ERNST D. MOORE Papers, 1888 - 1932
[1.6 cu.ft.; 3 DB, 1 (.5) DB, 1 fldr.]

History:

Ernst R. Domansky was born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 1, 1884. He was an ivory trader employed by Arnold, Cheney & Co., ivory importers of New York city, serving as that firm's agent in Aden, Mombasa, and Zanzibar from 1907 to 1911. He negotiated for the purchase of tons of elephant tusks from the Arab traders who brought them from the interior of Africa, and made several trips into the interior himself. He also served briefly as U.S. Consul at Zanzibar in 1911.

Shortly after his return to the United States -- sometime between 1911 and 1913 -- Domansky changed his name to Ernst D. Moore. There were evidently several reasons for this: Moore had been his mother's maiden name and, while his own parents were dead by this time, his uncle, Dwight Moore, had always looked after his interests. Dwight Moore had, in fact, obtained Ernst's position with Arnold, Cheney & Co. for him. In addition, both of his brothers had already switched from Domansky to Moore.

In 1913, Moore married Miss Elsie Warner of Chester, Connecticut, where he took up residence. He was then employed by the piano manufacturing firm of Pratt, Read & Co., of Deep River, Connecticut. Pratt, Read was the chief customer for the ivory which Moore had purchased in Africa; the company used it in making piano keyboards. Moore served as Secretary, and later as Vice President, of Pratt, Read's subsidiary, the Pratt Read Player Action Company, located in Deep River. Following that, he was head of the Moore & Fisher Manufacturing Company, also of Deep River. He retained his interest in ivory and, after retiring, wrote a book describing his days in Africa and the ivory trade -- his *Ivory: Scourge of Africa* was published in 1931. He died on June 5, 1932.

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
Chronology:

Sept. 4, 1907  Moore left New York for Aden to begin work as ivory agent for Arnold, Cheney & Co. of New York.

Sept. 27, 1907  Arrived in Aden.

Dec. 10, 1908  Left Aden for Africa.
Dec. 16, 1908   Arrived in Mombasa, British East Africa [Kenya].
April 12, 1910  Returned to Aden for temporary duty.
July 21, 1910  Returned to Mombasa.
July 30, 1910  Arrived in Zanzibar to replace Frank W. Vining as agent for Arnold, Cheney & Co.
Feb. 12, 1911  Stopped in Mombasa on way back to United States.
Feb. 24, 1911  Arrived in New York.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists primarily of copies of records still in the possession of Moore's family. Foremost among these are copies of his diary entries for the time he was employed overseas by Arnold, Cheney & Co. These provide a daily, often humorous, description of the lifestyle of an American businessman trading in the outposts of the British Empire. Further documentation of this lifestyle is provided by Moore's personal account book, expense account statements, and receipts, as well as the materials on Club life in these spots. These include rule books for the Union Club at Aden, the Mombasa Club, the Mombasa Sport Club, and the Mnazi Moja and English clubs at Zanzibar, along with statements of Moore's accounts at each.

The collection contains a great deal of information on the ivory trade, primarily in Moore's correspondence, both business and private, and in documents relating to his contract and service abroad. Although most of these are xerographic copies, a number of originals are included; since these are fragile, it is recommended that the researcher use the copies. There are several items directly related to ivory, including three ivory pricelists from 1922, a small pamphlet about ivory published in 1921, and Moore's handwritten description of the characteristics and classification of ivory. Also contained in the collection are a number of articles written by Moore about ivory and the ivory trade, along with his book, *Ivory: The Scourge of Africa*, in both typescript and published form. An additional folder contains a photographic copy of the map of "Ivory Country" used to illustrate the book.

The collection also contains copies of many of Moore's photographs. Most of them

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
were taken during his days in Aden, Mombasa, and Zanzibar. These document all aspects of the ivory trade, from the elephant in the wild to the loading of tusks onto ships bound for New York. They depict ivory poachers, transport of tusks, weighing and measuring tusks, storage facilities in the traders' compound or "ivory house," trade goods used to purchase the ivory, and local scenes. Of especial interest are a number of photographs which show the visit of ex-President Theodore Roosevelt to Mombasa in 1909. There are also three photoprints showing activities in Pratt, Read & Company's factory at Deep River, Ct. The remaining photographs are family snapshots, mainly of Moore's children. NOTE: Permission to publish these photographs must be obtained directly from the donor, who retains the copyright on them. The collection also includes a history of Pratt, Read & Company which Moore wrote in 1930.

Biographical information in the collection includes a chapter from a biography of Moore which was written by his daughter as a school assignment, autobiographical recollections of Moore's days as an ivory buyer, and a copy of his obituary.

Of additional interest are copies of documents relating to Moore's uncle, Dwight Moore. These deal with his service as U.S. Consul at Aden and Zanzibar in the 1880s-1890s, and correspondence between Moore and his uncle during Moore's service overseas.

Provenance:

The copies in this collection were made during two separate visits to Moore's family, in December 1988 and in August 1989. The original documents in the collection were donated by his family in January 1990. The copy of Ivory: Scourge of Africa was obtained in August 1989 from a separate donor.

Related Collections:

The Archives Center also contains Collection #320, the Pratt-Read Corporation Records. It includes a few photographs of E. D. Moore, as well as information on the ivory trade and the American ivory industry. The records of Arnold, Cheney & Company for the period 1873-1902 are to be found at the Essex Institute, Salem, Massachusetts; they are in Collection #103, the Ropes Emmerton & Company Records. Additional records relating to
both Arnold, Cheney & Company and Pratt, Read & Company can be found in the Cheney/Downing Collection at the Connecticut River Foundation at Steamboat Dock, Essex, Connecticut.

Craig A. Orr
1-9-90 Box Folder
PHOTOPRINTS:

1  1  89-20435  Dwight Moore in Aden, May 19, 1892.

89-4290  Postcard view of Aden, on the Arabian peninsula, ca. 1907-1908. This was Moore's first overseas station as an ivory buyer for Arnold, Cheney & Co., ivory dealers of New York.

89-4273  Arnold, Cheney & Co's. establishment in Aden.

89-16779, 89-16793  Business office of Arnold, Cheney & Co. in Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

89-16751  E. D. Moore (center rear) with business associates in Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

89-16750  E. D. Moore at the cut leading to the Crater in Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

89-20377  Tusks on floor of Arnold, Cheney & Co. warehouse in Aden, ca. 1907-1908

89-20376  Weighing tusks inside the Arnold, Cheney & Co. warehouse in Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

89-20378  Using calipers to check the diameter of a tusk inside the Arnold, Cheney & Co. warehouse in
Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

89-20380 Camel-drawn carts being loaded with ivory tusks outside the Arnold, Cheney & Co. compound in Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

89-20379 Cart-load of Abyssinian ivory tusks spilled into the street outside the Arnold, Cheney & Co. compound in Aden, ca. 1907-1908.

1 2 89-4269 Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt re-boarding the German East African Line ship Admiral (1), after a brief stop ashore at Mogadishu, Italian Somaliland. April 19 or 20, 1909.

89-16778 German East African Line ship Admiral coming into Kilindimi Harbor, Mombasa, April 21, 1909.

89-20439 Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt (left, in white hat), in Mombasa, April 21, 1909.

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
the Mombasa Club, April 21, 1909.

89-4275 President Roosevelt's party leaving Mombasa on April 22, 1909. "The day after we landed we boarded the train to take what seems to me . . . the most interesting railway journey in the world. It was governor Jackson's special train, and in addition to his own party and ours there was only Selous . . . On our train the locomotive was fitted with a comfortable seat across the cow-catcher, and on this, except at mealtime, I spent most of the hours of daylight."(3) Seated, left to right, are Roosevelt; Lieutenant-Governor Jackson, acting Governor of British East Africa; famed big-game hunter Frederick C. Selous; and C. Sanford, Manager of Uganda Railways.

89-20430 Ivory tusks in Customs House, Mombasa, ca. 1908-1910.


89-16787 E. D. Moore (in white hat) inspecting a shipment of tusks outside the Arnold, Cheney & Co. building in Mombasa, ca. 1908-1910.

89-16788 E. D. Moore supervising the loading of tusks onto a cart in Mombasa, ca. 1908-1910.

89-16786 Loading tusks onto a cart in Mombasa, ca. 1908-1910.

Box Folder

1 2 89-4282 Moore, flanked by tusks, in the doorway of his Mombasa warehouse, known as the "Ivory House."

89-20429 Ivory tusks in vault of "Nyumba Pembi" (Ivory

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89-16753</td>
<td>E. D. Moore with tusks laid alongside the street -- probably on the docks at Mombasa, ca. 1908-1910.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-16752</td>
<td>Ernst D. Moore in Africa -- probably in Mombasa, ca. 1908-1910.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-4270</td>
<td>Moore, known as &quot;Hans&quot; to his family, in Uganda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-16756</td>
<td>Probably a photo of the American Consul at Mombasa in his office, ca. 1908-1910.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-4272</td>
<td>Young native girl photographed in Mombasa, January 14, 1909.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-4268</td>
<td>Scene in a native village in Uganda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-4274</td>
<td>Big game country, British East Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-4284</td>
<td>Native porters on safari near Nairobi, British East Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-4283</td>
<td>Big game country, Uganda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-20374</td>
<td>Ivory poacher (possibly James Ward &quot;King&quot; Rogers) sitting astride a fallen elephant, ca. 1908-1911.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-20375, 89-20440</td>
<td>Ivory poachers' caravan fording a stream in the Lado Enclave west of the Upper Nile (Belgian Congo), ca. 1908-1911. These tusks were later purchased by E.D. Moore after they arrived in British territory.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
A detachment of the King's African Rifles on the march, ca. 1908-1911.


Looking towards Zanzibar from the water.

Tusks being carried by yard coolies into Arnold, Cheney & Co. compound in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

Weighing tusks on the ivory scales in the warehouse in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

E. D. Moore and his staff of ivory workers posing on the roof of the Arnold, Cheney & Co. compound in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

Dried skins being weighed on the Arnold, Cheney & Co. scales in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

Skins drying on the roof of the Arnold, Cheney & Co. compound in Zanzibar, watched over by E. D. Moore's dog, ca. 1910-1911.

Ivory tusks being carried through the surf on the Zanzibar beach, ca. 1910-1911. First loaded onto small lighters, they were then transferred to ocean-going vessels for shipment to New York.

Bales -- of skins? of cotton goods? -- being loaded into a lighter on the Zanzibar beach for transfer to an ocean-going vessel, ca. 1910-1911.
For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270

89-4280 A view of the piazza of Moore's house in Zanzibar.

89-16764 Piazza of Moore's house in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911. L-R: wife of the German Consul, E. D. Moore, the German Consul, and the wife of the Telegraph Superintendent.

89-16760 The German Consul's wife in the Consulate's living quarters in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

89-16762 The German Consul's wife posing with a pair of tusks in the Consulate's living quarters, ca. 1910-1911.

89-4267 Moore (right), with his good friend Frank W. Vining and a native in the African jungle. Vining served as U.S. Consul in Zanzibar from March to May, 1910, and from September to November, 1912. Box Folder

1 3 89-4271 A native policeman, probably in Zanzibar.

89-4292 Moore and his dogs riding in a gharri, probably in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

89-16761, 89-16757 Street scene -- probably Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911.

89-16755, 89-16758, 89-16766 Askaris (native soldiers), probably in Zanzibar, ca. 1910-1911. Led by a white officer, the unit is marching through a narrow street, preceded by a band and followed by their women and children, carrying baggage.

1 4 89-4276 Moore during his service with the Connecticut "Home Guard" during World War One.

89-20425 Ernst D. Moore, ca. 1930.
Ernst D. Moore, ca. 1930. Posed with typewriter in lap on porch of his home in Chester, Ct.

Ernst D. Moore holding tusk in the snow in Connecticut, n.d.

Richard Moore, the third of Ernst D. Moore's five children.

Ely W. Moore, second child of Ernst and Elsie Moore.

The Moore's second child, Edith Crawford Moore, at four months.

Mrs. Elsie Warner Moore with Ely (left) and Edith.

Wallace Moore, the Moore's fourth child

Ernst and Elsie Moore with Richard (left), Wallace (on swing), and Edith.

Left to right: Ely, Richard, Mrs. Moore, and Edith, sitting on a hammock.

The Moore children on vacation at Hancock, Somerset Lake, N.Y.

Left to right: Ely, Edith, Richard, and Wallace, celebrating the Fourth of July.

Left to right: Richard, Ely, Wallace, and Edith. Box Folder

Worker cutting ivory tusk inside Pratt, Read & Co. factory, Deep River, Ct., pre-1931.

Women workers matching ivory "heads" and "tails" for piano keyboards inside Pratt, Read & Co.

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
factory, Deep River, Ct., pre-1931.

89-20426 Worker cutting piano keyboards inside Pratt, Read & Co. factory, Deep River, Ct., pre-1931.

89-16370 (31)

References:
(2) Ibid., p. 7.
(3) Ibid., pp. 10 and 13.


6  Typescript of Ivory: Scourge of Africa

7  Ivory: Scourge of Africa -- Related Items

OS Flr-1 Photoprint copy of Map of “Ivory Company” used to illustrate Ivory: Scourge of Africa, 1931  [SI Neg. 89-6998]

2  1-8  E. D. Moore Diaries:  August 20, 1907 - April 15, 1911

3  1  E. D. Moore:  Biographical Information

2  E. D. Moore:  Contract Correspondence, 1907 - 1910

3  E. D. Moore:  Contract Correspondence, 1907 - 1910  [ORIGINALS]

4  E. D. Moore:  Business Correspondence, September 1907 - November 1908;  June 1910

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
E. D. Moore: Business Correspondence, September 1907 - November 1908; June 1910 [ORIGINALS]

E. D. Moore: Personal Correspondence, 1911-1932

E. D. Moore: Personal Correspondence, 1912 & 1922 [ORIGINALS]

Box 3

E. D. Moore: Consular Documents, Zanzibar, 1910

E. D. Moore: Expense Accounts, 1907 - 1911

E. D. Moore: Clubs -- Aden, 1908 - 1910

E. D. Moore: Clubs -- Mombasa, March 1909 - January 1911

E. D. Moore: Clubs -- Zanzibar, 1910 - 1911

E. D. Moore: Receipts, September 1907 - February 1911

Articles Written by E. D. Moore, 1931

History of Pratt, Read & Co., Written by E. D. Moore, 1930

Dwight Moore: Contract Correspondence, 1888 - 1891

Dwight Moore: Personal Correspondence, 1889 - 1890

Dwight Moore: Correspondence to E. D. Moore, 1907 - 1908

Dwight Moore: Consular Documents, Aden and Zanzibar, 1883 - 1893

Ivory Information:

Ivory Pricelists, 1922
Handwritten Description of Ivory Classification, n.d.

Ivory: General Information (London: Lewis & Peat, Ltd., 1921)

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
8 Miscellaneous:
Vereinigung der Musikfreunde, Tanga -- Concert Program,
January 22, 1911
The Aden Focus, March 8, 1916