

Photocopy of letter (1905) from Sir David Bruce to the Sleeping Sickness Commission in Uganda re difficulties with the trypanosomiasis research

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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
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21st July, 5.

Dear Gray,

I have been in Malta lately, and I am afraid I have not written to you for some time.

Greig has been with me for the last few weeks, and has managed to get the Report finished. The copies are not printed off yet as there seems to be some hitch in the Colonial Office as to who will pay for them, but I expect this will be put right in a day or so, but you have, in the meantime, received a forward copy from Greig. In regard to the guinea-pigs, I have written to Dover and tried to get a man there to meet them and send them on here. I hope we will be more successful this time than the last. I am off to South Africa on the 29th instant, and, therefore, will not be here to receive them personally. I return about the 6th October, so that you must not expect to hear from me in the meantime.

I hope that Minchin and the rest of you are making a good thing out of the increase of trypanosomes in the interior of the fly. It seems to me that Sleeping Sickness work is getting a little sticky and therefore I would advise that you and Tulloch, if you feel the same, take up some other subject as a recreation. Tick Fever, for example, might do, or that disease in calves, the name of which I forget. Do not waste your time if you can possibly help it. I have done the best for you, at present,
by

by sending you the Suggestions. I cannot say I have any further ideas in my head. The question of finding some enemy of the Tsetse fly and letting it loose along the lake shore might be thought about. If such an enemy is to be found, of course it will be found, but it does not seem to be feasible; perhaps Minchin knows something on the subject. You are, I suppose, carrying on slowly and steadily experiments in regard to the medicinal treatment of the disease, although I cannot say things look very bright in that direction. I wish I could come out for a month or two and see what you are doing.

I have ordered Baird & Tatlock to send you ~~xylo~~ and blue pencils.

Good luck to you both. Remember me to Minchin. Tell him Ray Lankester has been in bed for the last three weeks, having been operated on for ischio-rectal abscess, and in all probability he will be on the sick list for another month.

Tell me in your next letter exactly how you feel you are getting on.

Yours very truly,

Lieut. A.C.H. Gray, R.A.M.C.

Gray *Gray*