

## Uganda Herald

The Uganda Herald was established in 1912 and ran until 1955; in its latter stages it incorporated the Uganda Advertiser. The only complete set is held by the British Library of which 1941-55 is on microfilm; the earlier editions are only available in hard copy. Microfilms are available within 70 minutes of order but there is a 48 hour wait for hard copy. The following are not available due to their condition, 1912 and 1916-18. Others are listed as being in poor condition include 1915, 1924, July 1925-27, July 1928-1930 and July-December 1936; these may be withdrawn at the Library's discretion.

Due to time constraints I was only able to run a sample search of some of the microfilm issues, which took two days. During 1939-45 it was published weekly and thereafter three times a week. Its main readership was colonial administrators, Baganda elite and the large Asian merchant class. It covered world news mostly; local news usually confined to social and sporting events in the Kampala and Entebbe region plus Kampala District Court cases.

Regional news coverage is poor and was mostly from Jinja and Toro. There are few references to Kigezi and mostly concerned colonial social activities and occasional court cases. As a source for this period, therefore, it is disappointing. Perhaps the coverage before 1930 might be more informative when Kigezi was still in the process of integration into the Protectorate's polity.

What follows are synopses of what was found in the above search, perhaps the most interesting is Fr. J Laane's obituary.

### 1941

25<sup>th</sup> June I hear from Mrs Sharp that after an absence of 6 years she went back to visit their lovely island on Lake Bunyoni only to learn from various sources that people understood that she did not wish anyone except members of their own mission to go there! "This, writes Mrs Sharp, is quite untrue, and we cannot think how such an idea could have got around. We are delighted to let it to anybody needing a quiet holiday when we are not there ourselves."

On their return to the island they found a lot of things worn out or lost during their absence, but these will be gradually replaced and by September the cottage will be fully furnished (except for linen) for 4 people. The island was very over grown but has now been cleared and the Sharps hope to get their tennis court going again soon. There are fruit and vegetables on the island which the gardener will pick for the tenants, while supplies of fish, milk, eggs, chickens, firewood, etc., are brought daily by the natives. There is a shallow paddling pool for children and lovely bathing and boating for the grownups.

All further particular of this lovely restful holiday place may be had from Mrs Sharp herself at CMS Kabale between July and September this year, and before and after that from Miss Mash, also at the same address. "Please, do try to scotch this horrible idea about our not wanting people to go there and that we welcome everybody who cares to make use of it".

July 9<sup>th</sup>

D K Burner appointed DC Kabale from 16<sup>th</sup> June

11 June

On May 9<sup>th</sup> one Kahikizi s/o Kazoba appeared before Mr AVG Jenkins, District Magistrate Kigezi and sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour for practising witchcraft.

“It was shown that a wife of a dying husband called upon the accused to go quickly with her and cure her husband. The accused on arrival at the house of the dying man, said that some demons were killing the man – whereupon he demanded a white hen and a calabash of beer to be brought to him before he drove away the demons, She brought the things as demanded and gave them to the accused. The accused then pretended to exercise his supernatural powers to drive away the demons, but the man died. The widow took the matter up with the authorities complaining that she had lost a hen a calabash of beer and a husband. The ‘wizard’ was arrested, his house searched and his witchcraft instruments collected.”

September 13<sup>th</sup>

On August 9<sup>th</sup> a locust swarm invaded Nyakishenyi Gombolola, Rukiga, No damage recorded

September 17<sup>th</sup>

Obituary of Fr. J. Hon. Capt. Laane who died on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> at Mbarara. Born in 1869 at Roosendaal, Holland, he joined the WFM 1891 and was ordained 1893; arrived in Rubaga, Uganda, 1895, and founded mission at Mawokota 1899, then to Hoima and Entebbe till 1903. After two years leave he was appointed Superior in Entebbe in 1905 then to Rubaga, 1909, where he opened missions at Naddangira, Masindi and Mahagi. During 1914-18 War he served as chaplain to East African Forces and was mentioned in despatches with letter of appreciation by Winston Churchill in 1919. In 1917-22 he took charge of German Vicariate at Dar es Salaam, then 1923-6 Superior at Entebbe, 1926-31 Vicar General to Archbishop Streicher, 1931-3 back to Dar es Salaam, 1933 as General Treasurer of Vicariate at Mwanza, then to White Sister's chaplain at Mangu, Kenya, till 1935. He retired to Mutolere and went to Mbarara in 1936.

“He was revered and loved by all who had the honour to know him. He will be remembered for his courage and self-devotion to victims of sleeping sickness in the very early days when the cause of the disease was still a mystery. His work in succouring lepers is also an everlasting credit to himself and the mission to which he belonged. Deeply loyal to the British Government, he knew all Ugandan Governors from Harry Johnston to Philip Mitchell, the last, while on a visit to Kigezi, during which he called at Mutolere, once remarked that “spending 15 minutes talking with Fr Laane was like gaining many hours”.

3<sup>rd</sup> November Memorial to R T Wickham has been set up over the grave in the European Cemetery, Kabale, by his fellow officers of the Agricultural Department

1942

January only, no references found

1943

January only

January 6<sup>th</sup>

Kabale notices: (synopsis) Kigezi blessed with perfect weather with golf, tennis, cricket and hockey, Winners of the golf tournament competition were Adamson junior & senior. 3 dances held at White Horse Inn. At Boxing Day dance Mrs Metrick gave the golf prizes and raffle for Big Apple (11b) grown by the White Fathers at Kitanga. Others mentioned were Mr Burner DC, Mr Slagmolen, E Bowles and J Shephard auctioneers, Mr Speyer, Mr Trueman (Mwirasandu), Mr Spyropoulos, B & Jack Collins Namaherere who were fundraising for Polish Refugee Fund for camps at Kojo and Masindi ( for background see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish\\_civilian\\_camps\\_in\\_World\\_War\\_II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_civilian_camps_in_World_War_II))

1944

January and February only, no references found

1946

July to September only

31<sup>st</sup> July

Major Peter Mathews, 'King of Kigezi', commanded a Bakiga unit in the Western Desert, from *Empire Digest* June 1946. *East African Agricultural Journal*, July issue for article on Overcrowded Kigezi and soil deterioration, recommended strip cropping one year in three fallow for a year under grass. Wedding report of Joyce Ferguson, Uganda Medical Services, to John Walker, Police

25<sup>th</sup> September

Visit by Capt EM Persse ADC from 1919, he walked here from Entebbe; the only other European was JET Philipps DC. He sees differences in arid appearance which he always remembered as evergreen land, now there is tree planting and widespread drainage of papyrus swamps for food crops; in his time they were only for food shortages in Bufumbira. DMO Darlow replaced by James Hunter. Basil Sebley of Kampala leads scientific party in search of gorillas. The report that Batwa carry identity cards isn't true

1947

January to June only

Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

Xmas at Kabale. Hectic round of gaiety started by Dr & Mrs Darlow, next by the Mathias DC, WHI 14<sup>th</sup> year, Collins family, duck shoot & golf competition 'not same without Collins family', golf competition won by Bill Adamson. Mr. Spyropolous s manager of wolfram mine, Denis Hunter Military Affairs Officer

Letters of thanks to Lady Hall for assistance to leper colonies from Nyenga, Lake Bunyoni, Jinja, Teso District, and Kumi

Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>

John Purseglove engaged to P Turner d/o of late GI Turner of Falkland Islands. Tour of L Armstrong, Kabale growing out of tiny little post into a real country township

Feb 26<sup>th</sup>

New 16 mile road Rubanda Camp up Kasuli Hill to Luhiza wolfram mine, first half paid by government, second half by mine

April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Reports of Purseglove marriage at Church on the Hill, Kabira, and baptism of Ian Dennis, son of Dennis Hunter. White Horse Inn has three new water pumps

1948

July to September only

July 1<sup>st</sup>

Sharp's Island to let for 12 months during owner's leave, comfortable furnished house and guest house, African staff, 3¾ acres of beautiful well stocked garden fruit, vegetables in abundance, bathing, sailing, tennis, mountain walks, no malaria, hippos or crocs

July 8<sup>th</sup>

A Munyrwanda of Kigezi, Rwakigarama s/o Tambuka, sentenced to four years imprisonment by E S Haydon, Magistrate, to be followed by four years police supervision for stealing clothes from Maliamu Bugali, Kabale; her husband was serving with K.A.R.

Paul Kanamunya, RC Mission teacher, Rubuguli, fined 150/- or six months IHI for selling timber from a Mukungu tree, he had permit to use timber to make doors, window frames for his own house only, plus 36/- compensation to the crown

August 31<sup>st</sup>

Musitafa Sentongo and Misi Kaido, dhobis, sentenced to six and four month's imprisonment respectively for impersonating police officers. They had accused three Bakiga who brought shirts for washing of possessing contraband shirts.

## Appendix

Miscellaneous sources from other London repositories

### National Archives, Kew

Notes on Kigezi etc. 1947 (CO 1018/82)

District Council: Chairman elected from 5 County Chiefs, the County Councils elect the Gombolola & Miruka chiefs and unofficial reps from among their members

Jurisdiction of Kigezi Central Native court, civil 1000/- or any number of cattle, sheep or goats; criminal 24 months, and/or fine 600/- or 40 head cattle 20 sheep or goats and or 24 strokes

District native council, 5 county councils, 31 Gombolola councils, 141 miruka councils

Revenue 1946 £26, 763, of which Direct tax £22,677, courts £1,112, balance other

Expenditure £27,841 of which Salaries £8,717, education £894, medical £757, agriculture £407, Maintenance infrastructure £5,263, cost of living £3459, misc £1205, Capital works £7139,

8000 joined armed forces mostly E A L M S, about £45,000 remitted home

Civil cases 1040, breaches of N A rules 1484, Criminal 1627, appeals 203, revised 27

Townships Kabale & Kisoro, former has Township authority board & regulated market & pays market dues, N A builds market shelters, no fees, Indian pop >300, no ginneries, two wolfram mines, little surface gold, tin all minor concerns

Saza chief of Rujubura only one with hereditary claim, Hima, clan Ashamambo, closely connected with Abanyiganya royal clan Ruanda. Banyruanda live in Bufumbira, boundary arbitrary cutting through the tribe. No immigration after 1943 as becoming overcrowded, now to Ankole. 308 Bakungu chiefs elected by the people, this actually happen in some cases, not transferable except on promotion. Saza chiefs 180-350/- pa, houses but no land, pensions, gombolola 42-84/-, houses but no land, pensions, Miruka 12/15/-, Bakunga 3/12/-. Clerks & police receive houses, chiefs get no pension but service counted towards pension if promoted,

Poll tax 8/-, NA tax 6/-, crops flax & tobacco, little coffee or cotton, altitude too high for economic crops. NA build but not run dispensaries, makes and maintains roads, finances and runs afforestation schemes, build own buildings & has brick & tile works, contributes to Local Government, own staff of police and warders and runs own prisons

People have begun to take an extreme interest in councils and elections, though no political parties, most interested are the more advanced peasant, traders are not very vocal

## Nottingham University Library

Kigezi Story, edited shooting script, by Charles Montagu Slater, 1950s

## Natural History Museum, London

The Pitman collection, which covers his time in Uganda, includes letters received concerning mountain gorillas, Z MSS PIT/C84

## SOAS University of London

Has useful local government statistics on Kigezi from the 1950s including poll tax 1958-62, births registered 1937-62, deaths 1947-62, and marriages 1954-62 for Chahi, Bufumbira, Kabale, Rujumbura, Mparo and Rubanda. There is also a list of court cases of Teso & Kigezi Native courts 1932-62 (PP MS 38/2/2/9) but most interesting are abstracts of native court cases of c. 1957, (PP MS 38/2/1/5) that cover mostly family affairs such as abduction of married women, refusing to cook for husband, recovery of bride price, divorce and seduction, with a few witchcraft.