

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO THE SOUDAN AND ABYSSINIA.



AN EASY SHOT ON THE ZAMBEZI



A PROSPECTIVE "TEDDY LION"



THERE ARE THOUSANDS IN BRITISH EAST AFRICA

(Special correspondence by Frank G. Carpenter.)
BULAWAYO.—I have received several letters asking as to the president's big game hunt in Africa. I have heard of it here and there in the way down the east coast of the continent. The officials and sportsmen are talking about it, and all are holding out their hands to welcome the Nimrod of the White House. I got the first intimation of the president's plans, now more than a year ago, while I was traveling in the Sudan. They were being discussed by a German baron and a British colonel belonging to the Indian service as we were crossing the Saharan desert. The baron and the colonel were on their way up the Blue Nile to shoot lions on the border of Abyssinia and they believed that the president might find excellent sport there. While at Khartum I had a talk with the Sudan or governor-general, who was also commander-in-chief of the troops of the Sudan, and learned that he would be glad to have our president sample the big game of the Anglo-Egyptian possessions. When I arrived in British East Africa a few months later I was told that the president would surely come there, and I heard the same story in German and English, both at Mwanza on Lake Victoria and at Dar es Salaam below Zanzibar. The German officials can assure Mr. Roosevelt a good bag of giraffes, hippopotami and elephants, and the same is true of British Central Africa and northwestern Rhodesia. Indeed the president's coming seems to have been anticipated for some months and the officials and sportsmen are awaiting his advent and to see him change his coat of arms from the "Teddy Bear" to the "Teddy Lion," "Teddy Elephant" or "Teddy Hippopotamus."

BIG GAME IN THE SUDAN.
The general opinion is that the president will leave New York for Gibraltar and Naples, and that he will then take one of the German East African steamers and go down to Mombasa, beginning his hunting expedition in British East Africa. This can be easily and comfortably done. There are steamers every week and the trip to Mombasa will take less than a month. The fare to Egypt would be about \$300. A far better trip, however, will be to go to Egypt and up the Nile into the Sudan. Alexandria can be reached at a cost of \$10 in a little over two weeks, and another four or five days will put the presidential party in Khartum ready to take a steamer up the Blue Nile to the borders of Abyssinia. They may even extend their travels into that country, and if so the president's friend, King Menelik, will be glad to send native soldiers, hunters and porters to aid in the chase.

For ordinary persons the license to shoot big game in the Sudan costs \$200, but the freedom of the country will

probably be awarded to our president, and he will be allowed to shoot without limit such birds and animals as are not on the prohibited list. The laws of the Sudan provide that no one may capture or kill giraffes, zebras, ostriches, wild asses or rhinoceroses. The holder of a \$200 license can kill two elephants, two kudus, two kudus, four buffaloes, four hippopotami and about 50 of the various kinds of gazelles and antelopes. In Abyssinia there are no restrictions on shooting, and there are parts of the Sudan where any number of hippopotami may be captured or killed. In addition to big game there are in the upper Sudan large numbers of birds and also wild sheep and small antelopes, so that the hunting is practically unlimited.

In case the president goes there he will probably charter a special steamer at Khartum and live upon it during the intervals of the chase.

HUNTING IN UGANDA.
Returning to Khartum the president can go via the Red sea to Mombasa, or he can outfit at Khartum and take a little steamer on the White Nile for Gondokoro, more than 1,000 miles up the river, and thence on via Uganda into British East Africa. The trip by way of the Red sea will take him between two and three weeks, and the Uganda journey will be twice as long.

The latter trip, however, is by far the better, as he will have a chance to shoot big game all the way. At Gondokoro he will be in a country swarming with hippopotami and crocodiles, and a little farther on will strike rhinos, elephants, lions and all sorts of wild beasts. He should write in advance to the authorities of Uganda for license and permission to hunt within the limits of that protectorate; and they will undoubtedly send soldiers to meet him on the border, while the Sirdar of the Sudan will give him an escort and all assistance on the upper White Nile. Leaving the ship at Gondokoro he will have to go on mules or on foot to Nimuli, a march of only a few days; and there he will get small boats which will take him to Lake Albert, in the Uganda protectorate. If he wishes he can be met at Lake Albert by jirrikishas, from Entebbe; and a couple of weeks will give him time for a leisurely run through the protectorate with chance shots at all sorts of big game.

He will see chimpanzees and colobus monkeys and baboons of all sorts. On the way are great herds of zebras, wild buffaloes and nearly every known type of African antelope. There are wild asses like those of Nubia, and three-horned and five-horned giraffes. Sir Henry Johnston claims that there are okapi in western Uganda, and I know that lions and leopards are everywhere to be found. There are no restrictions as to hunting lions, and it will be strange if the president and Kernit, who, I understand, is to go with him, do not kill several of the

Uganda species.

As to the elephants, they are found all over the country, and a certain number of them may be shot by each sportsman, when properly licensed. The laws, however, prevent the killing of cow elephants or baby elephants, and as a general rule, none of the females of the big game can be hunted, killed or captured when accompanied by their young.

The party will meet with many rhinoceroses and will have to be careful to keep to the windward of them. The Uganda rhinoceros is stupid and almost blind, but it can smell like a bloodhound, and it will charge against the wind. I met one man in South Africa who had shot a white rhinoceros. This was in Rhodesia, and I am not sure whether any such are to be found in Uganda. I am told the rhinoceros there is timid and that he will not charge unless he is shot at. The animals go alone and are seldom seen in parties or droves. They are huge beasts with two great horns on their noses. There is a big horn just over the nose rising almost at right angles with the mouth, with a small horn behind it. The longest rhinoceros horn on record measures almost four feet, and some are frequently secured which are from 36 to 42 inches.

ABOUT LAKE VICTORIA.
During the trip across Uganda, the president will probably visit Mount Elgon, an extinct volcano, about which there is excellent hunting, and will then go to Jinja, where the water of Victoria Nyanza flows out, forming the Nile. At that point the fishing is good and there is good sport shooting the birds, among which is the white-headed stork. Crossing from there to Kampala, the capital of Uganda, the president will go on to Entebbe and thence sail over the lake to Port Florence,

where the Uganda railway ends and whence he can go down into British East Africa.

I should by all means advise the party to take a trip around Victoria Nyanza before going south. This body of water is bigger than Lake Superior, and hippopotami may be seen in the papyrus reeds almost anywhere along its shores. There are lions and leopards in the woods, and one has no trouble to get a shot at a monkey. There are some wild beasts on the islands of the lake, and on Ukerewe there is a herd of elephants. At Bukoba there are a German commander and several German officials, and at Mwanza, the southernmost port, there is a fine set of German officers, who will be glad to accompany the president on any big-game excursion he may care to undertake. At all of these ports there are natives who may be hired to carry the camp equipment and guns, and there will be no trouble in getting them to chase up the wild animals. The trip around the lake is comfortable. The steamers are small, but the food is good, and the storms are seldom so great as to affect one's digestion.

In going down the Uganda road toward the ocean the presidential party might get off at Voi and tramp across to the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro in German East Africa. I am told there are many elephants in that region and that big game of all kinds abound. This is so in many parts of the German colony. The officials there are great sportsmen and they will welcome the president. During my stay at Dar es Salaam I had chats with the governor and his chief officials. They are anxious that the president should come and will be glad to go about with him and make his stay pleasant.

I have heard from another source that there is some talk of the Kaiser visiting German East Africa at the

same time in order to go hunting with the president. The two men have about the same tastes, they are both fairly good shots and the stories of how they have chased the lions or the lions have chased them would be read with avidity all over the country. As for myself, I doubt the possibility of the German emperor leaving Europe; but it will be remembered that he has already gone as far as the Mediterranean, and there is no telling what either he or our president will do.

IN BRITISH EAST AFRICA.
Coming back to Port Florence, the president had best go down the Uganda railroad to Nairobi, the capital of British East Africa, and make that his headquarters during his hunting in that territory. British East Africa has more big game than any other part of the continent, and so much hunting is done that it is no trouble to outfit or to know where to hunt. There are mercantile firms which make a business of supplying hunting parties, and there are many who will take charge of everything at so much per month or at so much per hunt. The expenses are considerable. I should think it would cost the president \$40 or \$50 per day for every member of his party; and without he has special privileges given him each member will have to pay, in addition, a license of \$20 for the privilege of shooting the big game. Such licenses are now bringing from \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year to the government, and they are looked upon as a live source of revenue. They are paid by the nobility of England and all others who shoot; but it may be that there will be an exception in the case of President Roosevelt.

As to good company, there will be no trouble about that in British East Africa. There are no end of famous

people who hunt there every season, and some of the nobility of England have large estates with game preserves. Lord Delamere, one of these, is a famous shot, and so is Lord Hindlip, who owns tens of thousands of acres in the Rift valley. I have already written of our Pike county millionaire, Mr. William McMillan, formerly of Missouri. He has an estate of 20,000 acres right in the best game region, and his wife now and then goes out and shoots a lion in the back yard. There is a chance to pop over a hippopotamus or a rhinoceros in the garden patch before breakfast, and there are herds of antelopes and zebras on the plantations. Mr. McMillan has an automobile, with which the president might run down the zebras, or, in case of an unsuccessful trouble with a lion, retreat in a masterful way.

Seriously speaking, the big game of British East Africa is numerous and varied beyond description. The Uganda railway, which runs for about 600 miles from the Indian ocean to Lake Victoria right through the country, is lined with antelopes, zebras, giraffes and wild ostriches, and one frequently sees giraffes, lions and rhinoceroses from the car windows. There is far more game visible in a ride over that road than the number of cattle and hogs in a journey through the best stock-raising portions of the United States.

HUNTING IN RHODESIA.
One of the fine hunting grounds still left on the African continent is Barotseland, now known as Northwestern Rhodesia. The president might reach this by going westward through German East Africa to Lake Tanganyika, and thence making his way down that lake to the southern end. From there he could march overland to the Broken Hill mines, or it may be that the Cape to Cairo railroad will be extended much further north by the time he reaches there.

If he should not care to go further into German East Africa, he can take ship at Dar es Salaam, and go down into the Mozambique Channel, landing at Beira, in Portuguese East Africa. From there two or three days on a good railroad will bring him here to Bulawayo, and thence to the Victoria Falls of the Zambesi. These falls are equal to if not greater in beauty than Niagara, and the president should by all means see them. From Victoria the train will take him northward across the Kafue river into Barotseland, when he will be in a game country which affords excellent sport.

I have met the governor of that territory since I came here. He is a celebrated hunter and has killed many lions and rhinoceroses. He tells me that Barotseland has antelope of all kinds, and also many giraffes, zebras, buffaloes, hippopotami, kudus, lions, cheetahs and leopards. There are numerous wild birds, and in the Zambesi and the Kafue there is fairly good fishing.

SPORT WITH THE NATIVES.
In northwestern Rhodesia the president may have a chance to hunt native fashion. The negroes there are experts and they kill all sorts of game, from wild hogs to rhinoceroses. They hunt at the close of the summer, first setting fire to the high grass and burning over the whole country. As the grass sprouts up in the swampy places the game goes there to feed, and the natives lay in wait and shoot it with their bows and arrows or kill it with spears. They also stretch great nets across the paths or drives, into which they chase the game, and when the animals become entangled they rush in and spear them. These nets are made of vines and fiber and are sometimes two miles in length.

It will interest the president to see how they shoot lions and leopards by means of traps. The most common lion trap is a noose baited with meat and so arranged that when the lion grabs the meat he is caught by the nose, and in jerking away pulls the trigger of a gun which hangs down from above. The gun is so fixed that when it goes off the beast receives the ball just back of the neck and is killed. In trapping leopards the gun is set at an angle of 45 degrees, so that the animal is shot through the brain.

THE TIGER FISH OF THE ZAMBEZI.
As to fishing, I am told there is no sport like catching the tiger fish of the Zambesi. This fish often weighs as much as 25 pounds, and it is as gamey as a salmon. Indeed, it is far more so. It is about 10 to 15 inches long, and it has five or six blue stripes on its sides. Its fins and tail are red. The best places to fish for it are from an island, or below a rocky bar, in about three feet of water. The fish takes almost any kind of a glittering spinning bait, and a good way to catch it is to troll for it or cast with a hook with a spoon and a lead. The fish is a steel wire. The lines have to be carefully made and nothing but wire is of any good in connection with the hook, for the tiger will cut a gut or twine line to pieces with its teeth. Great care must be used in extracting the hook, and it is well to kill the fish first. Its teeth are sharp, and if one is not careful, he may lose a finger. The tiger fish is as full of bones as a shad, but it does not compare with either the salmon or the trout as a table fish. About its only virtue is the sport which it affords, and there are many African fish which are better to taste.

THE SEASON FOR HUNTING.
Down here in Rhodesia the president will find the winter months of from July to November the best time for his visit. Then the rainy season is over, the grass is grown up and been burned off, and the new grass is just shooting. The game now comes out of the wood and bushes to graze, and there are practically no insects or mosquitoes. There is no danger of fever at this time, although I would suggest that the president go nowhere in Africa without mosquito nets, and that he put them up whether out on the plains or in the cars, when there is the least danger.

In British East Africa almost any time of the year except the rainy season will furnish excellent hunting. The big game country is so near the equator that the temperature is about the same all the year round. This is also true of Uganda, and, as for the Sudan, the best time there is in the heart of our winter.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Missing Link in Tree Family Grows in Rio Grande Valley

The Junco is the missing link of the tree family. Restricted to a single valley, that of the Rio Grande, in Mexico and Texas, this tree, with its small crooked trunk bristling with thorns, is little known to the outside world. It is popularly supposed to bear no leaves, flowers or fruit, but it really bears all three.

The minute leaves are scale-like, the flowers very small, and the fruit is a tiny berry. It is the only known representative of its family in all the world. It is not known that the junco ever grew anywhere outside of the valley of the Rio Grande, or that it ever had relatives close enough to claim kinship. Some trees, now nearly extinct, had wide range in past ages; the big trees of California, for example, which grew all the way to the Arctic

ocean. But the Junco so far as is known, has always lived in one place and has always been the same dwarfed, crooked tree that it now is.

Except as fuel, it has not been put to any use. Thousands of cords might be cut in the valley of the Rio Grande, in Mexico and Texas. Of late, however, the growing scarcity of hardwood has called attention to the despised Junco tree as a possible substitute for some of the more popular woods, and the result is a surprise to those who thought the wood had no commercial value. Clarence A. Miller, consul at Matamoros, Mexico, has called the attention of this government to the good qualities claimed for it.

The wood sinks in water. In color it ranges from brown to black. It receives a high and beautiful polish, fitting it to take the place of such expensive woods as ebony and rosewood for small cabinet work. The trunks are

so short and crooked that only small pieces of timber can be obtained from them. Few trunks exceed seven feet in length and eight inches in diameter. The wood is said to be admirably suited for the keys of musical instruments, jewel boxes and other bureau cabinets, chess men, checkers, paper knives, knobs and other small turnery. Inlaid work, and indeed for almost all purposes, for which costly foreign woods, in small pieces, are now used. Many of the trees, whose woods are familiar in the lumber markets, belong to large families. There are 250 members—they are called species—of the pine family, and they are scattered all over the northern hemisphere. The birch and the oak family has even more members, and they, too, are widely scattered. The laurel has over 900 members, while the apple counting the many varieties, is said to have more than 3,000. But the Junco is fighting its life battle alone on the dry slopes of Texas and Mexico, without a relative in the world.