interest & capital) by an annual charge over a term of years on the security of the holdings & improvements. The Settlers to provide all the labour & transport. The Government to supply material & supervision. All existing Settlers are willing & able to do this and there is nothing that could be of greater & more immediate benefit to them in any way. There are very few Settlers, none of their holdings are mortgaged, so the Government would have a first charge. In future Crown Leases the lease could contain a clause making fencing obligatory if thought best. By this plan complete protection would be given at no cost to the Government.

The Aburi & Kapsili Plains can never be fit for European residence - they are hot, shadeless, waterless & tick infested. The ticks in South Africa remain as bad as ever when the Game has been extinct for 30 years. These plains are the last in the world where the spectacle of royal herds can be seen & the only one there ever was when all travellers & tourists can enjoy the sight. To diminish the Zebra & kudu along the Railway would be to remove the whole of what makes the sight remarkable & unique - All who settle there know the conditions & have a limitless choice of

superior countries elsewhere in the Protectorate.

I enclose two rough maps I have drawn to elucidate my letter if possible -

There is no game in the Wotkamba Native Reserve - The Wotkambas kill out all larger game for meat.

The Game Reserve is as you know a Masai Reserve - The Masai are supposed not to kill game.

I apologise for the length of time but thought if you had time to read this through you might be better able to deal with some of the points that Buxton & others may raise - I have not told them I was writing to you -

Yours sincerely

Alfred Pease

