



Johannesburg. S. Africa.
THE GREEN CROSS SOCIETY

47, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

President:—The Most Hon. The MARQUESS OF TAVISTOCK.

1. To protect wild nature.
2. To help secure National Parks.

DEFEND AGAINST DESECRATION.

Much more is meant by this than "Anti-Litter." Desecration takes various forms; and it is for friends of the Green Cross to defend against, for instance, the following :

1. Against leaving garbage-pail litter in places of picnic or holiday. Against blemish to river or stream, road or lane, by bits of rubbish, including disused cigarette or chocolate packets. Don't be "littery."

2. Against breaking bough, cutting bark or otherwise injuring tree or sapling—a serious legal offence.

3. Against uprooting and stealing wild plants, including ferns—another punishable offence.

4. Against trampling among wild flowers or wild plants.

5. Against excessive or immoderate picking of wild flowers, including bluebells and primroses. Against breaking or pulling stems. Use or lend scissors or knife.

6. Against buying for house or garden any hawker-stolen roots or flowers from private park or public place. Here the housewife is the first line of defence and the reliable florist a place of refuge.

7. Against cutting letters on tree, seat, rock or ruin.

8. Against patronising firm, shop or garage that by misplaced advertisement or other glaring blemish disfigure the landscape, or the general appearance of village, country road or approach to towns. Ask help from advertising firms and small tradesmen.

9. Against disturbing for others the peace of Nature by shouting, loud singing, wireless or gramophone. Wise people go to the country for rest and quiet as well as beauty.

10. Above all, **DEFEND AGAINST** careless smoking, lighted match or risk of fire. A forest fire for instance, is supreme horror.

You can help the Cause of Defence by purchasing in bulk, copies of this leaflet, for sending to friends and for wide distribution by bodies working among men, women, young people, boys and girls. Pass single copy to Pedestrian, Cyclist, Motorist.

Manners Makyth Man.

Why dost t'a throw thi' rubbish here,	Hast t'a noa gumption ?
Tha mucky lout:	Man canna scrub
Tha drinks thi beer	The floors of moors and hills
And throws all t' bottles hereabout.	Hast t'a noa sense :
Tha ates thi grub	With all thi towny frills ?
And leaves all t' paper lyin' here.	Mucky Lout!

Do on hill as in hall. Scotch proverb.

Want of decency is want of sense. Earl of Roscommon's Essays.

Gather up the fragments that remain. St. John 6. 12.

keep a touch of sweet civility

Here in the heart of waste and wilderness. Tennyson.

. . . with gentle hand

Touch, there is a spirit in the wood. Wordsworth.

So soft the scene, so formed for joy,
So cursed the tryants that destroy. Byron.

What churl, by evil chance or fell design,
Pluck'd this. . . .
And flung it reckless on the ground to lie ? Rd. Garnett.

I pray you, mar no more trees with writing in their barks. Shakspeare.

A Sign removed is a Scene improved.
Roadside Beauty,—a Roadside Duty. From U.S.A.

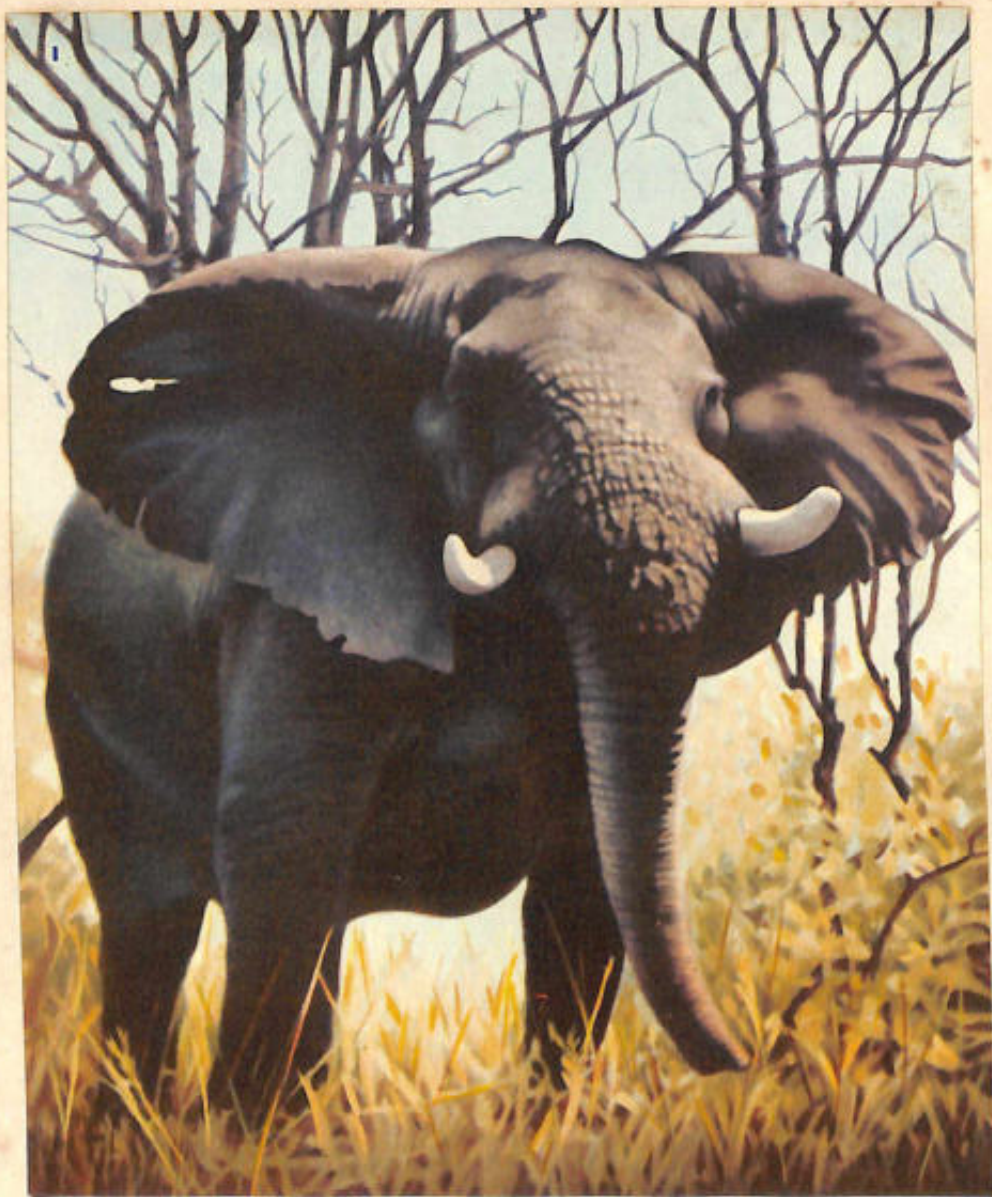
Speak not, *whisper* not,
Here bloweth Thyme and Bergamot. Walter de la Mare.

(Be not of) Woodmen who expel
Love's gentle Dryads from the haunts of life. Shelley.

" O God, who hast wrought Thy world with exceeding beauty ; grant that we may shew forth Thy praise by reverence towards all lovely things, and may study to preserve our countryside unspoilt. Give the nation wisdom to restrain those who in thoughtlessness or lust of gain mar or destroy Thy handiwork ; we ask this for the sake of the generations to come, and for the glory of Thy name."—From the Daily Service book, " New Every Morning," by courtesy of the B.B.C.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

ONS SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE WILDTUINE



A BULL ELEPHANT.
An impressive close-up.

'N OLIFANTBUL.
'n Indrukwekkende gesig van naby.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

Edited by

COLONEL STEVENSON - HAMILTON

Warden of the Kruger National Park

Incorporating

THE KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

The Addo National Park

The Kalahari National Park

Bredasdorp Bontebuck National Park

Mountain Zebra National Park

ONS SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE WILDTUINE

Geredigeer deur

KOLONEL STEVENSON - HAMILTON

Opsigter van die Kruger-Wildtuin

Insluitende

DIE NASIONALE KRUGER-WILDTUIN

Die Nasionale Addo-wildtuin

Die Nasionale Kalahari-wildtuin

Die Bredasdorpse Nasionale Bontbok-wildtuin

Die Nasionale wildtuin vir Bergsebras

BOOK NO.

826

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FOREWORD

I*N the following pages I have endeavoured to give some description of the various wild life sanctuaries contained within the Union of South Africa.*

The greater part of the book is naturally concerned with the Kruger National Park, as being not only the oldest, the largest, and the most widely known of these, but an organisation with the development of which I have been intimately connected for nearly forty years.

The people of South Africa, generally, little realise how, during recent years, the rest of the world has learned more and more to admire our country as a protagonist of wild life preservation; how often it has been held up as a shining example of far-sightedness and efficiency in this respect; and how frequently its protective legislation, especially the statute and regulations governing the Kruger National Park, has been quoted and adopted in far-distant and unsuspected corners of the world.

Since the success of the Kruger National Park has become an established fact, many efforts have been made in other parts of Africa to form sanctuaries on the same lines; but the essential factor to success, a large white population living within easy reach, has always been lacking. Without the support of a considerable public, sanctuaries can be national parks only in name, and are

VOORWOORD

O P die volgende bladsye het ek geprobeer om 'n beskrywing te gee van die verskillende beskermingsoorde vir wild in die Unie van Suid-Afrika.

Die grootste gedeelte van die boek handel natuurlik oor die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin, aangesien dit nie alleen die oudste, die grootste en die mees bekende hiervan is nie, maar ook omdat dit 'n instelling is, met die ontwikkeling waarvan ek byna veertig jaar in noue verbinding gestaan het.

Die publiek van Suid-Afrika in die algemeen besef min hoedat gedurende onlangse jare die res van die wêreld meer en meer geleer het om ons land te bewonder as 'n voorstander van die beskerming van wild; hoe dikwels dit voorgehou is as 'n skitterende voorbeeld van skerpsinnigheid en bekwaamheid in hierdie opsig; en hoe dikwels die beskermende wetgewing in verband daarmee, veral die wet en regulasies insake die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin, aangehaal en toegepas is in verasgeleë en onverwagte uitboeke van die aarde.

Aangesien die sukses van die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin 'n voldonge feit geword het, is talryke pogings in ander dele van Afrika aangewend om beskermingsoorde op dieselfde grondslag daar te stel; maar die noodsaaklike faktor vir sukses, 'n groot blanke bevolking wat binne maklike bereik daarvan aanwesig is, was nog steeds afwesig. Sonder die ondersteuning van 'n groot publiek is beskermingsoorde slegs nasionale parke in naam, en staan hulle bloot

liable to exploitation by interested persons or bodies of persons exercising influence with the local government.

Although national parks the world over are still in their infancy, yet the seed has been sown, and awaits only favourable conditions for germination, with the ultimate production of a rich crop. When that harvest comes, the example of South Africa will not be forgotten.

Skukuza,

August, 1940.

J. A. Hamilton.



aan uitbuiting deur belanghebbende persone of groepe persone wat invloed oor die plaaslike owerheid uitoefen.

Alhoewel nasionale wildtuine dwarsoor die wêreld nog in hul beginstadium is, tog is die saad gesaai en wag dit op gunstige omstandighede om te ontkiem en uiteindelik kan 'n ryke oes te wagte wees. Wanneer die oestyd daar is, sal die voorbeeld van Suid-Afrika nie uit die oog verloor word nie.

Skukuza,

Augustus 1940.

J. Thomson Hamilton .



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OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

The Importance of Wild Life Sanctuaries

THE continued existence of all the larger and more attractive forms of wild life is progressively threatened by the rapid expansion of modern civilisation. The conspicuous, and consequently easily destroyed, types exist in a very few remote and fast-decreasing spots of the world, solely at Man's will. Indeed, had not legislation stepped in ere it was too late, there can be little doubt that many beautiful species, which happily are still with us, would have permanently vanished from the earth.

In dealing with Nature's works, it is well to recollect that, once destroyed, they cannot be replaced. The destruction of any human work of art—a famous picture, a statue, or a splendid piece of architecture—is a serious catastrophe, but is not irreparable; such things are the work of Man, and what Man has done once, he can do again; his genius can create other beautiful pictures, statues and splendid pieces of architecture to take the place of those lost

No. 1
ELAND BULL.
ELANDBUL.
TAUROTRAGUS ORYX.



Die Belangrikheid van Wildreservate

DIÉ voortbestaan van al die groter en aantrekliker wilde diere word meer en meer deur die snelle uitbreiding van die moderne beskawing bedreig. Die opvallende en gevolglik maklik vernietigbare soorte bestaan nog slegs op baie weinige afgesonderde en vinnig verminderende plekke, en dan ook uitsluitend by die grasia van die mens. Trouens, was wetgewing nie ingedien voordat dit te laat was nie, is daar min twyfel dat 'n groot getal pragtige diersoorte, wat gelukkig nog bestaan, vir altyd van die aardbol sou verdwyn het.

Wanneer ons met die handwerk van die natuur te doen het, kan ons gerus

No. 2
SEKOEIE.
HIPPOPOTAMI.
HIPPOPOTAMUS AMPHIBIUS.



altyd onthou dat as dit eenmaal vernietig is, dit nooit weer vervang word nie. Die vernietiging van enige menslike kunswerk—'n beroemde skildery, 'n standbeeld of 'n kostelike stuk argitektuur, is 'n ernstige ramp, maar dit is nie onherstelbaar nie; dit is die werk van mensehande, en wat die mens eenmaal tot stand gebring het, kan hy weer doen; sy genialiteit kan nuwe wonderlike skilderye, standbeelde



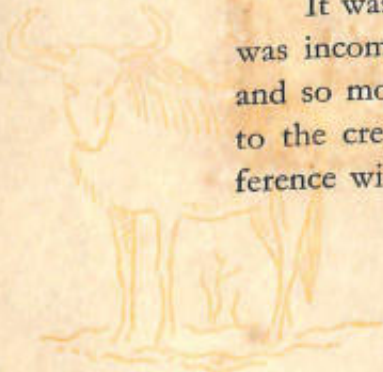
No. 3
BUFFALO BULL.
BUFFELBUL.
BUBALUS CAFFER.

which it may have taken her hundreds of thousands or millions of years to perfect. It is not as though destruction were invariably dictated by necessity. More often than not the pursuit and annihilation of the creatures of the wild are prompted by the motives of temporary and usually insignificant financial gain—or for sport.

It is not much over half a century since civilisation began to realise how its powers were being misused, and with the United States in the lead, conceived the idea of creating inviolable sanctuaries for the relics of the fast-decreasing wild species of animals.

The will to destruction, so prominent throughout the nineteenth century, still, however, persists, and is ready to take advantage of any small excuse to justify its acts; it is no doubt the manifestation of some deep-seated instinct in Man, inherited from his primitive ancestors. A form of compromise had to be found which, while affording protection to species, was calculated to interfere as little as possible with human activity.

It was fully recognised that the existence of wild animals in settled districts was incompatible with the development of pastoral and agricultural pursuits; and so modern efforts to preserve wild life have been more and more directed to the creation in suitable places of proclaimed areas, within which all interference with wild life is strictly forbidden, and the public, if possible, admitted



en skitterende voorbeelde van die boukunde skep om dié wat verlore gegaan het, te vervang.

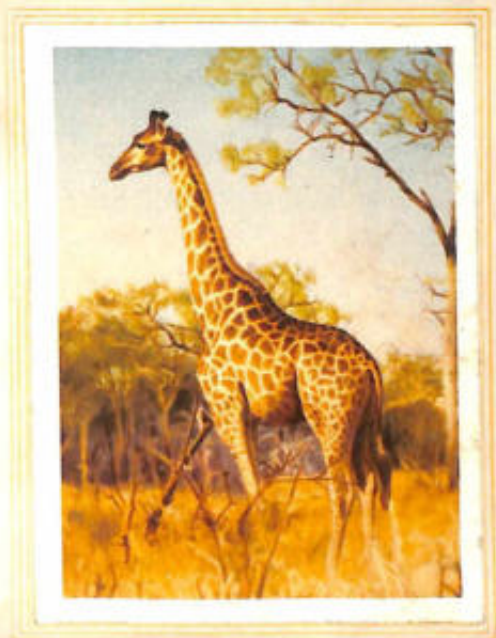
Dog dit is nie die geval waar 'n natuurlike soort uitgeroei is nie. Nie die uiterste pogings van die mens kan dit ooit weer tot lewe bring nie. As dit eers verdwyn het, is dit onherroeplik verlore en vir altyd daarna is die wêreld des te armer. Die mens het nie die morele reg nie, al mag hy die fisiese vermoë besit, om die verbasende en pragtige soorte diere wat die natuur saam met hom op die wêreld geplaas het, met wortel en tak uit te roei—diersoorte wat eers in die loop van duisende, of selfs miljoene jare tot volmaaktheid gebring is. En dit sê nie dat hierdie uitroeiing altyd noodsaaklik was nie. Meer dikwels word daar op die wilde diere jag gemaak en word hulle uitgemoor terwille van 'n tydelike en gewoonlik nietige geldelike wins, of vir sport.

Dit is nie baie meer as 'n halwe eeu gelede nie toe die beskawing begin besef het hoe sy magte misbruik word, en met die Verenigde State van Amerika aan die voorpunt is die idee gebore om onskendbare toevlugsoorde vir die oorblyfsels van die vinnig uitsterwende wilde diere te skep.

Die vernielsug wat so kenmerkend was van die neëntiende eeu, bestaan egter nog en soek na iedere nietige verskoning vir sy dade; dit is ongetwyfeld die uiting van die een of ander diep gewortelde instink in die mens wat hy van sy primitiewe voorouers oorgeërf het. Daar moes 'n soort kompromis gevind word wat, terwyl dit beskerming aan seker diersoorte sou verseker, ook sou sorg om so min as moontlik met die bedrywighede van die mens te bots.

Daar is ten volle besef dat die voortbestaan van wilde diere in bewoonde streke onverenigbaar sou wees met veeboerdery en die bebouing van die grond; derhalwe is daar hedendaags besluit om in geskikte gebiede streke af te sonder waarin diere

No. 4
KAMEELPERD.
GIRAFFE.
GIRAFFA CAMELOPARDALIS.



to view wild creatures living under natural conditions—glorified zoological gardens, minus the captivity, and the unnatural life and food. Outside such sanctuaries, it has been recognised that wild life must not limit human industry, and that the farmer has a right to decide whether or not he desires to have wild animals existing on his land.

Game laws, however comprehensive and strict they may be in the letter, are of small avail unless properly enforced; in fact, they affect fully only the law-abiding sportsman, whose influence on wild life preservation is a beneficial one, for he it is who shoots in strict moderation, and is the first to report infractions of the law by others.

Unfortunately, in Africa, many white men are restrained by no such scruples, and the natives belonging to the hunting tribes have been afforded by the *Pax Africana* opportunities for game-killing such as never existed before. The vastly improved means of transport, due to the introduction of motor vehicles, has opened up to the hunter many natural refuges for wild animals previously inaccessible to him.

Protection, outside proclaimed sanctuaries of relatively limited size, must, therefore, become a more and more difficult task, and probably the only hope for the survival of the fauna lies in the institution of such specially protected and guarded zones. No doubt the country lying outside these areas must

No. 5
KUDU BULL.
KOEDOEKUL.
STREPSICEROS STREPSICEROS.



inevitably become depleted of its wild life until the larger types, at least, have completely disappeared, as indeed has been already the case over many tracts of country.

Accordingly it seems that the future safety of wild life must depend upon local and special protection under government control. Elsewhere, while it is fitting that game laws should exist, and be adequately enforced, in

ongehinderd kan gelaat word en waartoe die publiek, indien moontlik, toegelaat kan word om die wilde diere in hul natuurlike staat te kan besigtig; dit sou dan natuurlike diere-tuine, sonder die tralies en die onnatuurlike lewe en voedsel wees. Daar is besef dat die dierelewe buitekant sulke reservate nie die menslike bedrywighede mag strem nie en dat die boer die reg het om te beslis of hy verkies om wilde diere op sy grond te laat voortbestaan al dan nie.



No. 6
WATERBOKBUL.
WATERBUCK BULL.
KOBUS ELLIPSIPRYMNUS.

Hoe volledig en streng die jagwette ook al op papier mag wees, is hulle tot weinig nut tensy behoorlik gehandhaaf; trouens, hulle word slegs ten volle in ag geneem deur die wetsgehoorsame jagter wat bydra tot die behoud van die wildlewe, want hy skiet streng matig en sal die eerste wees om oortredings deur andere aan te meld.

In Afrika word baie blankes ongelukkig nie deur sulke oorwegings weerhou nie, en aan die naturelle wat van die jag lewe is daar deur die *Pax Africana* geleent-hede vir die slagting onder die wild verskaf soos nog nooit tevore nie. Die geweldig verbeterde transportgeriewe deur middel van motorvoertuie het nou vir die jagter talryke natuurlike skuilplekke van wild wat totnogtoe ontoeganklik was, bereikbaar gemaak.

Beskerming buitekant geproklameerde reservate sal dus met toenemende moeilikhede gepaard gaan, en die enigste hoop vir die voortbestaan van die diere lê waarskynlik opgeslote in die daarstelling van spesiaal beskermde en bewaakte gebiede. Die wilde dierelewe in die streke wat buitekant hierdie gebiede lê, sal ongetwyfeld tot so 'n mate uitgedun word totdat ten minste die groot soorte heeltemal verdwyn het, soos al reeds die geval is in uitgestrekte gebiede.

Gevolglik skyn dit of die toekomstige veiligheid van die wilde dierelewe van plaaslike en spesiale beskerming onder staatsbeheer afhanklik moet wees. Al-

order that the fauna may be preserved for as long as reasonably possible, yet it seems hopeless under modern conditions, outside government-owned sanctuaries, to expect any prolonged future for big game.

Areas set aside for the protection of wild life may be classified under three heads*:
(1) Preserves ; (2) Reserves ;
(3) National Parks.

In a "Preserve" certain types of animals are preserved for hunting by the owners or other privileged persons, and all natural enemies of the "game" are ruthlessly exterminated as "vermin."

A "Reserve" is a government sanctuary in which no hunting of any kind is permitted ; designed to build up the wild animal life within it, but existing merely in virtue of a Proclamation, and therefore possessing no ensured permanency.

The "National Park" is the final stage of wild life conservation, and should form the goal of the "Reserve" ; within it, the animals are all fully protected, but the public is admitted under certain necessary restrictions. The flora should receive as much attention as the fauna, and it is undesirable to introduce animals or plants not indigenous to the area.

The object of a National Park should be to show the public, so far as practicable, what that particular portion of the earth's surface looked like before it had been touched by human influence.

A National Park is in no sense a sanctuary for "game" animals alone, though it frequently has to endure the misnomer of "game reserve." The latter implies, of course, the protection of certain types of animals only, whereas a National Park aims at conserving every form of wild life. We have to endeavour to rid ourselves of the habit of looking at wild life through the partial eyes of the gamekeeper.

*e.g. (1) Many private farms and estates. (2) The Zululand Game Reserve and the old Sabi Game Reserve.



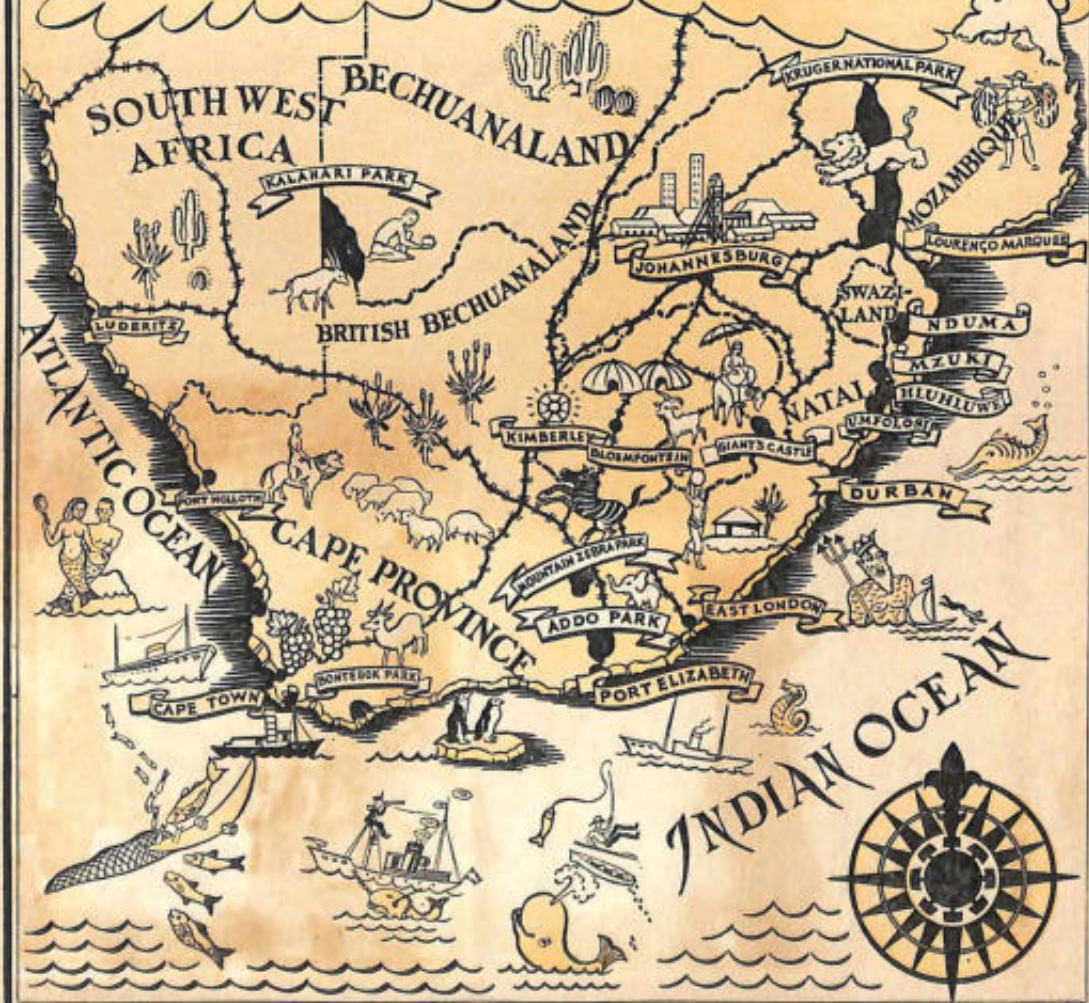
No. 7
YELLOW-BILLED HORNBILL.
GELBEK-NEUSHORINGVOËL.
LOPHOCEROS LEUCOMELAS.



EVENING SCENE ON A RIVER BANK.
Kruger National Park. Zebras and Blue Wildebeeste
drinking.

AANDTONEEL OP 'N RIVIEROEWER.
Nasionale Kruger-Wildtuin. Sebras en blouwildebeeste
drink water.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS
ONS SUID-AFRIKAANSE NATIONALE WILDTUINE



hoewel dit noodsaaklik is dat daar jagwette elders moet wees wat streng toegepas word om die voortbestaan van die diere so lank as wat dit moontlik is, te verseker, tog skyn dit of dit in moderne omstandighede hopeloos is om te verwag dat diere buitekant die staatsbeheerde reservate van 'n lang voortbestaan versekerd kan wees.

Die streke wat vir die beskerming van wilde diere afgesonder is, kan onder drie hoofde geklassifiseer word : (1) Private wildparke ; (2) Reservate (die Zoelolandse wildreservate en die ou Sabie-wildreservaat) ; (3) Nasionale wildtuine.

In 'n „wildpark” word sekere soorte diere beskerm vir jagdoeleindes deur die eienaars of ander bevoorregte persone, en alle natuurlike vyande van die „wild” word mededoënloos as „ongedierte” uitgeroei.

'n „Reservaat” is 'n strook grond deur die staat afgesonder waar daar hoegenaamd nie gejag mag word nie en wat bedoel is om die voortbestaan van die wilde diere daarbinne aan te moedig ; dog dit bestaan slegs ingevolge 'n proklamasie en is dus van geen permanente voortbestaan versekerd nie.

Die „nasionale park” of wildtuin is die laaste stadium in die beskerming van diere en behoort die einddoel van 'n „reservaat” te wees; daarbinne word die diere ten volle beskerm, dog die publiek word toegelaat onderhewig aan sekere noodsaaklike beperkings. Die plantegroei moet net soveel aandag as die diere geniet en dit is onwenslik om diere of plante wat nie aan die gebied eie is nie, daar in te voer.

Die doel van 'n nasionale wildtuin behoort te wees om aan die publiek te toon, so ver as wat dit prakties moontlik is, hoe daardie besondere deel van die aarde daar uitgesien het, voordat dit deur die mensdom verander is.

'n Nasionale wildtuin is geensins 'n beskermende gebied vir jagwild alleen nie, alhoewel dit dikwels verkeerdelik bestempel word as 'n „wildreservaat”. Laas-

No. 8
OLIFANT.
ELEPHANT.
LOXODONTA AFRICANA.



The result of teaching the travelling public and the animals to regard one another as friends cannot act otherwise than beneficially. The animals quickly learn to disregard the presence of motor cars, and proceed with their ordinary avocations as though unobserved. This familiarity must react upon the looker-on, and tend to create an entirely new atmosphere with regard to wild creatures. The effect upon young people must be especially beneficial. While the antelope comes to be regarded as a living entity, and no longer as so much potential meat and leather, the lion is recognised as having been a much-maligned animal, which displays merely a mild interest in the human intruder sitting in his car and taking photographs at a few yards' range.

It seems, therefore, that in National Parks may be found the best weapon whereby Man's impulse to destroy the beasts of the forest for his own pleasure or profit can be fought and conquered.

It is at least certain that such institutions, depending largely for their existence upon the popularity which they achieve with the public, form the best guarantee we have at present for the survival of wild life the world over. Without that popularity and the change of heart accompanying it, every wild animal refuge, it is to be feared, must sooner or later fall before the demands of extending industry and spreading population.

No. 9
LION AND LIONESS.
LEEUMANNETJIE EN -WYFIE.
PANTHERA LEO.



genoemde dui natuurlik slegs die beskerming van seker soorte diere aan, terwyl 'n nasionale wildtuin die doel nastreef om elke vorm van die wilde lewe te bewaar. Ons moet probeer om van die gewoonte ontslae te raak om die wilde dierelewe in sy natuurlike staat deur die partydige oë van die jagopsiener gade te slaan.

Die pogings om die reisende publiek en die diere daartoe te bring om mékaar as vriende te beskou, kan nie anders as 'n gesonde toestand van sake skep nie. Die diere leer gou om die teenwoordigheid van motors te veronagzaam en hulle gaan voort met hul gewone bedrywighede asof hulle nie gesien word nie. Hierdie ongebonde houding moet 'n uitwerking op die toeskouer hê en daartoe bydra om 'n heeltemal nuwe uitkyk op die wilde diere te skep. Die uitwerking op jong mense moet veral weldadig wees. Terwyl die antilooop as 'n lewende entiteit beskou word, en nie langer as so veel potensiële vleis en leer nie, word daar besef dat die leeu 'n dier is wat baie belaster is en wat maar min belangstel in die menslike indringer wat in sy motor sit en op 'n afstand van 'n paar tree foto's neem.

Dit wil dus voorkom dat ons in nasionale wildtuine die beste wapen besit vir die oorwinning oor die menslike drang om die diere van die oerwoud vir eie genot of wins uit te roei.

Dit is ten minste seker dat sulke skemas wat grotendeels vir hul bestaan van die populariteit wat hulle by die publiek opwek, afhanklik is, tans die

No. 10
VULTURES FEEDING.
AASVOËLS VREET.



beste waarborg vir die voortbestaan van die dierelewe dwarsdeur die wêreld, vorm. Sonder daardie populariteit en die veranderde sienswyse wat daarmee gepaard gaan, sal elke beskermingsoord van die natuur se kinders, vroeër of later moet swig voor die eise van steeds uitbreidende landbou- en nywerheidsaangeleenthede en 'n toenemende bevolking.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

The Kruger National Park: General Description — Early History

THE largest, and in many respects the most striking, permanent sanctuary for wild life lies in the north-eastern corner of the Transvaal, between the Crocodile River in the south and the Limpopo River in the north; bounded on its eastern side by the Portuguese Province of Mozambique.

This sanctuary is known as the Kruger National Park. Its total length from north to south is something over 200 miles, and from east to west it averages about 40. It therefore covers about 8,000 square miles of country, or rather more than does the Principality of Wales.

It displays a considerable variety of scenery, from that of the wild gorges where the larger rivers that drain it thread their way through the

No. 11
KAFFIR CAT.
VAALBOSKAT.
FELIS OCREATA.



Lebombo Hills, to the open palm-dotted flats north of the Shingwedzi, and from the groves of gigantic baobab trees of the Pafuri and Limpopo to the dense acacia bush of the south.

The principal rivers which span it — Crocodile, Sabi, Olifants, Letaba, Pafuri, Limpopo — all hold easterly courses and empty themselves into the great harbour of Delagoa Bay. They are, as Nature designed them, beautiful crystal-clear, swiftly-

ONS SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE WILDTUINE

Die Nasionale Kruger-Wildtuin— Algemene Beskrywing—Vroeë Geskiedenis

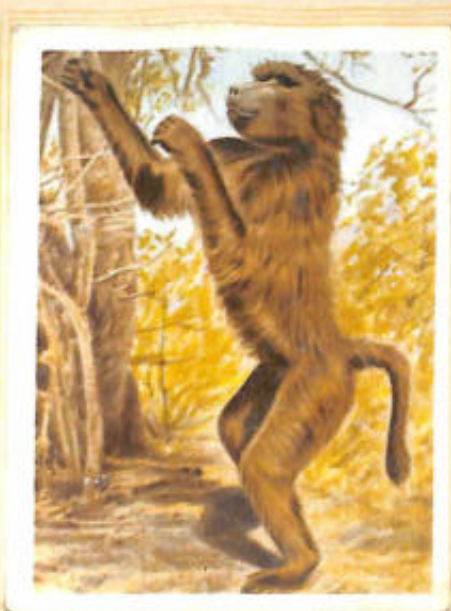
DIE grootste en in baie opsigte die treffendste blywende beskermingsoord vir natuurlike diere- en plantlewe lê in die noordoostelike hoek van die Transvaal, tussen die Krokodilrivier in die suide en die Limpoporivier in die noorde; aan die oostekant word dit deur die Portugese provinsie Mosambiek begrens.

Hierdie beskermingsoord staan bekend as die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin. Die totale lengte daarvan van die noorde tot die suide is sowat 200 myl en van die ooste na die weste meet dit gemiddeld 40 myl. Dit dek dus 'n gebied van sowat 8,000 vierkante myl of ietwat meer as die vorstedom Wallis.

Die geaardheid van die landskap wissel baie af. Hier word die ruie klowe van die Lebombo-berge aangetref waarlangs die riviere vloei wat die waters van die wildtuin versamel; daar strek die palmbegroeide vlaktes noord van die Shingwedzi hulle uit; hier sien ons bosse met reusagtige kremetartbome van die Pafuri en Limpopo, wat oorslaan na die digte doringbosstreek van die suide.

Die belangrikste riviere wat daardeur loop—Krokodil, Sabie, Olifants, Letaba, Pafuri, Limpopo, vloei almal in 'n oostelike rigting en ontas hulle in die groot hawe

No. 12
BOBBEJAAN.
BABOON.
PAPIO PORCARIUS.



running streams, passing over sand and rock, between reed and forest-clad banks. In summer, swollen by the high-veld rains, they roar down in torrential flood, bearing on their breasts huge trees, the carcasses of drowned animals, even incautiously placed native huts. An exceptional flood, such as occurs at intervals of years, is a terrifying sight, and one not easily to be forgotten.

The climate, during the period from June to the end of September, is one of the finest on earth. The atmosphere is dry and clear, for with the exception of a few days of winter rain, anti-cyclonic conditions prevail during those months. The nights are cold, a few degrees of frost often occurring near the larger rivers during June and July; the early morning air is fresh and exhilarating; the midday heat seldom exceeds 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

October is usually a hot and dry month, when the thermometer sometimes attains a maximum of well over 100 degrees, but unless the rains have commenced unusually early, it is then perfectly healthy, in spite of the considerable heat. From November until the end of April the climate changes for the worse. Heavy rains fall, and the summer months are hot and steamy. In fact, the conditions are, for those who are unhabituated to them, as disagreeable from the beginning of January to the end of April as the winter months are the reverse. Malaria begins to make its appearance after the first summer rains, and gradually increasing in intensity, reaches its height during April, when the heavy rains are over and the country beginning to dry up, leaving swampy puddles for the breeding of fever-bearing mosquitoes.

No. 13
SABLE ANTELOPE.
SWARTWITPENS.
HIPPOTRAGUS NIGER.



The hottest months are usually December and January, when the thermometer sometimes shows, day after day, a shade temperature of well over 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and has been known to read up to as much as 118.

May is a treacherous month; the climate is cooler than during the previous ones; but unless there has been a spell of sharply cold weather, the mosquitoes continue their

van Delagoabaai. Hulle is, soos deur die natuur bedoel, pragtige, kristalhelder, vinnig vloeiende waterlope wat oor sand en rots, tussen met riet en bos begroeide oewers stroom. In die somer, geswel deur die hoëveldse reëns, dreun hulle voort in woeste vaart en sleur hulle yslike bome, die liggame van versuipde diere en selfs naturelle hutte wat onversigtig gebou is, mee. 'n Oorstroming wat met tussenposes van jare plaasvind, is 'n vreesaanjagende skouspel wat nie maklik vergeet word nie.



No. 14
WILDE TARENDAAL.
CROWNED GUINEAFOWL.
NUMIDA MITRATA.

Die klimaat gedurende Junie tot aan die einde van September is van die aangenaamste in die wêreld. Die atmosfeer is droog en klaar, want met uitsondering van 'n paar dae van winterreën, heers antisikloniese klimaatstoestande gedurende daardie maande. Die nagte is koud aangesien ryp dikwels gedurende Junie en Julie naby die groot riviere aangetref word; die vroeë môrelug is vars en verfrissend; die hitte gedurende die middag oortref selde 75 graad Fahrenheit.

Oktober is gewoonlik 'n warm en droë maand, wanneer die termometer dikwels 'n maksimum-temperatuur van goed meer as 100 graad aanteken, maar tensy die reëns buitengewoon vroeg begin val het, is dit dan nog heeltemal gesond ondanks die buitengewone hitte. Vanaf November tot aan die einde van April word die klimaat al hoe ondraagliker. Swaar reëns val en die somermaande is warm en soel. Trouens, vir diegene wat nie daaraan gewoon is nie, is die klimaat so onplesierig vanaf die begin van Januarie tot aan die einde van April, as wat dit die teenoorgestelde gedurende die wintermaande is. Malaria begin sy verskyning maak nadat die eerste somerreëns geval het, en neem geleidelik toe om sy hoogtepunt gedurende April te bereik wanneer die swaar reëns verby is en die grond begin opdroog, wanneer moerassige dammetjies agtergelaat word waarin die koorsdraende muskiete uitgebroei word. Die warmste maande is gewoonlik Desember en Januarie, wanneer die termometer dikwels dag na dag 'n temperatuur van goed meer as 100 graad Fahrenheit in die skaduwee aantoon en dit is bekend dat dit tot so hoog as 118 graad gestyg het.

Mei is 'n verraderlike maand; die klimaat is koeler as gedurende die vorige

activity even into the first week of June.

All the lower-lying portions of the Park are recognised as being dangerous during the summer months, and for that reason are closed to the public. Pretorius Kop, which in normal years is outside the fever zone, is considered to be safe for visitors; but to make doubly sure every possible precaution, such as spraying huts with insecticide, oiling water pools, and providing wire gauze screens for huts, is taken.



No. 15
SKUKUZA CAMP.
SKUKUZA-RUSKAMP.

The showers which sometimes fall during the winter months are always succeeded by a spell of cold weather, and have no effect in stimulating the growth of any insect life, which requires prolonged heat, with accompanying humid conditions, for its existence and activity.

With the exception of malaria which, as has been indicated, is seasonal, and can be avoided to a large extent by the taking of simple precautions, the Park, in fact the low-veld generally, is singularly free from the ills which afflict mankind in the more closely settled parts of the Union. Enteric fever, for instance, is unknown in its endemic form. Some of the natives suffer from bilharzia, contracted through bathing in pools infected with the germs of the disease. This appears to be a relatively recently introduced complaint.

The tree vegetation varies considerably from south to north. Between the Crocodile and the Olifants Rivers, it consists chiefly of acacia dwarf forest, which, though after the first spring rains covered with attractive blossom, is, during the winter, bare and lifeless looking. These thorn acacias have, however, the great merit of being, except in the early sapling stages, almost completely fire-resistant.

North of the Olifants River, the all-pervading tree becomes the mopani, with its curious scented double leaf. Secondary acacia forest, nevertheless, still persists near the waterways and sandspruits.

Near the Shingwedzi we come to palm country, and find that tall specimens of the handsome Ilala, or fan palm (*Hyphoena crinita*) are not uncommon.

maande ; maar tensy dit vir 'n tyd baie koud was, is die muskiete selfs tot in die eerste week van Junie bedrywig.

Al die laer liggende dele van die wildtuin word gedurende die somermaande as gevaarlik beskou, en om daardie rede is dit gesluit vir die publiek. Pretoriuskop wat in normale jare buitekant die koorsstreek is, word as veilig vir besoekers beskou ; maar om dubbel seker te maak, word elke voorsorgsmaatreeël getref, soos byvoorbeeld deur die hutte met 'n insektedodende middel, en die waterpoele met olie te spuit en die hutte van gaasdraad-skerms te voorsien.

Die reëns wat somtyds gedurende die wintermaande val, word altyd deur koue weer gevolg en is nie daarop bereken om die ontwikkeling van insektelewe te stimuleer nie, want om te kan bestaan en bedrywig te kan wees, vereis dit aanhoudende warmte, vergesel van klammigheid.

Met uitsondering van malaria, wat, soos aangetoon is, gedurende 'n bepaalde seisoen voorkom en grotendeels vermy kan word deur eenvoudige voorsorgsmaatreeëls te tref, is die wildtuin, trouens die laeveld in die algemeen, besonder vry van die siektes wat die mensdom in die digter bevolkte dele van die Unie teister. Ingewandskoors, byvoorbeeld, is onbekend in sy endemiese vorm. Sommige van die natuurle ly aan bilharzia wat hulle opdoen deur in damme te baai wat besmet is met die kieme van die siekte. Hierdie kwaal blyk van betreklik onlangse oorsprong te wees.

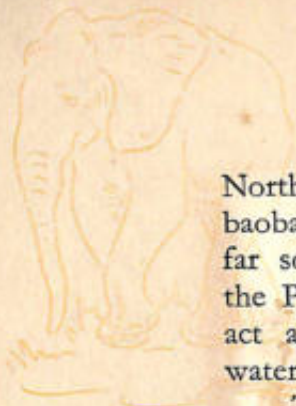
No. 16
IETERMAGÔ.
SCALY ANTEATER.
SMUTSIA TEMMINCKI.



Die bome in die streek tussen die noordelike en die suidelike grens verskil aansienlik van mekaar. Tussen die Krokodil- en die Olifantsrivier bestaan hulle hoofsaaklik uit dwergagtige doringbosse wat, terwyl hulle na die eerste lentreëns met mooi bloeisels bedek is, gedurende die winter daar kaal en leweloos uitsien. Hierdie doringbome besit egter een vername hoedanigheid, naamlik dat hulle, behalwe in hul vroeë stadium, feitlik volkome bestand is teen vuur.

Noord van die Olifantsrivier is die heersende boom die mopanie met sy eenaardige, geurige dubbele blare. Sekondêre doringbosse is daar egter nog naby die waterlope en sandspruite.

Naby die Shingwedzi tref ons palm-bome aan en vind ons dat die hoë Ilala



North of the Limpopo grow in ever-increasing numbers the weird-looking baobab or cream of tartar trees. Although isolated specimens are found as far south as the Olifants River, the species becomes numerous only when the Pafuri is approached. The trunks of these trees are often hollow, and act as water reservoirs. Baobab saplings grow rapidly when artificially watered and tended.

The natives resident in the Park, like those of the low-veld generally, are the relics of various Thonga tribes, usually all classed together by Europeans as "Shangaans." In the south-west there is some Swazi admixture, and in the extreme north a slight Bavenda influence, although for many years there have been no local settlements of the last-named hill-dwelling people.

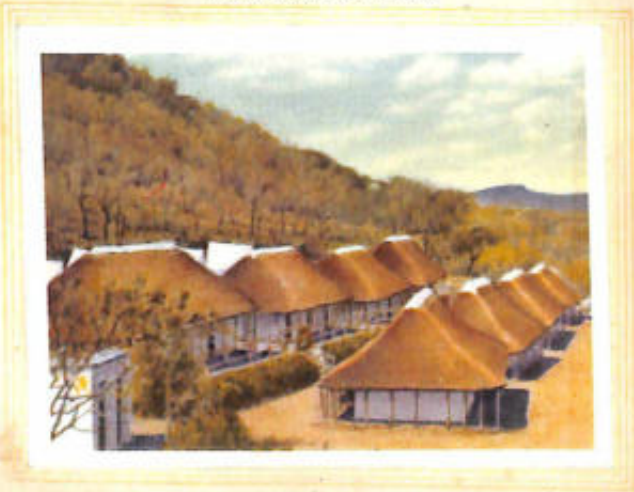
Thonga dialects are still spoken in the kraals; but for general purposes, a mixed idiom containing Swazi and even Zulu words is employed. "Kitchen Kaffir" is universal in dealing with Europeans, and in latter years a large and increasing number of the men have learned to speak English or Afrikaans, which they pick up when at work away from their homes.

In a country whose inhabitants possess no written records, it is not possible to obtain reliable details of history farther back than a few generations. Beyond that all is vague tradition and mystery.

From their paintings, we know that at some undefined period in the past, which may have been many hundred years ago, Bushman hunters were the only human inhabitants of the low-veld, and it is a probable guess that they did not long survive the arrival of the Bantu tribes on the scene.

Basuto elements from the high veld were probably the first of the Bantu to occupy the western portions of the Park. The Shangaans came from the east, probably at the tail of the great Zulu-Xosa irruption into South Africa, late in the 15th or early in the 16th century. One of their chiefs — Lebombo — is mentioned in the early Portuguese records, and no doubt he ruled in the vicinity of the hills of the same name.

No. 17
PUNDA MARIA CAMP.
PUNDA MARIA-RUSKAMP



of waaierpalm (*Hyphoena crinita*) dikwels voorkom. Noord van die Limpopo tref ons in toenemende getalle die vreemde kremetartboom aan. Alhoewel verenkelde bome so ver suid as die Olifantsrivier te sien is, word hulle egter eers in groot getalle aangetref wanneer ons die Pafuri nader. Die stamme van hierdie bome is dikwels hol en dien as water-reservoirs. Kremetartboompies groei vinnig wanneer hulle kunsmatig benat en versorg word.

Die natuurlike wat in die wildtuin woonagtig is, is, soos in die geval van die laeveld in die algemeen, die oorblyfsels van die verskillende Thonga-stamme, wat gewoonlik deur blankes onder die een naam „Sjangaan” saamgevat word. In die suidweste is daar uitgebasterde Swazi's en in die hoë noorde is die Bavenda-invloed merkbaar, alhoewel daar baie jare geen plaaslike nedersettings van laasgenoemde heuwelbewonende inboorlinge was nie.

Thonga-dialekte word nog in die krale gepraat; maar vir algemene doeleindes word 'n gemengde taal wat Swazi- en selfs Zoeloe-woorde bevat, gebruik. „Kombuiskaffertaal” word in die omgang met blankes gebruik en in die afgelepe tyd het 'n groot en toenemende aantal natuurlike geleer om Engels of Afrikaans te praat, wat hulle aanleer in hul werk weg van hul huise af.

In 'n land waar die inwoners geen opgetekende geskiedenis besit nie, is dit nie moontlik om betroubare besonderhede van hul geskiedenis verder terug as 'n paar geslagte te bekom nie. Vroeër as dit is alles tradisie en geheimsinnigheid.

Volgens hul skilderye weet ons dat gedurende die een of ander onbepaalde tydperk in die verlede, wat honderde jare terug kon gewees het, Boesman-jagters die enigste menslike bewoners van die laeveld was, en ons kan maar

net raai dat hulle nie lank daartoe in staat was om die verskyning van die Bantostamme op die toneel teë te gaan nie.

Basoeto-elemente van die hoëveld was waarskynlik die eerste onder die Bantoes om besit te neem van die westelike dele van die wildtuin. Die Sjangaans het van die oostekant gekom, waarskynlik as die agterhoede van die groot Zoeloe-Xosa-instroming in Suid-Afrika, laat in die 15de of vroeg in die 16de eeu.

No. 18
SHINGWEDZI-RUSKAMP.
SHINGWEDZI CAMP.





No. 19
LETABA CAMP.
LETABA-RUSKAMP.

The earliest-known white man to have entered what is now the Kruger Park was Louis • Trichardt with his companions. Coming down from the Drakensberg with their waggons and stock, and having crossed the Olifants River, they entered the low-veld at Acornhoek, and following the system of the Lipapi and Manzemntondo Rivers, crossed the road which now runs from Tshokwane to Satara, and thence traversed

the Lebombo Hills by a gap just east of the Metzi-metz spruit. Ranger Steyn of the Kruger National Park, fortified by his local knowledge and by a close study of Trichardt's diary, worked out the exact route, even to identifying the various camping places.

The first man historically known to have resided in the Park was Joao Albassini, a Portuguese trader and hunter who, coming up from Delagoa Bay soon after the time of the Great Trek, established himself on the Sabi River near the present "hippo pool." Here he built a brick house, planted orchards, and having collected round him and armed with guns the remnants of various broken clans, eventually became recognised as a native chief. To-day his native name "Juwawa" is still familiar to the local natives, and those of his two principal headmen are perpetuated in Mnungu, one of the peaks of Pretorius Kop, beneath which it is said lay the site of Albassini's cattle camp, and Josekulu, a spruit in the vicinity of Ship Mountain.

The first mass penetration by white hunters did not take place until after the discovery of the Lydenburg Goldfields in 1869, about which time the high-veld game being nearly exhausted, it was necessary to push farther afield. The unhealthiness of the climate, however, confined these expeditions to the months between May and September. In 1871 the three brothers Sanderson established themselves on the lower edge of the Berg, below Logogote, whence they made annual hunting expeditions into the low country; but the only known resident of the present Park subsequent to Albassini's departure for Spelonken many years previously was a trader who lived and

Een van hul opperhoofde—Lebombo—word in die vroeë Portugese geskifte vermeld, en hy het hoogswaarskynlik gesag uitgeoefen in die nabyheid van die heuwels met daardie naam.

Die eerste blanke, sover bekend, wat die huidige Kruger-wildtuin binnegetrek het, was Louis Trichardt en sy geselskap. Hulle het met hul waens en vee die Drakensberge afgetrek, en nadat hulle die Olifantsrivier oorgesteek het, het hulle die laeveld by Acornhoek binnegetrek en die waterlope van die Lipapi- en Mansemtondo-rivier gevolg tot hulle oor die pad wat nou van Tsjokwane na Satara loop, gegaan en vandaar deur die Lebombo-heuwels getrek het deur 'n gaping net oos van die Metzi-metz-spruit. Wildtuinopsigter Steyn van die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin het op grond van sy plaaslike kennis en 'n noukeurige studie van Trichardt se dagboek, die presiese pad uitgewerk en selfs die verskillende kampplekke uitgeken.

Die eerste man wat, so ver bekend is, in die wildtuin woonagtig was, was Joao Albassini, 'n Portugese handelaar en jagter wat, nadat hy kort na die Groot Trek van Delagoabaai gekom het, hom aan die Sabie-rivier, naby die huidige „seckoeigat” gevestig het. Hier het hy 'n baksteenhuus gebou, boorde geplant en nadat hy die oorblyfsels van verskillende opgebreekte stamme om hom vergader en met gewere bewapen het, is hy eindelijk as 'n opperhoof onder die natuurle erken.

Vandag is sy naturellenaam „Juwawa” nog steeds aan die plaaslike natuurle bekend, en dié van sy twee vernameste hoofmanne is verewig in Mnungu, een van die spitse van Pretoriuskop, waaronder soos na beweer word, Albassini se veekamp geleë was, en Josekoeloe, 'n spruit in die nabyheid van Skipberg.

Die eerste massa-indringing deur blanke jagters het nie plaasgevind tot na die ontdekking van die Lydenburgse goudvelde in 1869 nie, teen watter datum die hoëveldse wild feitlik verdwyn het en dit dus noodsaaklik was om verder te trek. Die ongesondheid van die klimaat het egter hierdie ekspedisies tot die maande einde Mei tot begin September beperk. In 1871 het die drie broers Sanderson hulle aan die voet van die berg, onderkant

No. 20
GOMPOU.
KORI BUSTARD.
CHORIOTIS KORI.



did a little farming below Pretorius Kop, and was there murdered by natives during the Sekukuni War of 1878. Relics of some of the ridge and furrow of his ploughed land may still be seen.

Later, the waggon route from Delagoa Bay to the Lydenburg Goldfields passed through Pretorius Kop, not far from the present tourist rest camp. The road has been immortalised in Fitzpatrick's "Jock of the Bushveld," and the famous dog itself is said to have been born at a camp in the neighbourhood of Pretorius Kop.

For many years the present Park was used by white men entirely as a hunting ground, and farmers used to bring their stock down annually for the winter grazing. In summer, after they had departed, the natives had a free hand with the game, which of course, year by year, diminished in numbers.

In 1884, President Kruger suggested, at a meeting of the Volksraad, that the time had come to do something towards the preservation of the fast-vanishing wild life of the Transvaal. Although he met at the time with no response, he brought the matter up again five years later, in 1889, when he definitely proposed that two areas, one in the neighbourhood of the Pongolo River and the other in the extreme north-east of the country, should be converted into reservations for wild game. The resolution was accepted, and although no steps were taken at the time to give effect to it, these named areas did actually, at a later date, become respectively the Pongolo Reserve and the Shingwedzi area of the Sabi Game Reserve.

No. 21
IMPALA EWES.
ROOIBOKOOIE.
ÆPYCEROS MELAMPUS.



In 1895, at the instance of Messrs. van Wyk and Loveday, the matter of a game reserve again came up, and this time the area which later became the original Sabi Game Reserve, that is the country lying between the Crocodile and the Sabi Rivers, was definitely cited. This time the proposal was passed by the Volksraad amid acclamation, and with only two dissentients.

Two more years, nevertheless, passed before any



A KUDU BULL at its drinking place.

'N KOEDOEBUL by sy drinkplek.



Logogote, gevestig, waarvan daan hulle jaarlikse jagekspedisies na die lae streke onderneem het; dog die enigste bekende bewoner van die huidige wildtuin, na Albassini se vertrek na Spelonken baie jare tevore, was 'n handelaar wat gewoon het en op 'n klein skaal geboer het onderkant Pretoriuskop, en daar gedurende die Sekoekoenie-oorlog van 1878 deur naturelle vermoor is. Oorblyfsels van die vore van sy geploegde land kan nog gesien word.



No. 22
TIERBOSKAT.
SERVAL.
LEPTAILURUS SERVAL.

Later het die wapad van Delagoabaai na die Lydenburgse goudvelde oor Pretoriuskop gegaan, nie ver van die huidige toeriste-ruskamp nie. Die pad is verewig in Fitzpatrick se „Jock of the Bushveld” en daar word beweer dat die beroemde hond self in 'n kamp in die nabyheid van Pretoriuskop gebore is.

Baie jare lank is die huidige wildtuin uitsluitend as jagveld deur blankes gebruik, en boere het elke jaar gedurende die winter hul vee daarheen gebring sodat hulle kon wei. In die somer, nadat hulle vertrek het, het die naturelle vrye teuels gehad wat betref die wild, wat natuurlik elke jaar minder en minder geword het.

In 1884 het pres. Kruger gedurende 'n sitting van die Volksraad aan die hand gedoen dat die tyd aangebreek het om stappe te doen om die vinnig verdwynende wild van die Transvaal te beskerm. Alhoewel sy woorde destyds op dowe ore geval het, het hy weer vyf jaar later, in 1889, die saak aangeroe, deur 'n konkrete voorstel te doen dat twee gebiede, een in die nabyheid van die Pongolorivier en die ander in die uiterste noordooste van die landstreek in reservate vir wild afgesonder moet word. Die voorstel is aanvaar, en alhoewel daar destyds geen pogings aangewend is om uitvoering daaraan te gee nie, het hierdie gebiede desondanks later onderskeidelik die Pongolo-reservaat en die Shingwedzi-gebied van die Sabie-wildreservaat uitgemaak.

In 1895 is die saak van 'n wildreservaat weer deur die here van Wyk en Loveday aangeroe en hierdie keer is die gebied wat later die oorspronklike Sabie-wildreservaat geword het, d.w.s. die strook wat tussen die Krokodil- en

effect was given to it. In 1897 the boundaries were settled and steps taken towards translating aspiration into reality; but it was not until March 26th, 1898, that a proclamation actually appeared in the *Government Gazette* providing penalties for any person who should kill, hunt or injure game within the specified boundaries.

March 26th, 1898, was thus the date of birth of the Sabi Game Reserve, and therefore indirectly of the Kruger National Park.

The area then covered only some 1,800 square miles, that is to say, the part of the present Kruger Park which lies to the south of the Sabi River, less the portion of Pretorius Kop to the west of the koppies. No special staff was appointed, and the sergeant in charge of the police detachment stationed at Komati Poort was nominally in charge. It was, however, intended that the Surveyor-General should carefully define the boundaries, and have them beacons; and possibly something might later have been done towards closer supervision had it not been for the outbreak of the South African War in 1899.

After the conclusion of peace in June, 1902, one of the first suggestions made to the new government was that the Sabi Game Reserve should be reproclaimed. For this, Mr. R. K. Loveday, formerly Volksraad member for Barberton, and one of the sponsors of the original proclamation, has chiefly the credit. The matter had even been prematurely mooted while hostilities still continued, and no time was now lost in giving effect to the scheme.

This time it was decided that a resident staff must be appointed and the arrangements were placed in the hands of Sir Godfrey Lagden, the late Commissioner for Basutoland, and now Chief Commissioner for Native Affairs, who had considerable big-game hunting experience in South Africa.

As it happened, the writer had only recently returned from a two-years pioneer exploration of the country now known as

No. 23
MOUNTAIN ZEBRA.
BERGSEBRA, BERGKWAGGA.
HIPPO TIGRIS ZEBRA.



Sabie-rivier lê, definitief vermeld. Hierdie keer is die voorstel onder toejuiging deur die hele Volksraad met slegs twee teenstemme goedgekeur.

Daar het egter nog twee jaar verloop voordat woorde in dade omgesit is. In 1897 is die grense afgebaken en stappe gedoen om die pogings tot 'n werklikheid te maak; maar 'n proklamasie het nie voor 26 Maart 1898 in die *Staatskoerant* verskyn nie uit hoofde waarvan enige persoon wat wild binne die gespesifiseerde grense sou vernietig, jag of kwes, aan boetes onderhewig sou wees.

Die datum 26 Maart 1898 was dus die geboortedag van die Sabie-wildreservaat en onregstreeks dus van die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin.

Die gebied was toe slegs sowat 1,800 vk. myl groot, d.w.s. daardie deel van die huidige Kruger-wildtuin wat besuide die Sabie-rivier lê, minus die deel van Pretoriuskop wes van die koppies. Geen spesiale personeel is aangestel nie en die sersant in bevel van die polisie gestasioneer op Komatipoort moes nominale toesig hou. Die voorneme het egter bestaan dat die landmeter-generaal opdrag sou ontvang om die grense noukeurig vas te stel en hulle af te baken; en dit is moontlik dat iets later gedoen sou geword het in verband met strenger toesig, as die Driejarige Oorlog nie in 1899 uitbreek het nie.

Na die ondertekening van die vrede in 1902 is een van die eerste wenke wat aan die nuwe regering gedoen is dat die Sabie-wildreservaat weer geproklameer sou word. Hiervoor kom die eer veral toe aan mnr. R. K. Loveday, voorheen volksraadslid vir Barberton en een van die voorstanders van die oorspronklike proklamasie. Die saak is selfs ontydig aangeroe onderwyl vyandelikhede nog aan die gang was, en geen tyd het dus nou verlore gegaan om die skema tot 'n werklikheid te maak nie.

Daar is nou besluit dat 'n inwonende personeel aangestel moes word en die reëlins hiervoor is opgedra aan sir Godfrey Lagden, voorheen kommissaris vir Basoetoeland en tans hoofkommissaris vir naturellesake, wat baie ondervinding in verband met grootwildjag in Suid-Afrika opgedoen het.

Soos dit moes kom, het die skrywer destyds pas van 'n tweejarige navorsingsreis in die streek tans bekend as Noordelike

No. 24
BASTERGEMSBOK.
ROAN ANTELOPE (WITH TICK-BIRDS).
ORYX GAZELLA.



Northern Rhodesia, under rather primitive conditions; and in view of this, and also of being to some extent "salted" to fever, he was in July, 1902, appointed to the post.

The southern portion of the present Park had, during the latter part of the South African War, been occupied by a corps known as "Steinacker's Horse," and under martial law the commander had been the dictator of all the country as far north as

the Letaba River, and westwards nearly to the foothills of the Drakensberg. Practically no hostilities having taken place in the low country, this force had been largely concerned with police duties among the natives.

My first task, therefore, was to visit the headquarters of this body, at Komati Poort. The adjutant, Major Gardyne, himself keenly interested in wild life protection, was most sympathetic, and from him and others of the corps I received valuable assistance in my early efforts.

Right at the beginning I was so fortunate as to be able to secure the services of Mr. H. C. Wolhuter, who, through fair weather and foul, has been my chief pillar of support and kind friend right down to the present day.

A certain "Gaza" Gray, of Steinacker's Horse, like Wolhuter a fine linguist, and with some influence among the natives, was also taken on as a temporary measure.

In those days the native inhabitants of the low-veld looked upon game as their natural food, in fact as their chief support, and every track within miles of a habitation was dotted at short intervals with every variety of snare and other device for entrapping birds and beasts known to kaffir ingenuity. Besides this, every kraal contained a horde of nondescript dogs, usually of the lurcher type, used solely for hunting, and a considerable number of the men were in possession of firearms of one kind or another. It may therefore be realised that the initial task was no sinecure.



No. 25
SPRING HARE.
SPRINGHAAS.
PEDETES CAFER.

Rhodesië onder primitiewe omstandighede teruggekeer; uit hoofde hiervan en ook weens die feit dat hy tot 'n sekere mate teen koors „gesout” was, is hy in Julie 1902 aldaar aangestel.

Die suidelike deel van die huidige wildtuin is gedurende die laaste gedeelte van die Driejarige Oorlog beset deur 'n korps bekend as „Steinacker's Horse” en kragtens krygswet het die uitsluitende gesag oor alle gebied sover noord as die Letaba-rivier, en weswaarts tot naby die voet van die Drakensberg, by die bevelvoerder berus. Aangesien daar feitlik geen vyandelikhede in die laeveld voorgekom het nie, was hierdie mag grotendeels belas met die handhawing van orde onder die naturelle.

My eerste taak was dan die aflê van 'n besoek aan die hoofkwartier van hierdie mag, op Komatipoort. Die adjudant, majoor Gardyne, wat self groot belang gestel het in die beskerming van wild, was my uiters simpatiek gesind en van hom en ander lede van die korps het ek waardevolle hulp in my eerste werk ontvang.

Reg van die begin af het ek die geluk gehad om die goeie dienste te bekom van mnr. H. C. Wolhuter, wat deur dik en dun my vernaamste steunpilaar en goeie vriend tot vandag toe is.

'n Sekere „Gaza” Gray, van Steinacker's Horse, wat soos Wolhuter 'n uitstekende taalkundige is, en met 'n sekere mate van invloed onder die naturelle, is ook in 'n tydelike hoedanigheid aangestel.

In daardie dae het die naturellebewoners van die laeveld wild as hul natuurlike bron van voedsel, trouens as hul vernaamste bron, beskou en elke

No. 26
GEVLEKTE WOLF, TIERWOLF.
SPOTTED HYENA.
CROCUTA CROCUTA.



pad binne etlike myle van hul woonplek af is met kort afstande van mekaar van elke soort wip en ander soort val bekend aan kafferlis, vir die vang van voëls en diere voorsien. Behalwe dit was daar in elke kraal 'n groot aantal kafferhonde wat baie goed kon sien en ruik en wat uitsluitend vir die jag gebruik is, en 'n groot aantal van die manne het die een of ander soort vuurwapen besit. Daar sal dus besef word dat die taak aan die begin alles behalwe maklik was.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

The Building of the Kruger National Park

FOR at least 30 years before its proclamation as such, the Sabi Game Reserve had each winter been the happy hunting ground of hundreds of hunters and winter trekkers from the middle and high velds; while in summer the local natives, recruited by swarms of their compatriots from Portuguese territory adjoining, set busily to work with snares, dogs, bows and arrows, and often guns. Game drives on a large scale in the Lebombo were common. The building of the Selati Railway in 1892 made it easy for town dwellers from a distance and those of the local low veld traders and others who did not happen to possess transport of their own to travel to various points along the railway and thence with native guides make expeditions on foot into the bush.

No. 27
BLUE CRANE.
BLOUKRAAN.
TETRAPTERYX PARADISEA.



Probably the game was saved from complete annihilation only by the presence, in widespread belts, of the tsetse fly. Horses and waggon transport could not be taken into the infested zones, and since hunting on foot necessarily limited the distances that could be covered, and moreover was not, among the contemporary high veld population at least, a popular method, the game tended more and more to be confined to the fly areas,

*Die Opbou van die Nasionale
Kruger-Wildtuin*

MINSTENS 30 jaar lank voor sy proklamasie as sulks, was die Sabie-wild-reservaat elke winter die jagtersparadys van honderde jagters en winter-trekkers van die middel- en hoëveld; terwyl gedurende die somer die plaaslike naturelle, wie se geleedere versterk is deur hordes van hul stamgenote uit die aangrensende Portugese gebied, ywerig met strikke, honde, pyl en boog en dikwels gewere te werk gegaan het. Die grootskaalse aanja van wild in die Lebombo was 'n alledaagse gebeurtenis. As gevolg van die bou van die Selatisspoorweg in 1892 is inwoners van afgeleë dorpe, plaaslike laeveldse handelaars en andere wat geen transport-fasiliteite besit het nie, daartoe in staat gestel om verskillende punte langs die spoorweg te bereik en daarvandaan met naturellegidse 'n jagtog te voet in die boswêreld te onderneem.

Waarskynlik is die wild alleen deur die aanwesigheid in omvangryke stroke van die tsetse-vlieg van totale uitroeiing gered. Perde en trekdierre kon nie binne die besmette gebied gebring word nie en aangesien die afstande wat te voet vir jagdoeleindes afgelê kon word, noodwendig beperk was, en boonop nie, ten minste onder die hoëveldse bevolking, 'n populêre metode van jag was nie, is die wild meer en meer daartoe genoodsaak

No. 28
ROOIBOKRAM.
IMPALA RAM.
EPYCEROS MELAMPUS.



where it secured a considerable immunity from the white hunters, though not from the natives.

The great rinderpest epidemic which swept through South Africa in 1896 profoundly affected the game of the low-veld. Introduced in 1889 into northern Africa by infected cattle from Asia Minor, this scourge travelled slowly down the eastern side of the continent until, early in 1896, it arrived in Southern Rhodesia, whence it came south at exactly the rate of the ox transport then in use all over South Africa. It entered the present Kruger Park in the early spring of 1896, and had disappeared thence by May, 1897. Nearly all the buffalo, kudu and eland perished; reedbuck, duiker, steenbuck, waterbuck and warthog died in considerable numbers; roan and sable antelope and tsessebe were only slightly affected; a few giraffe died; wildebeeste and impala appear to have been immune. The tsetse fly entirely vanished from the areas which the rinderpest had visited; but it was long before this phenomenon was recognised. Why it then disappeared never since to return, and exactly what factor connected with the rinderpest was responsible for its elimination, still remains a mystery. In view of the entire survival of the herds of impala and wildebeeste within the fly areas it definitely was not due to lack of natural food.

Up to 1902 there had been no enforcement of game laws, and it was surprising to anyone acquainted with the history of the country since about 1870, not that there was so little game but that so much had survived

No. 29
TSESSEBE (SASASBY).
BASTERHARTBEES.
DAMALISCUS LUNATUS.



the efforts of the hunters, plus the final blow of the rinderpest which nearly exterminated the buffalo, kudu and eland. Such game as remained was principally in the eastern areas under the Lebombo Hills. The Sabi bush contained, under the circumstances, a remarkably large number of impala, but they were most wary, and difficult to see. There were a score or two of buffalo in the same dense refuge, and a few scattered groups

om in die tsetse-vlieggebied skuiling te soek, waar hulle 'n baie groot mate van beskerming teen die wit jagters, alhoewel nie teen die natuurlike, ondervind het.

Die groot runderpes-epidemie wat Suid-Afrika in 1896 geteister het, het diep spore op die wild van die laeveld gelaat. Hierdie plaag wat in 1889 deur besmette beeste uit Klein-Asië na Noord-Afrika oorgebring is, het stadig langs die oostekant van die vasteland suidwaarts getrek, totdat

dit vroeg in 1896 in Suid-Rhodesië aangekom het, waarvandaan dit verder af gekom het teen presies die snelheid van die os, wat toe as transportdier dwarsdeur Suid-Afrika gebruik is. Dit het die huidige Kruger-wildtuin in die vroeë lente van 1896 binnegekom en in Mei 1897 van daar verdwyn. Byna al die buffels, koedoes en elande het omgekom; rietbokke, duikers, steenbökkies, waterbokke en vlakvarke het in groot getalle gesterf; bastergembokke, swartwitpense en tsessebe's is nouliks aangetas; 'n paar kameelperde het gesterf; dit skyn of wildebeeste en rooibokke immuun was. Die tsetse-vlieg het gehelemaal van die gebiede wat deur die runderpes besoek is, verdwyn; dog dit het lank geduur voordat hierdie verskynsel waargeneem is. Waarom dit verdwyn het en sedertdien nooit weer voorgekom het nie, en watter faktor eintlik in verband met die runderpes vir die uitskakeling daarvan verantwoordelik is, bly 'n geheim. Met die oog op die volkome oorlewing van die kuddes rooibokke en wildebeeste binne die gebiede waar die vlieë aanwesig was, was dit definitief nie aan 'n gebrek aan natuurlike voedsel toe te skrywe nie.

Tot 1902 is jagwette nie toegepas nie en dit was verbasend vir enigeen wat met die geskiedenis van die landstreek sedert 1870 bekend was, nie dat daar so min wild was nie, maar dat soveel aan die jagters, plus die nekslag van die runderpes wat feitlik die buffels, koedoes en elande uitgeroei het, ontkom het. Die wild wat oorgebly het, was hoofsaaklik in die oostelike gebied onder die Lebombo-gebergte te vinde. 'n Groot aantal rooibokke kon in die Sabiebos aangetref word, maar hulle was baie versigtig en moeilik om te sien. 'n Klompie buffels was ook in dieselfde digte skuilplek en klompies kameelperde



No. 30
AASVOËL.
CAPE VULTURE.
GYPS COPROTHERES.

of giraffe between the Olifants and Crocodile Rivers. All the animals were extremely wild.

Pretorius Kop, which today is the grazing ground of innumerable wildebeeste and zebra, then could only show a few reedbuck and duiker.

Elephants and elands in the north were non-existent, and nyala did not make their appearance until nearly 20 years later.

Lions, owing to the relative scarcity of big game were

rarely seen or heard, but on the other hand wild dogs and hyenas were excessively numerous. The former in fact roamed about, especially south of the Sabi River in the impala country, in packs of 40 and 50 strong, and they hunted bushbuck and reedbuck right up to the western portion of the Reserve at Logogote.

The country lying between the Olifants River and the Limpopo was almost denuded of large wild life, but fortunately the adjoining Portuguese country was well stocked, being but thinly populated by natives, and game soon began to filter from it into the Reserve. The first elephant was reported near the Olifants Gorge in 1905, and the first eland, a cow running with some impala near the Tende River, about the same time.

All the western areas of the southern part of the Reserve slowly filled up in the first five or six years. Fortunately we experienced a succession of prosperous breeding seasons with plenty of grass, and as white hunting had completely ceased, and we had put an effectual stop to all native poaching within the first 12 months, the game began to experience the first rest it had known for many years, and reacted to its opportunity in the most heartening fashion.

The repression of the widespread native hunting proved to be less difficult, so far as the residents in the Reserve were concerned, than had been feared.

The Shangaan is naturally law abiding and subservient to constituted authority; while the instructions to the local headmen that their own continued



No. 31
SILVER FOX.
DRAAIJAKKALS.
VULPES CHAMA.

was tussen die Olifants- en Krokodilrivier aanwesig. Al die diere was buitengewoon wild.

Pretoriuskop, wat vandag die weiplek is van byna ontelbare wildebeeste en sebras kon toe met slegs 'n paar rietbokke en duikers spog.

In die noorde was daar geen olifante en elande nie en 'njala's het nie hul verskyning tot byna 20 jaar later gemaak nie.

Weens die betreklike skaarste aan grootwild is leeus selde gesien of gehoor, maar aan die ander kant was wildehonde en hiënas buitengewoon talryk. Eersgenoemde het trouens in klompe van 40 tot 50 sterk veral suid van die Sabierivier in die rooibok-gebied rondgeswerf en hulle het bos- en rietbokke tot reg by die westelike gedeelte van die reservaat by Logogote gejag.

Daar was byna geen grootwild meer in die gebied wat tussen die Olifants- en die Limpopo-rivier lê nie, maar gelukkig was die aangrensende Portugese gebied goed van wild voorsien, aangesien daar 'n skraal natuurlike-bevolking was en wild het gou daarvandaan na die reservaat deurgedring. Die aanwesigheid van die eerste olifant is in 1905 naby die Olifantsrivierpoort en van die eerste eland, 'n koei wat onder 'n trop rooibokke bespeur is, omtrent dieselfde tyd naby die Tende-rivier vermeld.

Al die westelike gebiede van die suidelike deel van die reservaat het stadig

No. 32
ROOIBEK-NEUSHORINGVOËL.
RED-BILLED HORNBILL.
LOPHOCEROS ERYTHORHYNCHUS.



in die eerste vyf of ses jaar voller geword. Gelukkig is 'n reeks voorspoedige teel-seisoene gepaard met volop gras ondervind, en aangesien die jag deur blankes heeltmaal gestaak is en ons binne die eerste 12 maande alle strooptogte deur die natuurlike op die wild doeltreffend stopgesit het, kon die wild so 'n mate van rus ondervind as wat hulle in jare nie geken het nie en was die gevolge hiervan uiters bemoedigend.

Dit het baie makliker gegaan as wat verwag is om die jag op wild deur die natuurlike oor die algemeen, veral dié wat in die reservaat woonagtig was, teë te gaan.

Die Sjangaan is van nature onderdanig aan die wet en onderwerp hom aan gevestigde gesag; die plaaslike opperhoofde is in kennis gestel dat hulle slegs toegelaat sou word om in die reservaat

residence in the Reserve would be conditional not only upon the cessation of all game killing on the part of themselves and their dependents, but upon the reporting of any observed infractions of the law by others, seemed to imbue them with some sense of authority and responsibility, as though they, too, were a part of the administration. I have already referred to the loyalty of the locally recruited native rangers; and altogether I think there can be few African tribes so completely soaked in the hunting spirit, who would thus easily have fallen into line with what to them was a completely new and astonishing philosophy.

In those early days there were no roads nor rest houses; no motor cars nor telephones. Until the reconstruction of the Selati Line in 1909-12, there was not even a railway nearer than Komati Poort—50 miles from Sabi Bridge. Consequently, communications with the outer world were slow and difficult, and in case of illness a ranger had perforce to depend upon himself, plus the attentions of his unsophisticated native servants.

The white staff had nothing better to live in than rondhavel made of reeds and mud, unscreened against insects. Fortunately all were young, strong and inured to a rough life, besides possessing some elementary knowledge of how to treat ordinary ailments, the chief of them malarial fever, which, to ordinarily healthy persons is not considered to be dangerous, except in its blackwater and cerebral forms.

On one occasion Ranger Wolhuter, riding alone from Sabi Bridge to his station at Mtimba, was suddenly stricken with the first of the above-mentioned types of malady. He lay for hours in the veld, his horse standing by him, until by a supreme effort, feeling he must die if he stayed where he was, he managed to drag himself into the saddle, and let his horse take him home; where, eventually, with the help of an iron constitution, he managed to nurse himself back to health.

As time went on, and the wild animals continued to

No. 33
STEENBUCK RAM.
STEENBOKRAM.
RAPHICEROS CAMPESTRIS.



woonagtig te bly indien hulle en hul onderdane nie alleen die jag op wild sou staak nie, maar ook nie in gebreke sou bly om enige gevalle wat onder hul aandag mag kom waar die wet deur andere verbreek word, aan te meld nie; en dit het geskyn asof hierdie instruksies hulle 'n groter mate van gesag en verantwoordelikheid laat kry het, asof hulle ook deel van die administrasie was! Ek het al reeds na die lojaliteit van die plaaslik gerekruteerde naturelle-opsigters verwys; en in die algemeen dink ek dat daar min Afrikaanse stamme kan wees wat so van die jaggees deurtrek is en nogtans so maklik 'n lewensopvatting, wat vir hulle volkome nuut en verbysterend moes gewees het, aanvaar het.

In daardie vroeë dae was daar geen paaie of rushuise, geen motors of telefone nie. Voor die herbou van die Selati-spoorweg in 1909-12 was daar nie eens 'n spoorweg nader as Komatipoort—50 myl van die Sabie-brug nie. Gevolglik het dit stadig en moeilik gegaan om met die buitewêreld in verbinding te tree, en in die geval van siekte moes 'n opsigter hom op homself, plus die aandag wat sy ongekunstelde naturelle-bediendes aan hom kon betoon, verlaat.

Die blanke personeel het niks beter gehad om in te woon nie, as rondawels wat van riet en klei gebou is en met geen sifdraad teen insekte nie. Gelukkig was almal jonk, sterk en gehard en het hulle 'n elementêre kennis besit van hoe om gewone kwale te behandel, die vernaamste waarvan malaria was, wat egter in die geval van gewone gesonde persone nie as gevaarlik beskou word nie, behalwe in sy swartwater- en serebraalvorm.

By 'n sekere geleentheid is opsigter Wolhuter, toe hy alleen van die Sabie-brug na sy pos op Mtimba gery het, skielik deur swartwaterkoors oorval. Hy

No. 34
MUSKEJAAKAT.
GENET.
GENETTA FELINA.



het ure lank in die veld gelê, onderwyl sy perd by hom gestaan het, totdat hy met geweldige inspanning daarin geslaag het om op sy saal te kom, beseffende dat hy sou sterf as hy bly waar hy was, en sy perd hom laat huistoe dra het; danksy sy ystersterke konstitusie het hy daarin geslaag om homself weer gesond te dokter.

Met die verloop van tyd, en namate die diere verder vermeerder en versprei het, moes die uiteindelijke lot van die



No. 35
CAPE GREY MONGOOSE.
KLEIN GRYS MUISHOND.
MYONAX PULVERULENTUS.

increase and spread, the ultimate future of the Reserve had to be considered seriously. It existed merely in virtue of a Government Proclamation, and could by the same means easily be abolished. The popular idea was that as soon as the game had recovered sufficiently, the whole area would be once more thrown open for shooting, perhaps on payment, and possibly under some kind of restriction as to numbers; remote possibilities which did not weigh heavily

against the anticipated delight of getting amongst the game with a gun.

The idea of popularising and nationalising it on the lines of the American parks gradually took shape. As civilisation crept down into the low-veld, its first herald, the railway communication through the Reserve, completed in 1912, so did the demands for "development" increase. The land companies had, by about that year, begun to feel that their property might be put to better financial use than lying fallow as part of an unproductive game reserve, and to urge for its deproclamation. The gospel of a national park was desperately preached, and began slowly to take form in the minds of those who desired to preserve the fauna in perpetuity.

The conclusion of the World War in 1918 coincided with a strenuous campaign to advertise the low-veld on the part of those possessing vested interests therein.

The ephemeral cotton and cattle booms succeeded one another in swift succession. The country was depicted as a white man's paradise, especially suitable for settlers from overseas, and for such people of the Union as were desirous of escaping the rigours of the high-veld winters. Obviously the interests of wild animals could not long endure in face of this kind of propaganda. In fact the light of the Sabi Reserve was burning low indeed by 1922.

There were, nevertheless, certain factors which gave ground for hope, or at any rate, forbade complete despair. In 1919 a Transvaal administrative commission on the Reserve had made a favourable report, and had recommended



INYALA AT THEIR DRINKING PLACE.
Kruger National Park.

'NJALAS BY HUL DRINKPLEK.
Nasionale Kruger-Wildtuin.

SOUTH WEST
AFRICA

BECHUANALAND

KALAHARI
NATIONAL
PARK
NASIONALE
KALAHARI-
WILDTUIN

BETSJOEANALAND

SUIDWES-
AFRIKA

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE

KAAP DIE
GOEIE HOOP

KEETMANSHOOP

AROAB

SEEHEIM

MALOPOR R.

KURUMAN R.

KALKFONTEIN

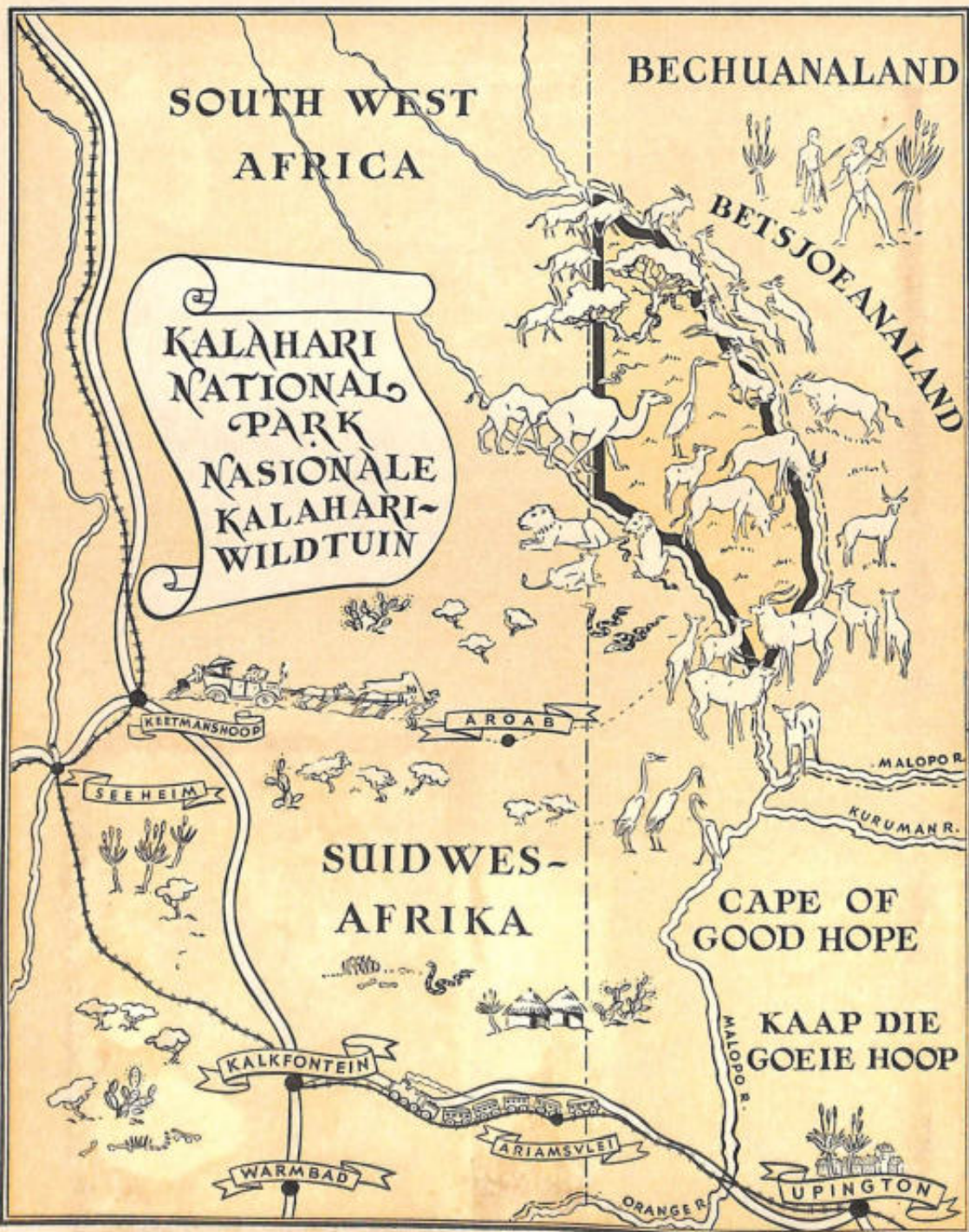
ARIAMSVLEI

WARMBAD

MALOPOR R.

ORANGE R.

UPINGTON



reservaat ernstig oorweeg word. Dit het bloot ingevolge 'n staatsproklamasie bestaan en kon op dieselfde manier weer maklik afgeskaf word. Die populêre opvatting was dat sodra die wild weer talryk genoeg geword het, die hele gebied weer vir jag oopgestel sou word, miskien teen betaling van 'n bedrag en moontlik met die een of ander beperking wat betref getalle wat geskiet mag word; vae moontlikhede wat nie swaar opgeweeg het teen die verwagte genot om tussen die wild met 'n geweer te beland nie.

Die gedagte om dit te populariseer en te nasionaliseer volgens die voorbeeld van die Amerikaanse wildtuine het geleidelik vorm gevat. Namate die beskawing tot in die laeveld deurgedring het, die voorloper waarvan die spoorwegverbinding deur die reservaat was (in 1912 voltooi), so het die eise om „ontwikkeling” toegeneem. Die grondmaatskappye het teen daardie tyd begin voel dat hul eiendom op 'n meer winsgewende grondslag geplaas kon word, i.p.v. om braak te lê as 'n deel van 'n onproduktiewe wildreservaat, en het op die deproklamasie daarvan begin aandring. Aan die ander kant is daar op 'n groot skaal propaganda gemaak vir die skepping van 'n nasionale wildtuin, en hierdie idee het stadig begin posvat by diegene wat begerig was om die dierelewe vir altyd te beskerm.

Die beëindiging van die Wêreldoorlog in 1918 het saamgeval met 'n intensiewe veldtog om die laeveld te adverteer deur diegene wat vaste eiendom aldaar besit het.

Die kortstondige tydperke van geweldige verwagtings op die gebied van katoen en beeste het mekaar snel opgevolg. Die gebied is voorgestel as 'n paradys vir blankes, en veral geskik vir nedersetters van oor see en vir diegene uit die Unie wat begerig was om die strenge hoëveldse winters te ontvlug. Dit was klaarblyklik dat die belange van die wilde diere nie lank sou kon standhou teen hierdie soort propaganda nie. Ja, die vlammetjie van die Sabie-reservaat het teen 1922 beslis flou gebrand.

Daar was egter seker faktore wat rede op hoop gegee het of altans algehele wanhoop voorkom het. In 1919 het 'n Transvaalse administratiewe kommissie 'n gunstige verslag oor die reservaat uitgebring en as oplossing die skepping van 'n

No. 36
VOLSTRUISMANNETJIE.
COCK OSTRICH.
STRUTHIO AUSTRALIS.





the national park solution. The Transvaal Game Protection Society had, even before the World War, passed a resolution in favour of this, and many lovers of wild life had by now begun to discuss the matter openly. The great difficulty appeared to be financial. Immense areas of privately owned land were contained within the Sabi Reserve, which the owners, the moment they knew Government to be a bidder, would be certain not to value below current market price.

Matters were brought to a head about the end of 1922, firstly by definite demands on the part of the land companies for the restoration of their property contained in the Reserve, together with full shooting and other rights; and secondly by a concerted request from various Government departments, such as Lands, Agriculture and Mines, for a general opening up and deproclamation in favour of their various interests which, if carried out in full, would have left hardly room for a duiker in the Reserve. A coal proposition—fortunately for our plans a failure—had already been opened up in the south-east corner, near Crocodile Bridge, and various shafts had been sunk before the concession was abandoned. There was talk of gold, diamonds, mealies, citrus, cattle: a prospective miners' and farmers' Arcadia, in fact.

When things were about at their worst, an event, fraught with encouraging possibilities for the future, took place. The South African Railways commenced their service of "Round in Nine" tourist trains through the north-eastern Transvaal, and agreed that on each occasion a night should be spent in the Reserve, when the passengers might have the opportunity,

No. 37
BLACK RHINOCEROS.
SWART RENOSTER.
DICEROS BICORNIS.



while sitting round a real camp fire in the bush, of hearing the lions roar close at hand. The immense popularity, amongst the public, of this short spell in the wilds, confirmed me in the hope which I had secretly cherished, that once the general public, especially the town public, had been thus introduced, it would fall victim to the strange spell which untrammelled Nature nearly always imposes, and by its increasing interest and

nasionale wildtuin aanbeveel. Die Transvaalse Vereniging vir die Beskerming van Wild het selfs voor die Wêreldoorlog 'n besluit ten gunste hiervan aangeneem, en baie liefhebbers van wild het teen hierdie tyd die saak openlik begin bespreek. Die groot moeilikheid was blykbaar finansiëel. Enorme stukke private eiendom het binne die Sabie-reservaat gelê wat die eienaars, sodra dit bekend sou word dat die Regering 'n bieër sou wees, beslis nie onderkant die heersende markprys sou waardeer nie.



No. 38
 BLOUWILDEBEES.
 BLUE WILDERBEEST.
 GORGON TAURINUS.

Sake het omtrent teen die einde van 1922 tot 'n punt gekom, eerstens weens die onomwonde eis deur die landmaatskappye om die teruggawe van hul eiendom in die reservaat, tesame met volle jag- en ander regte; en tweedens weens 'n gesamentlike versoek van die verskillende staatsdepartemente soos dié van Lande, Landbou en Mynwese, om die reservaat oop te stel en ten gunste van hul verskeie belange te deproklameer, wat, indien ten volle daarmee ingewillig sou geword het, skaars plek vir 'n duiker in die reservaat sou gelaat het. 'n Steenkoolmyn—gelukkig 'n mislukking uit die oogpunt van ons planne beskou—is toe reeds in die suidoostelike hoek, naby die Krokodilbrug, begin en verskeie skagte is gegrawe voordat die onderneming gestaak is. Daar was sprake van goud, diamante, mielies, sitrus, beeste—trouens 'n toekomsige Arkadië vir delwers en boere.

Toe sake omtrent op hul ergste was, het 'n gebeurtenis met grenslose be-
 moedigende moontlikhede vir die toekoms plaasgevind. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë het 'n aanvang gemaak met hul toeristetreindiens, „Rondom binne Nege Dae”, deur die noordoostelike Transvaal en ingestem dat daar by elke reis 'n nag in die reservaat deurgebring sou word wanneer die passasiers daartoe in staat gestel sou word om, onderwyl hulle om 'n egte kampvuur in die bos sit, die leeus 'n end daarvandaan te hoor brul. Die geweldige populariteit onder die publiek van hierdie kort verposing in die wildernis, het my in dié hoop wat ek in die geheim gekoester het, gesterk, naamlik dat as die algemene publiek, veral die stedelike bevolking, eers eenmaal op hierdie manier met die reservaat kennis

enthusiasm would exercise a profound influence in favour of the indefinite perpetuation of the Reserve.

The next move was to get the then Minister of Lands—Colonel Deneys Reitz—to pay a personal visit to the Reserve, and this happy event actually matured in July, 1923.

One short visit of a week was enough to convert Colonel Reitz wholeheartedly to the National Park Scheme. In fact, so enthusiastic did he become that immediately on his return to Pretoria he caused to be drawn up by Dr. Schoch, the Legal Adviser to the Government, the very Parks Act which, with a few minor alterations, is in force to-day.

Events now moved fast in the right direction. The Game Protection Society of the Transvaal, which was soon to become the Wild Life Protection Society of South Africa, passed resolutions and sent deputations to the Government Departments concerned; a favourable press got busy all over the Union.

As propaganda for a National Park spread, more and yet more people began to display interest; even to becoming alive to the existence under natural conditions of large wild animals within 300 miles of Johannesburg. It was amazing to discover how little many of the public knew about their own country. Even the local newspapers, the interests of whose readers had, generally speaking, been opposed to those of the Sabi Game Reserve, accorded a half-hearted approval.

One of the main difficulties confronting the Government was the

No. 39
WHITE RHINOCEROS.
WIT RENOSTER.
CERATOTHERIUM SIMUM.



existence of the great areas of privately owned land between the Sabi and Olifants Rivers. This land had during the earlier 'nineties been surveyed into farms and distributed to various burghers of the Republic for services rendered. Since these farms all lay within the fever area, and were therefore useless for residential purposes, while the owners could use the whole country as a free hunting ground whenever they so desired, they

gemaak het, hy deur die geheimsinnigheid van die ongebonde natuur betower sou word en deur sy toenemende belangstelling en geesdrif 'n verreikende invloed ten gunste van die blywende behoud van die reservaat sou uitoefen.

Die volgende stap was om die toenmalige Minister van Lande—kol. Deneys Reitz—te versoek om 'n persoonlike besoek aan die reservaat af te lê, en hierdie gelukkige gebeurtenis het in werklikheid in Julie 1923 plaasgevind.

Een kort besoek van 'n week was genoeg om kol. Reitz tot 'n geesdriftige ondersteuner van die nasionale wildtuinskema te maak. Trouens, hy het so geesdriftig geword dat hy onmiddellik na sy terugkeer na Pretoria opdrag gegee het aan dr. Schoch, die Regsadviseur van die Regering, om die Wet op Wildtuine op te stel, wat, met 'n paar klein wysigings, vandag van krag is.

Gebeurtenisse het nou vinnig in die regte rigting beweeg. Die Transvaalse Vereniging vir die Beskerming van Wild, wat binnekort die Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging vir die Beskerming van Wild sou word, het voorstelle aangeneem en afvaardigings na die betrokke staatsdepartemente gestuur; 'n goedgesinde pers dwarsdeur die Unie het hom begin roer.

Namate die propaganda vir 'n nasionale wildtuin toegeneem het, het meer en steeds meer mense belangstelling begin toon; hulle het geesdriftig geword oor die bestaan van groot wilde diere in hul natuurlike omgewing binne 300 myl van Johannesburg. Dit was verbasend om te ontdek hoe min die meeste mense van hul eie land af geweet het. Selfs die plaaslike koerante, die belange van wie se lesers, in die algemeen, gebots het met dié van die Sabie-wildreservaat het dit halfhartig goedgekeur.

Een van die vernaamste moeilikhede waarvoor die Regering te staan gekom het, was die aanwesigheid van groot stukke private eiendom tussen die Sabie- en die Olifantsrivier. Hierdie gebied is gedurende die vroeë neëntigerjare in plase opgemeet en aan verskeie burgers van die Republiek uitgedeel as beloning vir dienste bewys. Aangesien al hierdie plase binne die koorsstreek geleë en dus nutteloos vir woondoeleindes was, terwyl die eienaars die hele gebied as 'n vry jagveld

No. 40
STEENBOKKOOI.
STEENBOK (FEMALE).
RAPHICEROS CAMPESTRIS.



naturally decided to convert them into assets of a more immediately profitable nature. Here the Johannesburg land companies stepped in, and thinking that some day the farms might prove valuable mineral propositions, eagerly snapped them up at nominal prices.

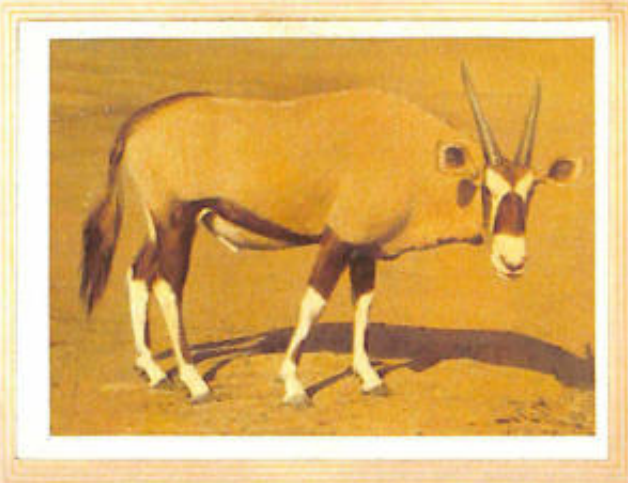
The prospecting which followed did not provide results up to expectations, and land, as we have seen, was temporarily handed over to Government for wild life

protection, and remained a part of the Sabi Game Reserve, until, after the lapse of some 20 years, agricultural and pastoral possibilities appeared to attach to it some potential value.

When the National Park Scheme took shape, and it was realised that the inclusion of the above farms was essential to its success, the owners, however strongly they may have favoured the plan in theory, naturally were anxious to get the best available price for their property, and it was the inability to agree upon terms which had wrecked the first attempt to bring the National Parks Act before Parliament.

Mr. Grobler therefore arranged a meeting in Johannesburg with representatives of the various companies concerned, and discussed the situation with them. As a result of this meeting complete agreement was arrived at, and a Committee formed representing both the land-owners and the Government, which after a few sittings arrived at a satisfactory solution of all problems. It was arranged that the inferior private land inside the proposed Park should be exchanged for better Government farms outside, on a ratio of three to two, and about £40,000 was spent in buying out those few individual private owners who did not want to exchange their farms for others.

In making this arrangement, the shortage of land available for exchange by Government rendered it necessary to excise all the western area of the Sabi Game Reserve south of the Olifants River, comprising several thousand square miles, and incidentally much of the best game country.



No. 41
GEMSBOK.
GEMSBOK.
ORYX GAZELLA.

kon gebruik, net wanneer hulle wou, het hulle natuurlik besluit om die grond in 'n bate van 'n meer onmiddellik winsgewende aard om te sit. Dit was hier waar die Johannesburgse grondmaatskappye ingespring het, en onder die indruk dat hierdie plase in die toekoms mag blyk om waardevolle mineraalhoudende eiendom te wees, het hulle dit gretig teen nominale pryse opgekoop.

Die prospekteerdery wat gevolg het, het nie die verwagte uitslae afgewerp nie, en die grond is, soos ons gesien het, tydelik aan die Regering vir die beskerming van wild afgestaan, en het 'n deel van die Sabie-wildreservaat gebly tot na die verloop van 20 jaar, toe dit geskyn het of die moontlikhede in verband met landbou en veeteelt dit met 'n sekere potensiële waarde bedeel het.

Toe die skema in verband met die nasionale wildtuin vaste vorm aangeneem het en daar besef is dat die insluiting van bogenoemde plase noodsaaklik vir die sukses daarvan was, was die eienaars, hoe sterk hulle ook al in teorie ten gunste van die onderneming was, natuurlik begerig om die bes moontlike prys vir hul grond te bekom, en dit was hierdie mislukking om 'n skikking in verband met terme te bereik wat die eerste poging om die Wet op Nasionale Wildtuine voor die Parlement te bring, laat skipbreuk ly het.

Mnr. Grobler het dus 'n vergadering van die verteenwoordigers van die verskeie betrokke maatskappye in Johannesburg belê en die posisie met hulle bespreek. As gevolg van hierdie samespreking is volslae eenstemmigheid bereik en is 'n komitee in die lewe geroep wat beide die landeienaars en die Regering verteenwoordig het en wat na 'n paar sittings 'n bevredigende oplossing vir alle vraagstukke gevind het. Daar is gereël dat die minderwaardige

No. 42
LEEUWYFIE MET WELPIE.
LIONESS WITH CUB.
PANTHERA LEO.



private grond binne die voorgestelde wildtuin vir beter goewermentsplase daarbuite in die verhouding van drie tot twee uitgeruil sou word, en omtrent £40,000 is afgesonder vir die uitkoop van daardie private eienaars wat nie hul plase vir ander wou verruil nie. Toe hierdie ooreenkoms bereik is, het die tekort aan grond beskikbaar vir ruiling deur die Goewerment dit noodsaaklik gemaak om die hele westelike gedeelte van die Sabie-wildreservaat suid



No. 43
KLIPSPRINGER.
KLIPSPRINGER.
OREOTRAGUS OREOTRAGUS.

expressed the opinion that it would be quite impracticable for Mr. Grobler to get his Bill through before Parliament rose.

It was therefore a pleasant surprise when the second reading came up on 31st May—almost at the end of the period available—and was unanimously passed by Assembly and Senate. Mr. Grobler had wisely placed the control of the Park under a Board of ten members, some appointed by the Minister himself, and others representing the Transvaal Province and Wild Life Protection Society.

Thus, after nearly 25 years of incubation as the Sabi Game Reserve, during which period its prospect of emergence seemed at times but slight, the Kruger National Park at last broke forth as a living entity, amid the universal benedictions of the whole public and press of South Africa.

All these arrangements, of course, took time. It was important that the Bill should come before the House during the 1926 Session, otherwise it would have had to be postponed for another year, and it was possible to surmise that before the expiration of that period some untoward event might occur which would either wreck or indefinitely postpone the whole measure.

Up to almost the end it was a race against time. Some, in a position to know,

van die Olifantsrivier, wat enige duisende vierkante myl beslaan, en terloops 'n groot deel van die beste wildhoudende gebied was, af te sny.

Al hierdie reëlins het natuurlik tyd in beslag geneem. Dit was noodsaaklik dat die Wetsontwerp gedurende die 1926-sitting van die Parlement ingedien sou word, anders sou dit vir nog 'n jaar uitgestel moes word, en dit was moontlik dat voor die verloop van daardie tyd die een of ander onvoorsiene gebeurtenis kon plaasvind, wat die skema óf die nekslag sou toedien óf dit vir 'n onbepaalde tydperk op die agtergrond sou skuif.

Tot byna aan die einde was dit 'n wedren teen tyd. Sommige persone wat in 'n posisie was om te weet, het die mening uitgespreek dat dit heeltemaal onmoontlik vir mnr. Grobler sou wees om sy Wetsontwerp voor die einde van die sitting deur te loods.

Dit was dus 'n aangename verrassing toe die tweede lesing op 31 Mei plaasgevind het—byna aan die einde van die beskikbare tyd en deur sowel die Parlement as die Senaat aangeneem is. Mnr. Grobler het verstandiglik die beheer van die wildtuin in die hande van 'n raad van tien lede geplaas, sommige van wie deur die Minister self aangestel is, en ander wat die Transvaal en die Vereniging vir die Beskerming van Wild verteenwoordig het.

Dus na 'n ontwikkelingstydperk van byna 25 jaar as die Sabie-wildreservaat, gedurende watter tydperk sy kanse op voortbestaan somtyds skraal geskyn het, het die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin eindelijk 'n werklikheid geword, onder die eenparige seënwense van sowel die publiek as die pers van Suid-Afrika.

No. 44
'NJALA'SUL.
NYALA BULL.
TRAGELAPHUS ANGASI.



OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

Constructive Work in the Park — *Notes for Visitors*

ALTHOUGH the newly constituted Board of Trustees, with Senator W. J. C. Brebner as Chairman, held its first meeting in September, 1926, it was not until the following May that any definite policy for development could be adopted.

The general idea was to make the new Park available for the visiting public as soon as possible; but in the absence of any facilities whatever in the way of roads, bridges or rest camps, and no funds available wherewith to make any, the immediate future did not appear very hopeful.

The grants from the Union Government and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, respectively, served only to pay staff salaries and wages on

No. 45
NYALA EWES.
'NJALA-OOIE.
TRAGELAPHUS ANGASI.



the former scale. There was no capital fund with which to commence developments. The private donations, so confidently expected, had not matured.

However, in response to urgent representations, the Treasury, in 1927, approved of a small capital grant of £8,000 by the aid of which it was at last possible to make a start.

The construction of roads through the bush, which would be capable of taking

ONS SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE WILDTUINE

Opbouende Werk in die Wildtuin— Wenke vir Besoekers

ALHOEWEL die pas-gevormde raad van trustees, met sen. W. J. C. Brebner as voorsitter, sy eerste vergadering in September 1926 gehou het, was dit nie voor die volgende Mei dat enige definitiewe beleid vir ontwikkeling aanvaar kon word nie.

Die algemene idee was om die nuwe wildtuin so gou as moontlik vir die besoekende publiek beskikbaar te maak; maar weens die afwesigheid van alle fasiliteite hoegenaamd, soos paaie, brûe of ruskampe, en geen fondse hoegenaamd om hulle daar te stel nie, het die onmiddellike toekoms nie baie rooskleurig gelyk nie.

Die bedrae wat deur die Unie-regering en die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie onderskeidelik toegeken is, het slegs daartoe gedien om die vorige skaal van betaling, in die vorm van salarisse en lone te handhaaf. Daar was geen kapitale fondse waarmee 'n aanvang met ontwikkeling gemaak kon word nie. Die private bydraes waarvan sulke hoë verwagtings gekoester is, het nie 'n werklikheid geword nie.

In alle geval, danksy sterk verstoë het die Dept. van Finansies in 1927 die toekenning van 'n klein kapitale be-

No. 46
KAAPSE OTTER.
CAPE CLAWLESS OTTER.
AONYX CAPENSIS.



motor traffic, was naturally the first consideration. Such work, for economy's sake, had at first to be undertaken by the ranger staff, employing cheap native labour; and, since, to the denseness of the bush, the bridging of hundreds of dongas and spruits, and the absence of all road-making instruments except picks and shovels, was added a complete lack of any previous experience of road-making on the part of either officials



No. 47
SLENDER-TAILED MEERCAT.
STOKSTERT-MIERKAT.
SURICATTA SURICATTA.

or workmen, it was rather a feat that by May, 1928, so much as 200 miles of road, capable of taking slow-speed traffic, had been constructed.

Simultaneously, notwithstanding that there did not yet exist any facilities for their accommodation, the Park was opened to visitors, and during that year 240 cars, carrying about 800 people, entered it, on payment of the fee of £1 per car, which the Board had decided to impose and to devote to further development.

No real beginning of rest-camps was made until 1929; previously visitors either camped out or used the quarters of the local staff to sleep in.

The Board further decided to keep the Park open only during the healthier months of the year; its decision being hastened by the marooning and subsequent prostration from malaria of the members of an American touring party, which had visited Lower Sabi in March, 1929.

By the end of 1929 there were three pontoons working over the Olifants, Sabi and Crocodile Rivers, respectively, and some 400 miles of road in use. 800 cars paid for admittance. In 1930 a fourth pontoon, crossing the Crocodile River at Malelane, was completed, with another 100 miles of road.

In those days visitors came prepared to put up with primitive accommodation and expected few amenities. But time has changed all that; more and more comforts have annually been provided, until to-day all the larger camps supply full catering for meals, stores at

drag van £8,000 goedgekeur, deur middel waarvan dit ten minste moontlik was om 'n begin te maak.

Die bou van paaie deur die bos wat vir motorverkeer geskik sou wees, was natuurlik die eerste oorweging. Hierdie soort werk moes met die oog op besuiniging in die begin deur die opsigpersoneel onderneem word, wat van goedkoop naturelle-arbeid gebruik gemaak het; en aangesien daar benewens die ruigheid van die bosse, die taak van die oorbrug van honderde donga's en spruite, en die gebrek aan alle padmaakmasjinerie behalwe pikke en grawe, ook 'n totale gebrek aan enige vorige padmaak-ondervinding aan die kant van sowel beampptes as werksmense was, was dit nogal 'n prestasie dat daar teen Mei 1928 so veel as 200 myl pad gemaak is wat vir stadige verkeer geskik sou wees.

Gelyktydig is die wildtuin vir besoekers oopgestel, en ondanks die feit dat daar toe nog geen fasiliteite vir hul akkommodasie bestaan het nie, het 240 motors, met omtrent 800 mense, na betaling van £1 per motor die wildtuin binnegegaan; en volgens die raad se besluit sou hierdie geld vir verdere ontwikkeling aangewend word.

Daar is geen ware begin met die aanlê van ruskampe tot eers in 1929 gemaak nie; voorheen het besoekers óf uitgekamp óf die kwartiere van die plaaslike personeel gebruik om in te slaap.

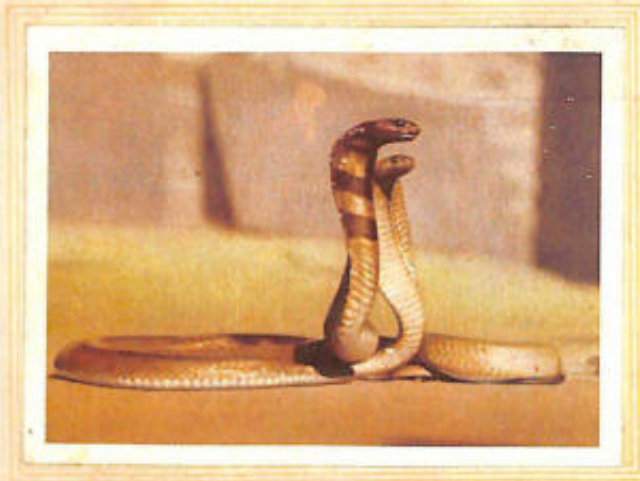
No. 48
DUIKER.
DUIKER.
SYLVICAPRA GRIMMIA.



Die raad het verder besluit om die wildtuin slegs gedurende die gesonder maande van die jaar oop te hou; sy besluit is verhaas nadat lede van 'n Amerikaanse toerparty wat die Laer Sabie in Maart 1929 besoek het, gestrand en malaria opgedoen het.

Aan die einde van 1929 was daar drie ponte in werking oor die Olifants-, Sabie- en Krokodilrivier onderskeidelik en sowat 400 myl pad in gebruik; 800 motors het toegangsgeld betaal. In 1930 is 'n vierde pont oor die Krokodilrivier by Malelane tsaam met 'n verdere 100 myl pad voltooi.

In daardie dae het besoekers daarheen gekom, bereid om hulle die primitiewe akkommodasie te laat welgeval en het hulle min geriewe verwag. Maar die tye het verander; meer en meer geriewe het jaarliks bygekom, sodat vandag al die groot



No. 49
COBRAS.
KOBRAS (KAPELLE).
NAIA FLAVA.

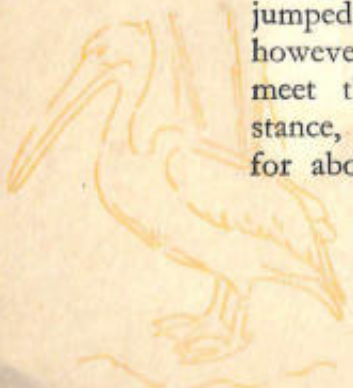
which everything in reason can be purchased, bathrooms with hot and cold water laid on, mattresses and bedding: in some camps even electric lighting. Petrol and oil may be bought at reasonable prices throughout, and there are motor repair stations at Skukuza and Letaba.

There are now six entrance gates, each in charge of a white official, to whom the entrance money is paid, and who also distributes to

the public maps and other Park literature, besides furnishing any information required as to routes.

Of the 14 rest-camps of varying size, the smaller, designed for those who desire quiet, offer only the accommodation of plainly furnished huts, with bedsteads and mattresses, water, light, fuel, and native attendance, while the larger, as described earlier, are in charge of one or more tourist officers whose duties embrace all matters concerning visitors, and who are directly responsible to the ranger of the section of the Park in which the camp lies. At all larger camps a full staff of native attendants is provided, and everything may be obtained readily as at a country hotel, except spirituous liquor, which may not be sold in the Park.

The permanent accommodation at the rest-camps consists of concrete or brick huts, adequate for requirements during all but the busier period, but to meet extra demands cottage tents have been added, and these may be hired at lower rates than the huts. Unfortunately, even this supplementary sleeping accommodation does not always serve to meet the tremendous pressure of an August Bank Holiday week-end, when for a couple of nights the number of people sleeping at a single camp has jumped from a normal 200-300 to as much as 1,100. Year by year, however, the Board adds to its permanent buildings, the goal being to meet the demand during the four months' season. Skukuza, for instance, supplies bed accommodation for 800 people, and Pretorius Kop for about 600. Were the visits of the public spread out evenly over



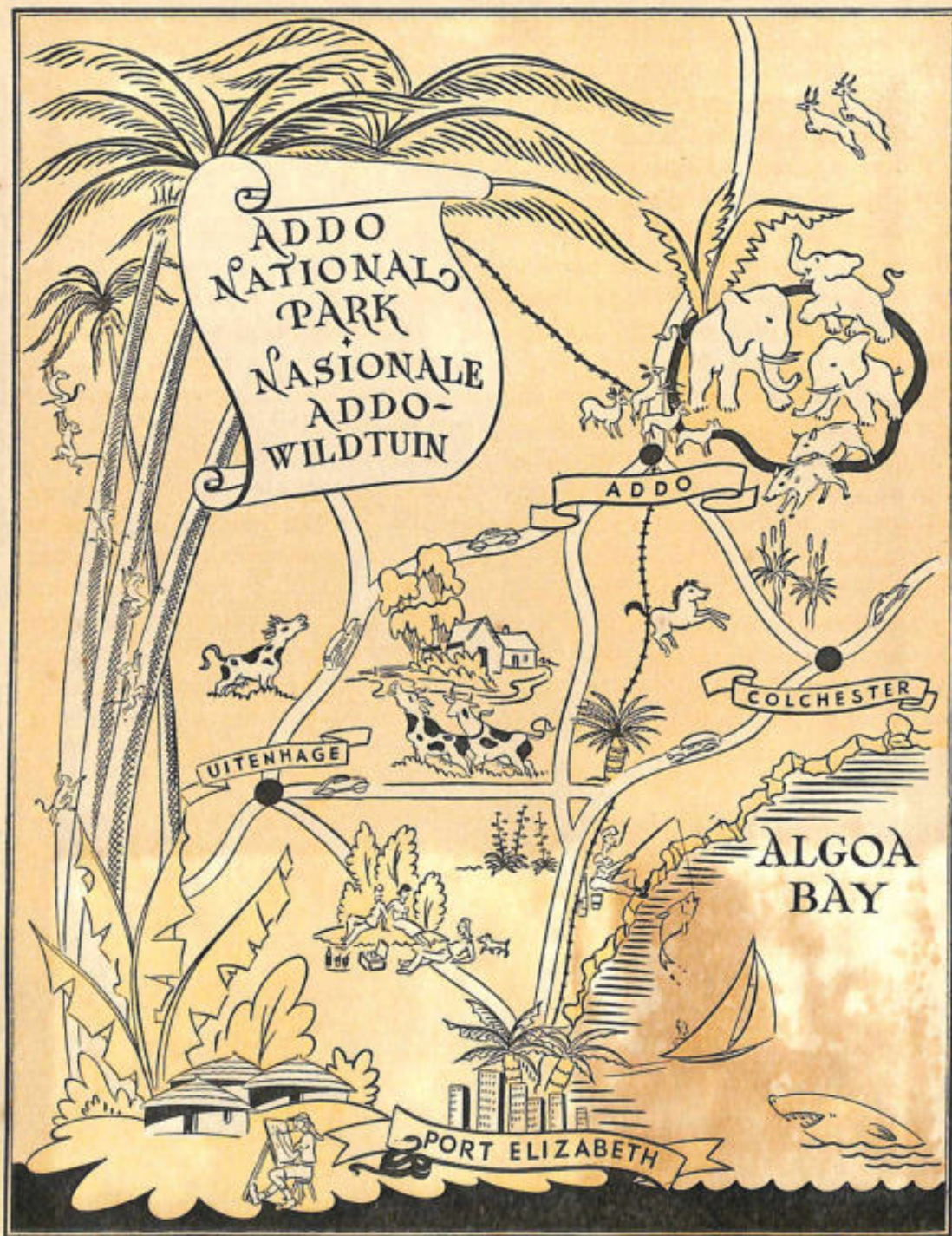


A LIONESS BESTRIDING HER KILL.

The victim is an Inyala bull, one of the rarest and most striking of all the antelopes.

'N LEEUWYFIE OP HAAR PROOF.

Die slagoffer is 'n 'nyalabul, een van die seldsaamste en treffendste van al die antilope.



kampe ten volle voorsiening maak vir maaltye ; daar is winkels waar alles binne redelike perke gekoop kan word ; badkamers met warm en koue water, matrasse en beddegoed is verkrybaar, en sommige kampe word selfs elektries verlig. Petrol en olie is deurgaans teen billike pryse verkrybaar en daar is motorherstelplekke op Skukuza en Letaba.

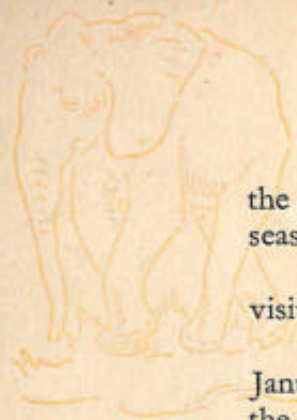
Daar bestaan nou ses toegangshekke, elkeen waarvan onder toesig is van 'n blanke beampte, aan wie die toegangsgeld betaal word en wat ook aan die publiek kaarte en allerlei leesstof in verband met die wildtuin verskaf, en verder enige inligting in verband met roetes verstrekk.

Van die 14 ruskampe van verskillende grootte, bied die kleiner hiervan, wat bedoel is vir diegene wat stilte verlang, slegs die akkommodasie van eenvoudig gemeubileerde hutte, tesame met bedde en matrasse, water, lig, brandstof en natuurlike-bediendes, terwyl die groteres, soos tevore beskryf onder toesig staan van een of meer toeriste-beamptes wie se pligte alle sake in verband met besoekers behels, en wat regstreeks aan die opsigter van daardie deel van die wildtuin waarin die kamp aanwesig is, verantwoordelik is. Al die groter kampe is van 'n volledige personeel natuurlike-bediendes voorsien en alles kan daar so geredelik as in enige plattelandse hotel verkry word, met uitsondering van alkoholiese drank wat nie in die wildtuin verkoop mag word nie.

Die permanente akkommodasie in die ruskampe bestaan uit hutte van beton of baksteen, voldoende vir behoeftes behalwe gedurende die besigste tyd, maar om aan ekstra behoeftes te voldoen, is huistente beskikbaar en teen 'n laer huurgeld as dié van die hutte verkrybaar. Ongelukkig voldoen selfs hierdie bykomende slaapakkommodasie nie altyd aan die reusevraag gedurende 'n openbare naweek-vakansie in Augustus nie, wanneer die getal mense wat in 'n enkele kamp slaap van 'n normale 200-300 tot soveel as 1,100 styg. Jaar na jaar bou die raad egter meer en meer permanente geboue aan, aangesien dit sy doel is om aan die vraag gedurende die seisoen van vier maande te voldoen. Skukuza, by voorbeeld, kan beddens vir 800 mense verskaf, terwyl Pretoriuskop beddens vir omtrent

No. 50
POFADDER.
PUFFADDER.
BITIS ARIETANS.





the four months, some 80,000 persons could be provided with beds every season.

During 1938, which witnessed the summit of popularity, over 38,000 visitors in some 10,000 cars and lorries entered the Park.

Up to 1939, the number of overseas visitors to Pretorius Kop, between January and April, showed a constant annual increase. Situated outside the normal malarial zone, that portion of the Park is at its best during the summer months: the veld clad in bright green verdure; the herds of game dotted about like cattle, all peacefully grazing; the nights cool and the days not unpleasantly warm. The accommodation and catering at this camp is excellent, while each hut is provided with electric light.

Season tickets, costing £2, are obtainable at all entrance gates, and entitle the holder to visit open portions of the Park as many times as he likes during the current year. A Life Fellowship costs £25, and includes, besides free entrance to all Parks under the Board's authority for life, a number of free rest-camp tickets.

The larger rivers were at first crossed by pontoons; but these have now for the most part been displaced by low-level concrete bridges.

The National Parks Board issues a comprehensive brochure annually, which is supplied free to all visitors, and gives full details of matters likely to prove of interest during a visit, including the various rules and regulations which have to be observed.

The Park is traversed by about 1,200 miles of motor roads, which are in most cases well up to the standard of the Provincial roads in the adjoining country.

A speed limit of 25 m.p.h. has been laid down for travelling along these roads; but if it be desired to see any but the most conspicuous animals, it is wise not to exceed a maximum of 10-12 m.p.h.

The best times to choose are probably the first fortnight of the season, that is to say, the last two weeks

No. 51
PYTHON.
LUISELANG.
PYTHON SEBÆ.



600 mense het. As die besoeke van die publiek egalig oor vier maande versprei sou gewees het, kon sowat 80,000 persone elke seisoen van slaapgeleentheid voorsien geword het.

Gedurende 1938, toe die toppunt van populariteit bereik is, het meer as 38,000 besoekers in sowat 10,000 motors en vragmotors die wildtuin binnegegaan.

Tot 1939 het die aantal oorsese besoekers aan Pretoriuskop gedurende Januarie en April 'n gedurige jaarlikse toename getoon. Daardie deel van die wildtuin wat buitekant die normale malariastreek geleë is, is op sy beste gedurende die somermaande; die veld is heldergroen; die troppe wild wei almal rustig rond soos beeste; die nagte is koel en die dae is nie onplesierig warm nie. Die akkommodasie en etes in hierdie kamp is uitstekend en elke hut is van elektriese lig voorsien.

Seisoenkaartjies, wat £2 kos, is by alle toegangshekke verkrybaar, en geregig die houer daarop om oop gedeeltes van die wildtuin soveel maal as hy wil gedurende die jaar te besoek. 'n Lewenslange lidmaatskap kos £25 en sluit in, behalwe gratis lewenslange toegang tot al die wildtuine onder beheer van die raad, 'n aantal gratis ruskampkaartjies.

Voorheen kon die groot riviere met ponte oorgesteek word; dog hulle is nou grotendeels deur laagwaterbrûe van beton vervang.

Die Nasionale Parkeraad reik jaarliks 'n omvattende brosjure uit, wat gratis aan alle besoekers verskaf word, en hierin word volledige besonderhede uiteengesit in verband met sake wat mag blyk om gedurende 'n besoek van belang te wees, insluitende die verskillende reëls en regulasies wat nagekom moet word.

Die wildtuin word deurkruis deur omtrent 1,200 myl motorpaaie wat merendeels van dieselfde gehalte is as die provinsiale paaie in die aangrensende gebied. 'n Snelheidsbeperking van 25 m.p.u. is van toepassing op hierdie paaie; maar as 'n mens enige diere, behalwe die grootstes wil sien, is dit wenslik om nie 'n maksimum-snelheid van 10-12 m.p.u. te oorskry nie.

Die beste tyd om te kies, is waarskynlik die eerste veertien dae van die seisoen, d.w.s. die laaste twee weke van Junie, net voor die begin van die skoolvakansie, en dan vanaf onmiddellik na die naweek-

No. 52
BOOMSLANG.
BOOMSLANG.
DISPHOLIDUS TYPUS.



of June, just before the commencement of the school holidays, and then from immediately after the August Bank Holiday, up to the end of September. The first two weeks of October are often most satisfactory for seeing game, which is then highly concentrated at the end of the dry season, and though the days are apt to be hot, the nights and early mornings are always delightfully cool.

Should it be possible to spare a week or more in the Park, the best plan probably is to enter either at the extreme south—Malelane or Pretorius Kop—and to work northwards, leaving at Punda Maria, or conversely. In such a way practically all the Park may be seen; but a week is the very least that should be allowed for sight-seeing. Any attempt to cover long distances in a hurry nearly always means disappointment.

The animals in the Park pay little regard to motor traffic, but react at once to the sight of unscreened human beings. For this reason visitors are forbidden to leave their cars while in the immediate presence of wild animals, equally for their own safety and because the disturbance they are thus likely to create among them may well mar the sight-seeing of people who may be following behind. For the same reasons visitors are not permitted to take their cars off the roads for the purpose of following animals into the veld. Although they disregard cars so long as these remain in the road, animals quickly become restless and alarmed if they conceive themselves to be pursued or followed.

With the general improvement in the Park roads during late years,

No. 53
BLACK-BACKED JACKAL.
ROOIJAKKALS.
CANIS MESOMELAS.



a new danger has arisen, affecting motorists themselves equally with wild creatures. I refer to a growing tendency, on the part of a small section of the public, to drive at paces which, while suitable enough for the rest of the country, are out of place within the Park.

Most of the roads wind designedly; there are many blind corners, and even a slight skid is liable to dash a car into one of the tree

vakansie in Augustus tot aan die einde van September. Die eerste twee weke van Oktober is dikwels die bevredigendste om wild te besien, wat dan sterk op een punt aan die einde van die droë seisoen aangetrek is, en alhoewel die dae geneig is om warm te wees, is die nagte en vroeë oggende altyd heerlijk koel.

As dit moontlik is om 'n week of meer in die wildtuin deur te bring, is die beste plan waarskynlik om dit of aan die mees suidelike punt—Malelane



No. 54
BONTBOK.
BONTBOK.
DAMALISCUS PYGARGUS.

of Pretoriuskop—binne te gaan en noordwaarts te trek, en by Punda Maria uit te gaan, of omgekeerd. Op hierdie manier kan feitlik die hele wildtuin besigtig word; dog 'n week is die allerkortste tyd wat toegelaat behoort te word vir die besigtiging van die wildtuin. Alle pogings om lang afstande haastig af te lê, beteken byna altyd teleurstelling.

Die diere in die wildtuin stel min belang in motorverkeer, maar word dadelik gesteur wanneer hulle mense sonder dekking sien. Om hierdie rede word besoekers verbied om hul motors te verlaat as hulle in die onmiddellike teenwoordigheid van wilde diere is, beide in belang van hul eie veiligheid en omdat die onrus wat hulle moontlik onder die diere kan veroorsaak, moontlik die gevolg sal hê dat mense wat hulle mag volg, niks te sien sal kry nie. Om dieselfde redes word besoekers nie toegelaat om van die paaie af te ry en diere in die veld te agtervolg nie. Alhoewel die diere geen notisie van motors neem solank hulle op die pad bly nie, word hulle gou rusteloos en paniekerig as hulle meen dat hulle agtervolg word. As gevolg van die algemene verbetering van die paaie van die wildtuin gedurende die afgelope aantal jare, het 'n nuwe gevaar ontstaan wat sowel motorryers self as wilde diere affekteer. Dit is 'n toenemende neiging aan die kant van 'n klein deel van die publiek om teen snelhede te ry wat, alhoewel dit geskik genoeg is in ander streke, ongewens is in die wildtuin.

Die meeste paaie is opsetlik met draaie gebou; daar is baie onverwagte hoeke en selfs al gly die motor hoe min ook al, kan hy teen een van die boomstamme wat oral op die roete aangetref word, geslinger word.

Wilde diere is baie dom wat betref motorverkeer, wat hulle geleer het om

trunks which everywhere line the route.

Wild animals are very foolish in respect of motor traffic, which they have come to regard as innocuous to them. Herds of antelopes and zebras are seized with frantic urges to stampede across the road just in front of cars; and though the leaders may allow themselves enough time to clear, the hindmost, their vision obscured by dust, and moreover probably ignorant of what all the hurry is about, but instinctively impelled to follow those in front, are likely to be hit by an oncoming car, unless the driver has the intelligence and consideration to stop or slow down.



No. 55
GRYSBOK.
GRYSBOK.
NOTOTRAGUS MELANOTIS.

Although collisions with wild animals are usually the fault of the motorist, cases do occur when this is not the case, as for instance when a kudu bull leaped right onto the bonnet of a car in an endeavour to clear it, and damaged it badly besides killing itself.

Although collisions with wild animals are usually the fault of the motorist, cases do occur when this is not the case, as for instance when a kudu bull leaped right onto the bonnet of a car in an endeavour to clear it, and damaged it badly besides killing itself.

A giraffe has been known to smash a radiator to pieces with a single kick. Stampingeding impalas sometimes land on the windscreen or the mud guards. Usually, however, the accidents occur through a car travelling too fast, being unable to avoid hitting one or more animals standing in or walking across the road. Among birds, guinea fowls and francolins are particularly silly; they seem quite unable to estimate the pace of an oncoming vehicle. Small creatures like squirrels, mongooses, and tortoise are unfortunately frequent victims and it is not possible to estimate how many of these get killed annually.

The danger to wild animals becomes greatly accentuated after dark. They are all completely dazzled by the head lights of a car, and stand about, dazed and helpless, sometimes indeed running right into the vehicle. Owls, night-jars and dikkops rise right under the wheels and are likely to be hit by the windscreen before they can get clear. This is one of the chief reasons why travelling at night has been prohibited in the Park, except under the most urgent necessity. The death roll, even by day not an inconsiderable one, would, if night travelling were allowed, be catastrophic.

as onskadelik vir hulself te beskou. Kuddes antilope en sebras word deur 'n onweerstaanbare drang beetgepak om in wilde vaart oor die pad net voor motors verby te ren; en alhoewel die voorbokke genoeg tyd het om verby te kom, kan die agterstes, wat deur stof verblind is en wat waarskynlik nie weet waarom die haas gaan nie, maar instinkmatig daartoe gedryf word om die voorstes te volg, in gevaar staan om met 'n aankomende motor te bots, tensy die bestuurder die verstand en bedagsaamheid het om stil te hou of stadiger te ry.

Alhoewel botsings met wilde diere gewoonlik die skuld is van die motoris, kom daar gevalle voor waar dit nie die geval is nie, soos by voorbeeld in die geval van 'n koedoebul wat reg op die masjienkap te lande gekom het in 'n poging om daarvoor te spring en dit erg beskadig het en boonop die lewe daarmee ingeskiet het.

In 'n ander geval het 'n kameelperd die verkoeler met een hou stukkend geskop. Rooibokke in wilde vaart beland somtyds op die windskerms of die modderskerms. Gewoonlik vind die ongelukke egter plaas wanneer die motor te vinnig ry en nie in staat is om 'n botsing met een of meer diere wat in die pad staan of daarop loop, te vermy nie. Onder die voëlsoorte is tarentale en fisante besonder onnosel; dit skyn of hulle glad nie daartoe in staat is om die snelheid van 'n aankomende voertuig te beoordeel nie. Klein diertjies soos eekhorinkies, meer-

No. 56
RIETBOK.
REEDBUCK.
REDUNCA ARUNDINUM.



katte en skilpaaie is ongelukkig dikwels slagoffers en dit is nie moontlik om te bereken hoeveel van hierdie diertjies jaarliks die lewe inskiet nie.

Die gevaar vir die wilde diere word veral gedurende die nag verhoog. Hulle word almal totaal verblind deur die lig van 'n motor en staan daar verslae en hulpeloos; somtyds hardloop hulle selfs reg op die voertuig af. Uile, nagswaels en dikkoppe styg reg voor die wiele op en staan in gevaar om deur die windskerms getref te word voordat hulle kan wegkom. Dit is een van die vernaamste redes waarom ryery in die wildtuin snags verbode is, behalwe in gevalle van dringende noodsaaklikheid. Die dodelys wat selfs gedurende die dag sorgwekkend is, sou indien ryery snags toegelaat word, skokkende afmetings aanneem.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

Lions and the Public

To the majority of the town-dwelling citizens of the Union the wild life of their country was, until the opening of the Kruger National Park, a sealed book.

Hunters would from time to time relate their experiences in the wilds, often with a tendency towards dwelling upon the attendant dangers, and the ferocity of the animals they were accustomed to encounter and to overcome therein.

Probably no living animal has had to endure more distortion of its character than the lion. Popular conceptions, in so far as they have been fashioned from tradition, travellers' tales or nursery stories, have been conflicting, and generally inaccurate. There is of course the time-honoured picture of a noble, brave, magnanimous creature—the lion of Androcles; but the more widely credited portrayal is that of a half-demented and entirely ferocious monster, ready to fall upon and devour every man, woman and child crossing its sanguinary path. Were the lion's real nature such as that last indicated, the Park would indeed be a place of terror for its human residents.

The majority of people who visit the sanctuary, cherish above all the hope of

No. 57
BUSH-BABY.
NAGAPIE.
GALAGO MOHOLI.



Leeus en die Publiek

VIR die meerderheid van die stedelike bewoners van die Unie, was die wilde dierelewe van hul land tot die opening van die Nasionale Krugerwildtuin 'n geslote boek.

Jagters het van tyd tot tyd hul ondervindings in die jagveld meegedeel, in watter geval hulle dikwels uitgewei het oor die meegaande gevare en die woestheid van die diere waarmee hulle te kampe gehad het.

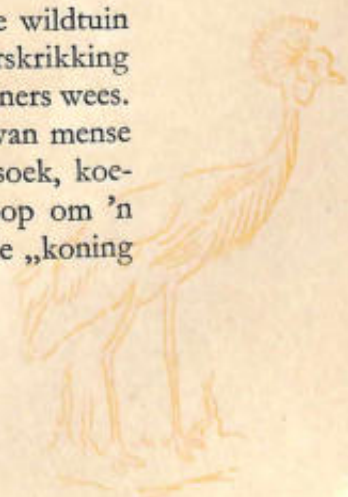
Daar is waarskynlik geen lewende dier waarvan die geaardheid op so 'n onjuiste wyse voorgestel is as die leeu nie. Die populêre opvatting, vir sover dit gegrond is op tradisie, reisigersverhale of kinderstories, is uiteenlopend en gewoonlik onjuis. Daar bestaan natuurlik die tradisionele voorstelling van 'n edel,

No. 58
VLAKHAAS.
CAPE HARE.
LEPUS CAPENSIS.



dapper, grootmoedige dier—die leeu van Androcles; dog die meer algemeen aangenome beeld is dié van 'n half dolle en heeltemal woeste monster wat gereed is om elke man, vrou en kind wat sy bloedige pad mag kruis, aan te val en te verslind. As dit sou waar wees van die leeu, sou die wildtuin beslis 'n oord van verskrikking vir sy menslike bewoners wees.

Die meerderheid van mense wat die wildtuin besoek, koester bo alles die hoop om 'n leeu te sien. Om die „koning





No. 59
WARTHOGS.
VLAKVARKE.
PHACOCHOERUS ETHIOPICUS.

This new aspect of the animal is occasionally followed by curious reactions. Some, before the encounter extremely nervous, leap to the opposite extreme, and, especially when small playful cubs are on view, feel they desire nothing more ardently than to get out and pat them.

There is as much lack of prescience in imagining a quiescent lion to be a tame one as there is in regarding it as a ferocious man-eater.

The lions that are seen lying by the roadside in the Park, in spite of their apparent trusting friendliness, are wild animals; indeed, most formidable and dangerous ones.

A lion which has never previously experienced hostility at the hands of human beings cherishes no special animosity towards them, and so far from regarding them as legitimate prey, has in fact an innate respect and fear for them; but if incautiously disturbed, frightened, or annoyed, his reactions may prove to be unpleasant for the intruder.

It is only since sanctuaries, combined with the motor car, have come into being, that it has been possible to arrive at some appreciation of the wild lion's true character.

When neither harassed, nor spurred on by starvation, he is a lazy, good-natured beast, catlike in habit; his chief ambition to rest quietly all day in some shady spot, where, should he have reason to expect danger of any kind, he is careful to make himself as inconspicuous as possible.

Of course, since Nature has condemned him to a purely meat diet, he must get his living as best he can in that way, and he can do so only by killing

seeing a lion. To meet the "king of beasts" at close quarters in his native haunts, without any intervening bars, forms a thrilling experience, which seems never to cloy from repetition. It is no doubt astonishing to many, accustomed since early childhood to accept without question tales of its aggressive savagery, to find only a sleepy-looking big cat taking its siesta by the roadside and completely indifferent to human presence.

van die diere" van naby in sy natuurlike omgewing, sonder die tralies tussen-in te kan betrag, is 'n opwindende ondervinding, 'n herhaling waarvan nooit sy nuwigheid verloor nie. Vir baie mense is dit ongetwyfeld verbasend om in teenstelling met hul gevestigde opvatting sedert hul eerste kindsdae van die leeu se agressiewe woestheid, net 'n slaperige groot kat langs die pad te sien sy rus geniet sonder dat die teenwoordigheid van die mens hom steur.

Hierdie nuwe aspek van die dier word somtyds deur eienaardige reaksies gevolg. Sommige mense wat voor so 'n ontmoeting buitengewoon senuweeagtig was, neem dan net die teenoorgestelde houding in en veral wanneer klein spelerige leeuwelpies te sien is, is daar niks wat hulle meer verlang as om uit die motor te klim en die diere te liefkoos nie.

Daar is net soveel gebrek aan oordeel om jou te verbeel dat 'n dromerige leeu mak is, as wanneer jy hom as 'n woeste mensvreter beskou.

Die leeu wat ons in die wildtuin langs die pad kan sien lê, is ondanks hul blykbaar vertroulike toegeneëtheid, wilde diere; trouens uiters gedugte en gevaarlike diere.

'n Leeu wat nog nooit tevore die vyandigheid van mense ondervind het nie, koester geen spesiale wrok teenoor hulle nie, en i.p.v. om hulle as sy wettige prooi te beskou, besit die leeu 'n ingewortelde respek en vrees vir die mens; maar as die dier onverwags gesteur, bang of kwaad gemaak word, kan sy reaksies onplesierige gevolge vir die indringer hê.

Dit is alleen sedert toevlugsoorde, gepaard met die motor, ontstaan het, dat dit moontlik geword het om 'n besef te vorm van die ware geaardheid van die leeu.

As hy nie gemolesteer of deur honger aangedryf word nie, is hy 'n lui, goedgeaarde dier, met die gewoontes van 'n kat; sy hoofbegeerte is alleen om die hele dag lank in die een of ander skaduweeagtige plek te kan rus, waar hy, indien hy rede het om die een of ander gevaar te wagte te wees, hom so onopvallend moontlik maak.

Natuurlik, aangesien die natuur hom uitsluitend tot 'n vleisdiët veroordeel het, moet hy vir daardie doel sy voedsel

No. 60
LUIPERD, TIER.
LEOPARD.
PANTHERA PARDUS.



such other animals as he can overcome. But, unless pressed by hunger, he confines himself to those forming his natural prey—the ungulates or hoofed mammals. Unlike leopards, lions will not readily eat dogs, and they usually kill these as they do hyenas and jackals, out of annoyance at being disturbed or inconvenienced by them.

It is only in areas whence game animals have been completely eliminated or have been brought, usually through man's efforts, to a low ebb, that lions become desperate, and seek unnatural prey—including man himself. Normally their dominant feeling towards him is fear, and by daylight, at least, they will ordinarily retire even before a solitary human being.

Their attitude towards persons inside motor cars is quite different; at them they merely stare lazily, and if lying in the track can only with difficulty be induced to make way, which, however, if the car slowly but determinedly maintains its course, they do good-humouredly. Even a lioness with small cubs, under most other conditions excessively dangerous to approach, seems not at all perturbed by the close proximity of a vehicle packed with excited men and women.

At one time I felt convinced that lions could not recognise a person inside a car, with only the upper part of the body visible, and that shaded; while the betraying specific scent was drowned by that of the petrol. Latterly I have found some cause to alter my opinion. Lions are certainly among the most intelligent of the lower animals, and they have had so many opportunities of gazing into human eyes, hearing human voices at close quarters, and unfortunately have

No. 61
BURCHELL'S ZEBRA.
BONTKWAGGA, SEBRA.
EQUUS QUAGGA.



on so many occasions seen human beings, after having incautiously climbed out of their cars, hastily skip back again, that it seems no longer credible that they do not recognise the occupants for what they are.

I am therefore now inclined to adopt the view that a lion draws a deep distinction between the same person when in a car and when out of it. It is rash to dogmatise about how animals may consider any given problem, because their

so goed hy kan in hande kry, en hy kan dit alleen regkry deur sulke ander diere wat binne sy bereik mag kom, te dood. Maar, tensy daartoe deur honger gedryf, hou hy hom by daardie diersoorte wat sy natuurlike voedsel vorm—naamlik die hoefdiere. In teenstelling met luiperds, sal leeus nie graag honde vreet nie, en hulle dood honde soos ook hiënas en jakkalse, uit ergenis wanneer hulle gesteur of gehinder word deur dié diere.



No. 62
NATAL-DUIKER.
NATAL DUIKER.
CEPHALOPHUS NATALENSIS.

Alleen in gebiede waar wild volkome uitgeroei of deur die mens ernstig uitgedun is, sal leeus wanhopig word en 'n onnatuurlike prooi, insluitende die mens self, sock. In normale omstandighede koester hy teenoor die mens 'n gevoel van vrees, en altans gedurende die dag sal leeus gewoonlik selfs 'n enkele menslike wese vermy.

Hul houding teenoor persone in motors is geheel anders; hulle staar hulle dromerig aan, en as hulle in die pad lê, is dit alleen met moeite dat hulle daartoe beweeg kan word om pad te gee vir die motor, wat hulle egter goed-gehumeurd sal doen as die motor stadig op sy koers voortgaan. Selfs 'n leeuwyfie met klein welpies, wat in die meeste ander gevalle buitengewoon gevaarlik sal wees om te nader, skyn glad nie verontrus te word deur die nabyheid van 'n voertuig vol opgewonde mans en vrouens nie.

Daar was 'n tyd toe ek oortuig daarvan was dat leeus nie 'n mens in 'n motor kan herken nie, wanneer slegs die helfte van sy liggaam sigbaar is en dan nogal in die skaduwee, terwyl die besondere kenmerkende reuk deur dié van die petrol uitgewis is. In die laaste tyd het ek redes gevind om my sienswyse te verander. Leeus is beslis van die mees intelligente onder die laer diersoorte, en hulle het al so dikwels die geleentheid gehad om in mense-oë te kyk, mensestemme van naby te hoor, en ongelukkig so baie keer mense gesien, wat onbedagsaam uit hul motors geklim en dan weer vinnig daarin terug gespring het, dat dit skyn of die opvatting dat hulle nie die insittendes as sulks, kan herken nie, nie langer kan aangeneem word nie.

minds work on a different plane from ours, nor perhaps do they see things exactly as we do—the eyes possibly conveying a different message to the brain. Yet at least one may hazard the opinion that never having been fired at or injured by people travelling in motor cars, they conclude that man, thus confined, is safe; but that the moment he steps out, he reverts to his natural function of being an actual or potential enemy, to be avoided or attacked as the emergency may dictate.



No. 63
BLACK WILDEBEEST.
SWARTWILDEBEES.
CONNOCHÆTES GNOU.

A tourist who hurriedly gets out of his or her car in the near vicinity of lions, whether to attempt a photographic snapshot or merely to display heroism, runs a far greater risk than were he or she, while walking along the road on foot, suddenly to encounter the same animals.

In the first case, the lions are surprised and alarmed by the rapid transformation of a neutral into an enemy. A frightened lion can be just as dangerous as an angry one—perhaps more so. He may believe himself cornered, his foe too close to allow of any escape. It is impossible to anticipate what he might or might not do on the impulse of the moment.

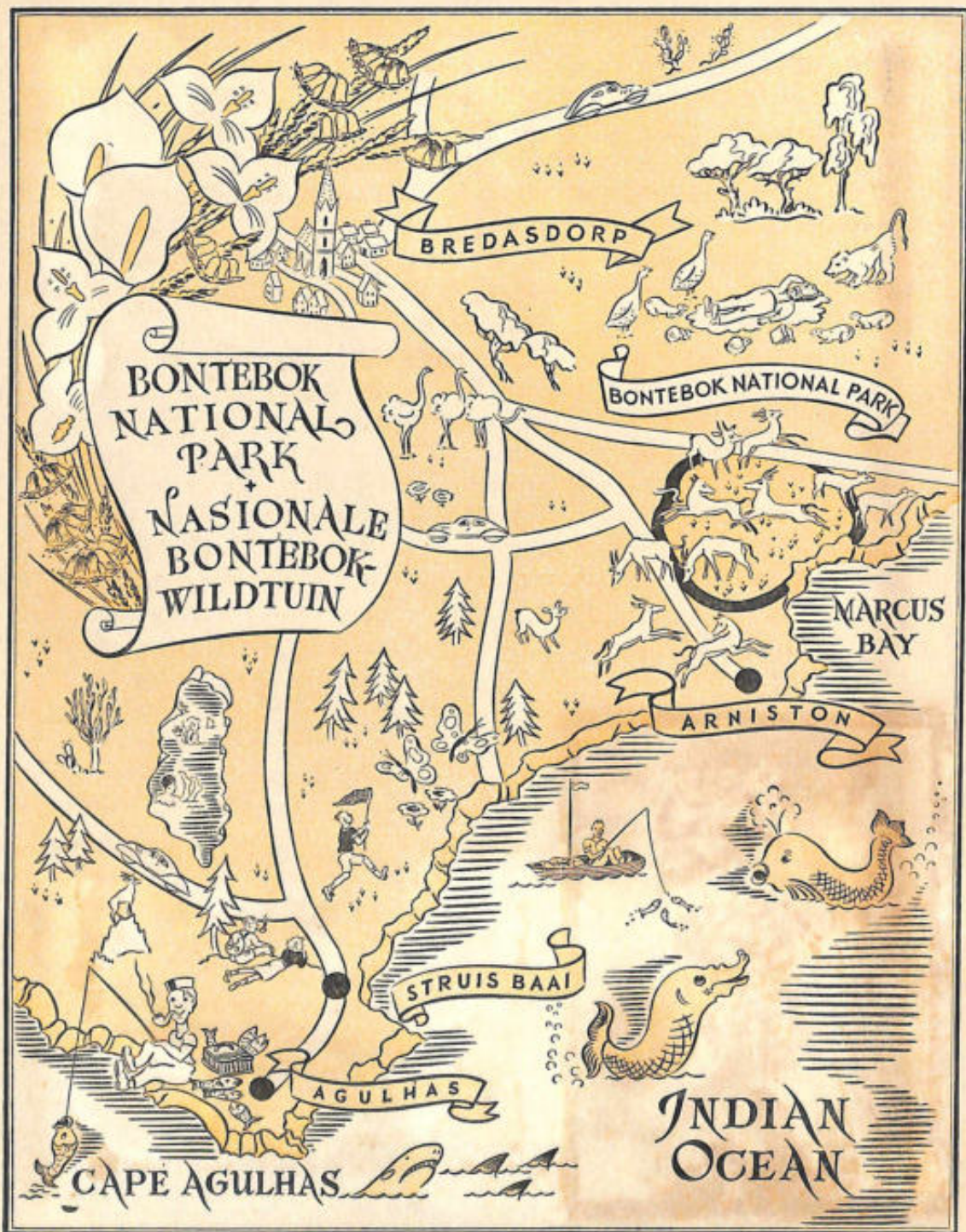
“Stay in your Car and Keep to the Road” are the terms of the notice prominently displayed along the roads; and printed on a label, attached to the windscreen of every car entering the Park, is an instruction, not the product of any innate malignancy on the part of the Board of Trustees, but designed solely in the interests of the visitors themselves.

To view lions, as all other wild animals, under the most favourable conditions, it is necessary not to alarm or hustle them. Every movement should be carried out quietly and without hurry. If you remain perfectly still within your car, once the animals have become accustomed to its presence, they will no more regard it than if it were a tree or an anthep, and you may be rewarded by seeing many curious incidents in the daily life of animals which would otherwise be denied you.



GIRAFFES IN THE KRUGER NATIONAL
PARK.

KAMEHELPERDE IN DIE NASIONALE
KRUGER-WILDTUIN.



Ek het dus nou tot die gevolgtrekking gekom dat 'n leeu 'n groot onderskeid maak tussen dieselfde persoon wanneer hy in die motor is en wanneer hy daaruit is. Dit is gewaagd om stellings neer te lê oor die vraag hoe diere op die een of ander vraagstuk sal reageer, omdat hul brein nie soos ons s'n werk nie, en miskien sien hulle ook nie dinge presies soos ons nie—hul oë stuur waarskynlik 'n ander boodskap aan die brein. 'n Mens kan miskien ten minste die mening waag dat aangesien daar nog nooit op hulle gevuur is of hulle gekwets is deur mense wat in motors reis nie, die leeus daarvan aflei dat die mens wanneer hy so beskut is, ongevaarlik is; maar dat hy op die oomblik dat hy uitklim, terugkeer tot sy natuurlike staat van werklike of potensiele vyandigheid, om vermy of aangeval te word, soos die geval mag vereis.

'n Toeris wat vinnig uit haar of sy motor in die nabyheid van leeus klim, hetsy met die doel om 'n kiekie te neem of bloot om dapperheid te toon, loop 'n baie groter risiko as wanneer hy of sy te voet langs die pad stap en skielik dieselfde diere raakloop.

In die eerste geval is die leeus verras en ontsteld weens die vinnige verandering van 'n neutrale voorwerp tot 'n vyand. 'n Verskrikte leeu kan net so gevaarlik as 'n kwaai wees—miskien meer so. Hy mag dink dat hy vasgekeer is en dat sy vyand te naby is om enige ontsnapping toe te laat. Dit is onmoontlik om vooraf te weet wat of wat hy nie onder die drang van die oomblik kan doen nie.

„Bly in u motor en bly in die pad” is die bewoording van die kennisgewings wat duidelik op al die paaie aangebring is; en op 'n etiket wat op die windskerm van elke motor geplak is wat die wildtuin binnegaan is instruksies gedruk wat nie die gevolg is van 'n ingebore kwaadwilligheid aan die kant van die raad van trustees nie, maar wat bloot in belang van die besoekers self opgestel is.

Om leeus, soos in die geval van alle ander wilde diere, in die gunstigste omstandighede te wil sien, is dit belangrik om hulle nie skrik te maak of te verja nie. Elke beweging moet stil en sonder haas uitgevoer word. As 'n mens heeltemal stil bly sit in die motor en die diere eers eenmaal gewoon geraak het aan die teen-

No. 64
KAAPSE KATOORUIL.
CAPE EAGLE OWL.
BUBO CAPENSIS.



It is instinctive in all predatory animals, great and small, to chase anything which is apparently running away from them, and the lion is no exception. This explains the common occurrence in the Park of lions—nearly always young animals—pursuing cars. They are bent on no harm; only playful and not “charging” as so many people like to imagine. A charge, when business is meant, is a very different affair. They run after cars on the same principle that a kitten runs after a ball of string. Being highly intelligent they like to investigate everything. If lions are running behind a car and the latter suddenly stops, it will be found that they will stop also, and sitting down on their haunches, will await the next move. Should the car still remain immobile, they will slowly get up and stroll away with a bored air, as though recognising that the game is over.

If on the other hand, when young lions are running behind a car, its pace is increased, they will naturally put it down to fear, and though they will quickly abandon the chase for the time being, the experience will make them more inclined to take liberties on another occasion, that they may have the fun of pursuing an object, which, at rest, has no interest for them.

Young lions at the adolescent stage are extremely playful and mischievous. When boreholes were being sunk in the Park they delighted to pick up and make off with the bags of shot employed in the work, and when these eventually burst open, to roll themselves about among the contents. They have been known to do the same things with bags of mealie

No. 65
SECRETARY BIRD.
SEKRETARISVOËL.
SAGITTARIUS SERPENTARIUS.



meal. Pots of cooked porridge left out are often broken, though whether or no the contents are sampled is uncertain.

In some cases, one regrets to have to say, visitors go out of their way to invite trouble for themselves and others. For instance, one man, impatient that a sleeping lioness would not rise and let him take her photograph, left his car and walked about ten paces towards her, and then hurled an empty beer

woordigheid daarvan, sal hulle geen groter belangstelling daarin toon asof dit 'n boom of 'n miershoop was nie, en u sal beloon word deur baie eienaardige insidente in die daaglikse lewe van diere gade te slaan, wat u anders nie te sien sou gekry het nie.

Alle roofdiere, groot en klein, agtervolg instinkmatig enigiets wat oënskynlik weghardloop van hulle af, en die leeu is geen uitsondering nie. Dit verklaar die alledaagse gebeurtenis in die wildtuin, naamlik dat leeus—byna altyd jong diere—motors agternasit. Hulle het geen slegte bedoelings nie; hulle is alleen spelerig en loop nie storm nie, soos baie mense hulle verbeel. 'n Werklike stormloop is heeltemal 'n ander saak. Hulle hardloop agter motors om dieselfde rede as wat 'n katjie agter 'n bolletjie tou hardloop. Aangesien hulle uiters intelligent is, wil hulle alles ondersoek. As leeus agter motors aan hardloop en laasgenoemde skielik stilhou, sal daar bemerk word dat die leeus ook sal stilhou en op hul hurke gaan sit om te sien wat nou gaan gebeur. As die motor nog steeds stil bly staan, sal hulle stadig opstaan en met 'n uitdrukking van verveling wegloop, asof hulle besef dat die spelletjie oor is.

Wanneer jong leeus inteendeel agter 'n motor aan hardloop en die pas daarvan versnel word, sal hulle dit natuurlik aan vrees toeskrywe; en alhoewel hulle gou die spel vir die oomblik sal laat vaar, sal die ondervinding hulle daartoe aanspoor om dit by 'n volgende geleentheid te herhaal, sodat hulle die genot kan smaak om 'n voorwerp te agtervolg, wat in sy rustende toestand geen belangstelling vir hulle inboesem nie.

Jong leeus is gewoonlik baie spelerig en ondeund. Toe boorgate in die wildtuin geboor is, het niks hulle meer plesier gegee nie as om die sakkies hael wat in verband met die werk gebruik word, op te tel en weg te dra, en toe die sakkies hael eindelijk geskeur het, het hulle tussen die haelkorrels rondgerol. Dit is bekend dat hulle dieselfde met sakkies mieliemeel gedoen het. Potte gekookte pap wat buitekant gelaat is, word dikwels gebreek, maar of die inhoud geproe word, is onseker.

Met leedwese moet 'n mens melding daarvan maak

No. 66
VAALRIBBOK.
VAAL RHEBOK.
PELEA CAPREOLUS.





No. 67
BATELEUR.
BERGHAAN.
TERATHOPHIUS ECAUDATUS.

more fatuous, and apparently for no other cause than to display his valour, insisted upon jumping out of his car and then making short rushes, combined with shouting and waving of arms, at an old lion lying over a kill near the road. Whenever the lion looked up and growled, the man fled; to resume the same tactics so soon as the animal had again quietly settled down.

Three men were once found standing on the steps of a car pelting some sleeping lions with oranges. In fact, one could go on quoting such instances indefinitely.

To make matters worse, the average visitor possesses but a limited capacity for distinguishing animals in the veld.

It is related of some people who had been standing in the road by their car taking photographs of lions a short distance down the road, that, on the development of the films, another lion, entirely unobserved at the time by any of the party, was found to have been lying behind a bush only a few yards away.

At Pretorius Kop, late one afternoon in 1938, a number of people were sitting in their cars watching some lions on a neighbouring koppie. Presently the driver of one, preparatory to moving on, got out to change his wheel. Everything seemed quite in order, as the lions were still at a considerable distance, though already beginning to move. Before detaching the spare wheel, he had first to remove the roll of bedding fastened to it. Having done so, he laid the bedding in the road behind him, and then proceeded

bottle at her. When the lioness, naturally indignant, sprang up and trotted a few paces in his direction, he fled headlong to his car. On visiting the spot later, and measuring the distances, I came to the conclusion that she could, had she so wished, easily have caught him long before he could have reached safety.

It is always inviting trouble to turn one's back on a dangerous wild animal.

Another person, even

dat besoekers in sommige gevalle uit hul pad gaan om moeilikheid vir hulself en ander op die hals te haal. Daar is byvoorbeeld die geval van 'n man wat, omdat hy ongeduldig geword het toe 'n slapende leeuwyfie nie wou opstaan en 'n kiekie van haar laat neem nie, sy motor verlaat en omtrent tien tree na haar toe geloop en 'n leë bierbottel na haar geslinger het. Toe die leeuwyfie boosaardig opvlieg en 'n paar tree na sy kant toe draf, laat nael die man na sy motor. Toe ek later die plek besoek en die afstande gemeet het, het dit duidelik geword dat die dier, indien sy dit verkies het, die man maklik, lank voordat hy veiligheid bereik het, kon gevang het.

'n Mens soek altyd moeilikheid as jy jou rug op 'n gevaarlike wilde dier draai.

In 'n ander geval het 'n persoon wat nog 'n groter sot was, blykbaar om geen ander rede nie as om sy kloekheid te toon, uit sy motor geklim en dan 'n ou leeu, wat naby die pad gelê en vreet het, telkemale storm geloop onderwyl hy skree en die arms swaai. Elke keer as die leeu opkyk en knor, vlug die man, om weer dieselfde staaltjie te herhaal sodra die dier weer rustig is.

Een maal is drie mans op die loopplank van 'n motor aangetref besig om slapende leeus met lemoene te bestook. Trouens, 'n mens kan voortgaan om talryke sulke gevalle op te noem.

Om die saak te vererger besit die gemiddelde besoeker slegs 'n beperkte vermoë om diere in die veld te onderskei.

Daar word vertel van 'n paar mense wat in die pad naby hul motor gestaan en kiekies van leeus 'n entjie verder af in die pad geneem het, en nadat die spoel ontwikkel is, is 'n ander leeu, van wie se nabyheid die geselskap volkome onbewus was, agter 'n bos slegs 'n paar tree verder aan bespeur.

Op Pretoriuskop, gedurende 'n laat namiddag in 1938, was 'n aantal mense besig om uit hul motors 'n klompie leeus op 'n naburige koppie gade te slaan. Een van die bestuurders besluit toe om sy een wiel om te ruil alvorens hy verder gaan. Dit het gelyk of alles in orde was, aangesien die leeus nog ver daarvandaan was, alhoewel

No. 68
WATERKOEDOE.
SITUTUNGA.
LIMNOTRAGUS SELOUSI.



to jack up the wheel. As he was in the act of doing this, Ranger Wolhuter happened to come up behind in his car, and at once noticing what no one else had observed, called out "Get into your car quick; don't you see the lion?" The man made a spring for his car, and simultaneously a lioness, which all the time had been lying behind a small bush within a few yards, also sprang. Fortunately the roll of blankets, and not the man, was her target, and having seized her prize she at once made off with it into the neighbouring long grass. For his part the driver, it is related, put his foot on the accelerator and attempted to drive off with a back wheel still jacked up. Next day the bedding was recovered but torn into shreds. No blame of course in this case attached to the driver of the car; but it serves to show how nothing in the veld should be taken for granted.

Anything in the way of "stunts" in regard to wild animals is forbidden in the Park, and no feeding of lions artificially, nor the throwing of things from cars at them, either for their amusement or annoyance, is permitted. People have to be forcibly saved from bringing possible trouble on themselves, and what is perhaps more important, upon fellow visitors.

It is a mistake to imagine that wild animals in their natural state can be taught to acquire more than a tolerance towards human beings, and it is essential that such tolerance should not degenerate into contempt. In this event a lion might see no reason for regarding a human being as being in any way different from the other animals that he is accustomed to regard as his natural

No. 69
ROCK DASSIE.
KLIPDASSIE.
PROCAVIA CAPENSIS.



prey. There are plenty of instances of this in the case of individual lions, which, at the beginning quite fortuitously, have become man-eaters. Therefore it is a proceeding fraught with future risk for others to try to play with dangerous wild beasts, however indifferent and good-natured they may appear to be.

Should lions ever render travelling in the Park dangerous, it will be due to the attitude of a small minority of unthinking people towards

hulle al begin loop het. Voor-
 dat hy die orige wiele kon
 afhaal, moes hy eers 'n rol
 beddegoed wat daaraan vas
 was, verwyder. Nadat hy dit
 gedoen het, het hy die bedde-
 goed in die pad agter hom
 neergesit en toe die wiel met
 die domkrag opgestoot.
 Onderwyl hy aan die gang
 was, het opsigter Wolhuter
 van agter in sy motor aangery
 gekom en onmiddellik bemerk
 wat geen ander persoon gesien
 het nie, en uitgeroep: „Klim
 gou in jou motor; sien jy
 nie die leeu nie?”

Die man het dadelik in sy motor gespring en gelyktydig
 het 'n leeuwyfie, wat al die tyd agter 'n klein bossie binne 'n paar tree daar-
 vandaan gelê het, ook gespring. Gelukkig was die bondel komberse, en nie
 die man nie, haar doel; en nadat sy haar prooi gegryp het, het sy dadelik in
 die lang gras daar naby verdwyn. Wat die bestuurder betref, so word vertel,
 het hy sy voet op die versneller gedruk en probeer wegry met die agterwiel
 nog op die domkrag. Die volgende dag is die beddegoed gevind, maar dit
 was aan flarde geskeur. Geen skuld rus natuurlik in hierdie geval op die be-
 bestuurder van die motor nie; maar dit dien om te bewys dat 'n mens in die veld
 nooit te gerus mag wees nie.

Alle „grappies” met wilde diere van die wildtuin is verbode en aan leeus
 mag nie kos aangebied word, of voorwerpe uit motors na hulle geslinger word
 nie, hetsy vir die pret of om hulle te terg. Mense moet deur dwang gered word
 uit moeilikheid wat hulle moontlik op hul eie halse of, wat miskien meer be-
 langrik is, op dié van andere kan haal.

Dit is 'n fout om te dink dat wilde diere in hul natuurlike staat daartoe
 gebring kan word om meer as slegs verdraagsaamheid teenoor mense aan te
 kweek, en dit is noodsaaklik dat sulke verdraagsaamheid nie toegelaat word
 om in minagting te ontaard nie. In hierdie geval kan dit gebeur dat 'n leeu
 geen rede kan sien waarom hy nie 'n mens as verskillend van ander diere wat
 hy gewoon is om as sy natuurlike voedsel aan te sien, hoef te beskou nie.
 Daar is talryke voorbeelde hiervan in die geval van individuele leeus, wat bloot
 deur toeval mensvreters geword het. Met die oog op die toekoms van ander



No. 70
 JAGLUIPERD.
 CHEETA.
 ACINONYX JUBATUS.

them, and if, in consequence, it should become necessary for the staff to give the lions a severe lesson, it would mean that for a considerable time one of the chief attractions of the Park to the public would be lost.

It takes a long time to teach a wild animal to have confidence in man; that desperate flight need not be the first reaction to his presence; but quite a short period is enough to re-introduce the element of profound fear which is so deeply rooted in them all.

In a country where they are accustomed to being hunted strenuously, lions are secretive by day, and often silent even at night, that their presence may be the less easy for hunters to detect. Under such conditions it is easy to realise that the travelling public would have but small hope of seeing anything of them.

It was certainly a happy event for the lion, did he but know it, that he should so have aroused benevolent popular interest as to be raised from his former lowly status of "dangerous vermin" to the position of being regarded, so long as he keeps himself within his recognised boundaries, as a valuable publicity asset to the country.

It is to be hoped he may not be induced to misuse his newly acquired importance.



No. 71
WHITE-FRONTED BEE EATER.
ROOIKEEL-BYVRETER.
MELITTOPHAGUS BULLOCKOIDES.

mense is dit dus uiters gevaarlik om mense toe te laat om met gevaarlike wilde diere te speel, ondanks hul ongeërgde en goedgeaarde voorkoms.

As leeus ooit besoeke aan die wildtuin gevaarlik vir reisigers sou maak, sou dit toe te skryf wees aan die optrede van 'n klein aantal onbedagsame mense teenoor hulle, en as dit dientengevolge vir die personeel noodsaaklik sou word om die leeus 'n goeie les te leer, sou dit beteken dat een van die vernaamste aantreklikhede van die wildtuin vir 'n aansienlike tyd vir die publiek verlore sou wees.

Dit duur 'n lang tyd om 'n wilde dier daartoe te bring om vertroue in 'n mens te kry, sodat wanhopige vlug nie meer die eerste uitwerking van die mens se verskyning sal wees nie; maar net 'n baie kort tydjie is genoeg om die element van diepgewortelde vrees wat in hulle almal teenwoordig is, weer tot uiting te bring.

In 'n land waar daar ywerig jag gemaak word op hulle, is leeus gedurende die dag uiters geheimsinnig, en is hulle selfs snags stil, sodat jagters nie maklik in staat kan wees om hul teenwoordigheid agter te kom nie. In sulke omstandighede is dit maklik om te besef dat die reisende publiek maar swak hoop het om enigiets van hulle te sien.

Dit was voorwaar 'n gelukkige oomblik vir die leeu, het hy dit maar geweet, toe hy tot so 'n mate die populêre belangstelling in homself gaande gemaak het dat hy van sy vorige onbenydenswaardige status van „gevaarlike ongedierte” verhef is tot die posisie waar hy as 'n waardevolle publisiteitsbate beskou word, mits hy homself binne sy erkende perke hou.

Daar word gehoop dat hy nie daartoe gedwing sal word om sy pas verworwe belangrikheid te misbruik nie.

No. 72
MAHEM.
CROWNED CRANE.
BALEARICA REGULORUM.



OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

Animals of the Kruger National Park

AFTER the lion, the hippo, the elephant and the giraffe appear to be the most popular animals ; but all of them rank a long way behind the so-called "king of beasts." One of the camp officers noted down the first enquiry made to him about animals by each succeeding tourist during a whole day. Seventy-five per cent. asked, "Where are the lions?"; fifteen per cent., "Shall we hear lions to-night?" and ten per cent., "Which is the way to the hippos?" Had it been in the elephant country the name of this animal might have been substituted for "hippo."

To tell the truth, the elephant is far more deserving of the royal title than the lion, which invariably gives way hastily in the presence of the huge pachyderm.

No. 73
CAPE DORMOUSE.
GEMSBOKMUIS.
GRAPHIURUS OCULARIS.



The intelligence of elephants is well known ; undoubtedly they possess considerable reasoning power, which shows itself in a multitude of ways. Their sense of sight and in some degree of hearing is deficient ; it is doubtful if an elephant can distinguish the exact nature even of a moving object at 30 yards ; on the other hand their sense of smell is extraordinarily acute.

Diere van die Kruger-Wildtuin

NA die leeu, skyn dit of die seekoei, die olifant en die kameelperd die populêrste diere is; maar almal van hulle staan baie ver agter vir die sogenaamde „koning van die diere”. Een van die kampbeampes het ’n aantekening gemaak van die eerste vraag in verband met diere wat elke agtereenvolgende toeris gedurende ’n hele dag aan hom gestel het. Vyf-en-sewentig persent het gevra: „Waar is die leeu?”, vyftien persent: „Sal ons vanaand leeu hoor?”, en tien persent het gevra: „Watter pad gaan na die seekoei?” Was dit in die olifantstreek, dan kon die naam van hierdie diere dié van die seekoei vervang het.

Om die waarheid te sê, is die olifant baie meer geregtig op die koninklike titel as die leeu, wat steeds sonder meer padgee vir die reusagtige dikvel.

Die intelligensie van olifante is bekend; hulle besit ongetwyfeld ’n aansienlike redeneringsvermoë, wat hom op baie maniere openbaar. Hul oë en tot ’n seker mate hul gehoor is onderontwikkeld; dit is twyfelagtig of ’n olifant die presiese aard selfs van ’n bewegende voorwerp op ’n afstand van 30 tree kan onderskei; aan die ander kant is hul reuk besonder goed ontwikkel.

No. 74
ROOIHARTBEES.
REDHARTEBEEST.
BUBALIS CAAMA.





No. 75
HEDGEHOG.
KRIMPVARKIE.
ÆTHECHINUS FRONTALIS.

ling down and destroying any stray notice that he happens to observe as he wanders along.

The large herds, containing the females and young, are shy and keep away from the roads; which is fortunate; since the former might react dangerously did they suspect any threat to their children.

Hippos occur in all the large rivers and in some of the smaller ones. If their haunts are visited from sunrise up to about 10 a.m. during cold winter mornings, they may often be seen out of the water, sunning themselves on the sand. At other times it is usual only to see their protruding heads or noses above the water. After nightfall they land, and seek their food among the reeds and grass bordering the rivers and water courses.

Giraffe are found only in acacia country in the Park where they twist off and chew the thorny twigs of these trees with great apparent enjoyment. That is why they are so rare north of the Olifants River, where the mopani predominates. Giraffe have steadily increased from a few score, 40 years ago, to thousands at the present time. They occasionally fall victims to lions, but their thick hide, great strength, and the deadly kicks they can deliver with both fore and hind legs, make them a dangerous form of prey to seek. Therefore they are to a great extent unmolested, and when they are attacked it is only a considerable pride of lions which ventures to do so.

Hyenas are sometimes seen and form objects of interest. They are mainly carrion and bone eaters, but will, when opportunity offers, attack and pull down any animal which from age or sickness is unable to escape or

In die Kruger-wildtuin het die ou bulle wat alleen of in groepe van twee of drie rondloop, besonder mak geword en bestee hulle skaars enige aandag aan die teenwoordigheid van motors. Hulle is soos al die meer intelligente wilde diere sowel nuuskierig as ondeund, en aan die einde van elke seisoen moet die padkennisgewingborde in die gebied wat hulle besoek, versamel en weggeberg word, aangesien 'n rondswerwende olifant selde of ooit die geleentheid laat verbygaan om enige sulke kennisgewing uit te pluk en te vernietig wanneer hy dit teenkom.

Die groot troppe waaronder die koeie en kalwers hulle bevind, is sku en bly weg van die paai af; dit is 'n geluk, aangesien eersgenoemde 'n gevaarlike houding kan inslaan indien hulle enige bedreiging van hul kinders vermoed.

Seekoeie word in al die groot riviere en in sommige van die kleineres aangetref. As ons hul woonstreke tussen sonop en omtrent 10 v.m. op koue winteroggende besoek, kan ons hulle dikwels uit die water aantref, besig om 'n sonbad op die sand te neem. Op ander tye kan gewoonlik slegs hul uitstekende koppe of neuse bokant die water bespeur word. Na dit donker geword het, kom hulle uit om hul voedsel tussen die riet en gras wat op die oewers van riviere en waterlope groei, te soek.

Kameelperde word slegs in die doringboomgebied van die wildtuin aangetref, waar die diere die doringagtige takkies van hierdie bome blykbaar met groot genot afbreek en kou. Dit is waarom hulle so skaars noord van die Olifantsrivier is, waar die mopani die vernaamste boomsoort is. Kameelperde het gestadig van 'n paar dosyn 40 jaar gelede tot duisende op die oomblik vermeerder. Hulle word somtyds die slagoffers van leeus, maar hul dik vel, geweldige krag en die dodelike skoppe wat hulle met voor- en agterpote kan gee, maak hulle 'n gevaarlike dier om as prooi uit te soek. Derhalwe bly hulle tot 'n groot mate ongemolesteerd, en wanneer hulle aangeval word, is dit alleen 'n taamlik groot getal leeus wat dit sal waag.

Hiënas word somtyds gesien en verwek belangstelling. Hulle teer meesal op aas en bene, maar hulle sal, as die

No. 76
BLOUAAP.
VERVET MONKEY.
CERCOPITHECUS ÆTHIOPS.



defend itself. Many an old lion or lioness comes to a dishonourable end in this way. Cowardly by nature, and slow in movement, hyenas are not feared by active and able-bodied animals. The usual hyena seen in the Park is the spotted form; but a rarer type, the brown hyena or strand-wolf, also exists in small numbers.

Visitors often confuse leopards with cheetahs; the latter are more frequently seen and distinguishable by their relatively small heads and long legs. The leopard is a much more heavily built creature, longer in body though standing a good deal lower in height.

Wild dogs are now and then encountered. They hunt in packs, and their markings are not unlike those of a tortoiseshell cat, with white-tipped tails and enormous ears. They are about the size of Alsatian dogs, though less heavily built.

Buffalos, despite their size and strength, are shy animals and prefer to keep away from the vicinity of the roads. They have increased from the 15 or 20 spared by the rinderpest in 1896, to some thousands to-day, and are well distributed all over the Park. They are inoffensive animals if not interfered with.

The Park contains 17 species of the antelope tribe, large and small, varying from the great eland to the tiny Natal duiker. Some, like wildebeest, are purely grazers; some, like kudu, purely browsers; others, the impala, for instance, favour a mixed diet.

For dignity of bearing a full-grown male sable, his shining coat a vivid contrast of black and white, and his magnificent horns curving far over his back, is hard to beat; though there are some who look on a big kudu bull as his equal, if not his superior. Certainly the kudu's bulk, and his remarkable spiral horns, give him a most impressive appearance, and it is interesting to note how, with these great horns laid flat back, he is able to dash at full speed and without apparent effort through the thickest bush.

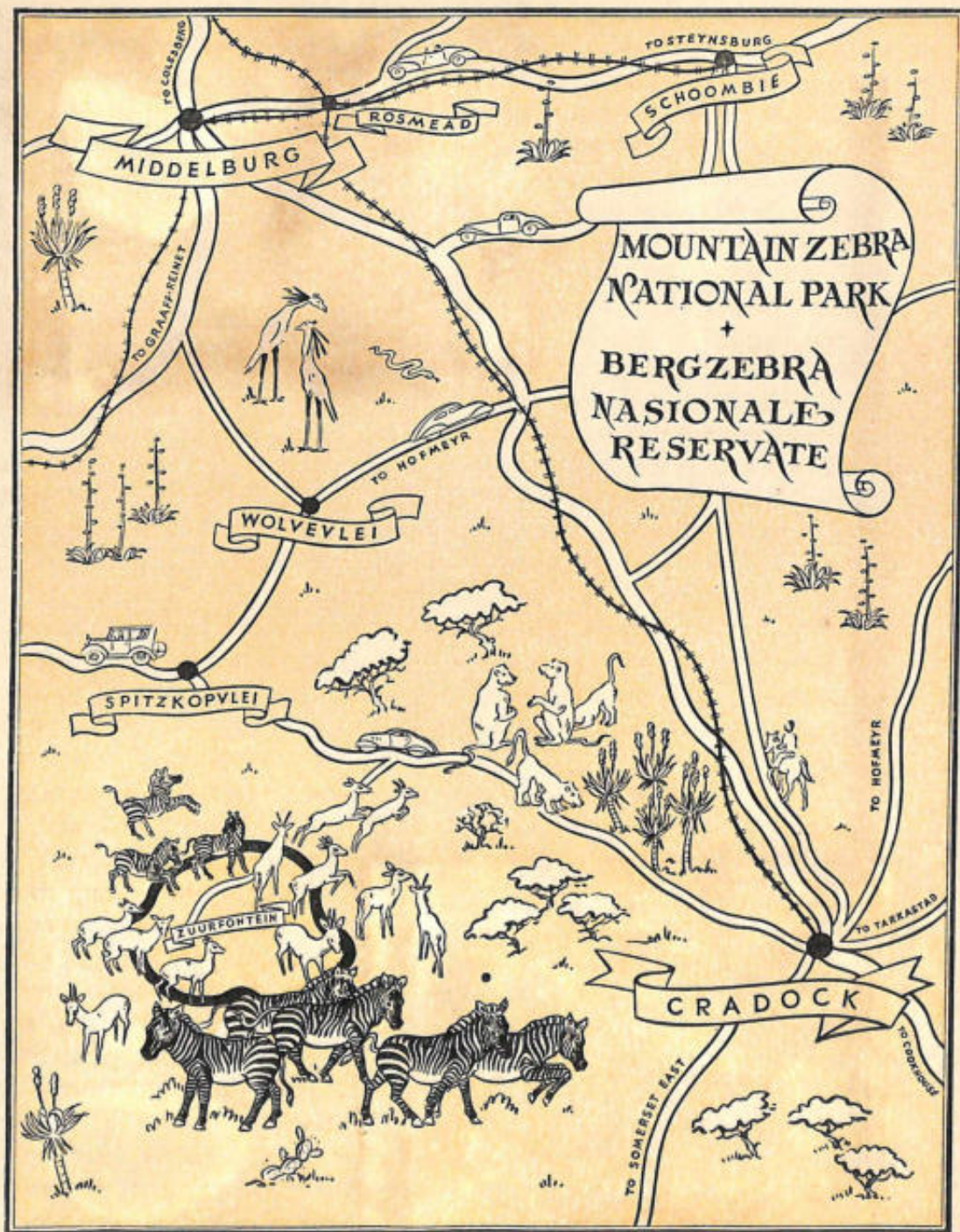
No. 77
BUSHBUCK.
BOSBOK.
TRAGELAPHUS SCRIPTUS.





HIPPOS ON A RIVER BANK.

SEEKOEIE OP 'N RIVIEROEWER.



geleentheid hom voordoen, enige dier aanval en neertrek as hy weens ouderdom of siekte nie daartoe in staat is om te ontvlug of om homself te verdedig nie. Menige ou leeu of leeuwyfie skiet op hierdie oneervolle manier die lewe in. Hiënas, wat lafhartig en traag van aard is, word nie deur ratse en kragvolle diere gevrees nie. Die gewone soort hiëna wat in die wildtuin aangetref word, is die gespikkelde; dog 'n skaarser soort, die bruin hiëna of strandwolf, is ook in klein getalle aanwesig.

Besoekers verwar dikwels luiperds met jagluiperds; laasgenoemde word meer dikwels gesien en kan uitgeken word deur hul betreklik klein koppe en lang bene. Die luiperd is 'n baie swaarder geboude dier, met 'n langer liggaam en heelwat laer op die grond.

Af en toe kom 'n mens wildehonde teë. Hulle jag in troppe en die merke op hul liggame verskil nie baie van dié van 'n gelerig-bont kat nie, en hulle besit witgepunte sterte en reuse-ore. Hulle is omtrent so groot soos wolfhonde maar nie so swaar gebou nie.

Ondanks hul grootte en krag, is buffels sku diere en vermy hulle liefs paaie. Hulle het toegeneem van die 15 of 20 wat oorgebly het van die runderpes van 1896, tot 'n paar duisend vandag en is oor die hele wildtuin versprei. Hulle is onskadelike diere as hulle nie gemolesteer word nie.

Die wildtuin bevat 17 soorte antilope, groot en klein, van die groot eland tot die klein Natal-duiker. Sommige, soos die wildebeeste, is bloot grasetende diere; sommige, soos die koedoe, is bloot knabbeldiere; ander, soos by voorbeeld die rooibok, verkies 'n gemengde diët.

No. 78
STRANDWOLF.
BROWN HYENA.
HYAENA BRUNNEA.



Vir 'n fiere voorkoms is 'n uitgegroeide swartwitpensbul, met sy blinkende huid wat 'n skerpe kontras van swart en wit vorm, en met sy pragtige horings wat ver oor sy rug buig, moeilik om te ewenaar; alhoewel daar sommige mense is wat 'n groot koedoebul as sy gelyke, indien nie sy meerdere nie, beskou. Die koedoe se grootte en sy merkwaardige, spiraalvormige horings verleen aan hom 'n indrukwekkende voorkoms, en dit is interessant om



No. 79
WHITE-FACED OWL.
WITWANG-OORUULTJIE.
OTUS LEUCOTIS.

away sharply towards the tail; and thus in bodily shape it rather resembles the deer family, of which its trotting action is also reminiscent. The coat is shaggy, and the hair round the neck so long as to form almost a ruff. As its name implies, this antelope is seldom found many miles from some pool or stream, and suffers greatly under drought conditions.

The tsessebe, a first cousin of the hartebeest, is an awkward looking creature, an impression belied by facts, for it is recognised as being the swiftest of all its tribe when really set going. The coat is a rich plum colour, varying in hue according to the light.

The blue wildebeest, so called to distinguish it from its relative, the nearly extinct wildebeest of the high-veld, is the most numerous of the larger antelopes existing in the Park. It prefers rather open bush country, and shuns dense bush and jungle. It consorts, preferably, in herds of up to 30 or 40 individuals, usually cows and immature animals, with an attendant herd bull; but old solitary males and considerable groups of young bachelors are common. Wildebeeste are queer freakish creatures and invariably take to flight with much tossing of heads, waving of tails, and violent shying off from imaginary obstacles. In the neighbourhood of Pretorius Kop, where long immunity has caused them entirely to disregard the presence of motor traffic, they may be seen lying down near the roadside, or grazing quietly, like cattle, within a few yards of it.

The handsome and rare nyala is a larger relative of the bushbuck, and is at present confined to the northern portions of the Park, although isolated

The roan antelope, though larger than its sable cousin, the largest in fact, next to the eland, of all the antelopes, carries much smaller horns; indeed these sometimes appear to be almost equalled in length by the enormous ears.

An impressive animal, too, is the male waterbuck. A good bull carries horns of over three feet in length. This animal differs from most of the larger antelopes in that its back does not slope

daarop te laat hoedat hy met hierdie groot horings, plat op die rug gedruk daartoe in staat is om in volle vaart en blykbaar sonder enige inspanning deur die dikste bosse te nael.

Die bastergemsbok, wat hoewel hy groter is as sy swartwitpensbroer, trouens die grootste, naas die eland, van al die antilope, besit baie kleiner horinkies; dit skyn of die horings bykans in grootte geëwenaar word deur die ontsaglike ore.

Ook 'n indrukwekkende dier is die waterbok. 'n Fris bul het horings meer as drie voet lank. Hierdie dier verskil van die meeste groter antilope daarin dat sy rug nie skerp na die stert toe wegdaal nie; en in die fatsoen van sy lyf gelyk hy dus op die hertfamilie, en sy drafgang herinner ons ook daaraan. Die vel is ruig en die hare om die nek is so lank dat dit feitlik 'n maan vorm. Soos van die naam afgelei kan word, word hierdie antilope selde of ooit ver van watgate of strome aangetref en kry baie swaar gedurende droogtes.

Die tsessebe, wat 'n noue verwant is van die hartbees, is 'n dier wat daar lomp uitsien, maar hierdie indruk is in stryd met die feite, aangesien hy in werklikheid een van die vinnigste van sy soort is as hy eers aan die hardloop is. Sy vel besit 'n ryke pruimkleur wat volgens die lig afwissel.

Die blouwildebees, wat so genoem word om hom van sy bloedverwant, die bykans uitgestorwe wildebees van die hoëveld te onderskei, is die talrykste van die groter antilope wat in die wildtuin aangetref word. Hy verkies eintlik 'n oop boswêreld en vermy digte ruigtes. Hulle trek rond in troppe van 30 of 40, gewoonlik koeie en jong diere en een bul; dog ou eenlopende bulle en taamlieke troppe jong bulletjies word dikwels aangetref. Wildebeeste is eenaardige diere, vol grille, en slaan altyd op die vlug met 'n geswaai van koppe, gepiets van sterte en 'n bokspringery om denkbeeldige hindernisse te ontwyk. In die nabyheid van Pretoriuskop waar langdurige veiligheid gemaak het dat hulle die teenwoordigheid van motorverkeer heeltemal veronagsaam, kan 'n mens hulle naby die pad sien lê of soos beeste binne 'n paar tree daarvandaan sien wei.

No. 80
LAMMERVANGER.
MARTIAL EAGLE.
POLEMAËTUS BELLICOSUS.



specimens have been noticed so far south as the Sabi River. Nyala are, unlike their bushbuck cousins, mainly diurnal in habit, and within their favourite haunts are readily seen by visitors.

By far the most numerous antelope in the Park is the impala. It is found wherever there exist any of the acacia scrub, whose leaves and fruit form an important constituent of its diet. Impala are among the most graceful of the antelopes; the rams carry handsome lyrate horns, and the leaping powers of the species must be seen to be believed. They frequently consort in immense herds of 200 or more, usually consisting of females and adolescents, with a sprinkling of adult males.

Of the smaller buck, the graceful steenbuck is the most often seen by visitors; but whenever the car passes a koppie, watch should be kept for a little compact form perched on the summit of an outstanding rock. If such is noticed it is worth while pausing for a few minutes, for this is the chamois of South Africa, the charming klipspringer. Within a few moments it will probably make an apparently effortless spring from where it stands on the point of some rock, which would appear hardly to afford foothold for a bird, right across a deep chasm, to land easily on another equally precarious perch. Sometimes in the late evenings or early mornings, klipspringers may be found feeding at some distance from their fastnesses, for which, when disturbed, they always make in a series of jerky bounds.

The warthog has the popular reputation of being the ugliest animal in Africa. Of course ugliness is a relative term, and, I think, generally implies

No. 81
CROCODILE.
KROKODIL.
CROCODILUS NILOTICUS.



a departure from ordinarily accepted standards of beauty. To this suggestion the warthog conforms; his long face, with its small eyes and the huge protuberances that grow from the former, do give him an unusual appearance; but personally I should prefer the term "strange" to that of "ugly." People are always amused to see warthogs moving off at their animated trot, each with its tail stiffly perpendicular, the tassel at the end forming an acute

Die pragtige en seldsame 'njala is 'n groter familiebetrekking van die bosbok en op die oomblik is hy tot die noordelike dele van die wildtuin beperk, alhoewel enkele bokke so ver suid as die Sabierivier aangetref is. In teenstelling met hul verwante, die bosbokke, wei 'njalas gewoonlik gedurende die dag en kan hulle geredelik deur besoekers in hul geliefkoosde weiplekke gesien word.



No. 82
VRUGTEVLERMUIS.
FRUIT BAT.
ROUSETTUS LEACHI.

Onder die antilope van die wildtuin is rooibokke by verre die talrykste. Hulle word aangetref oral waar daar doringbosse is, aangesien die blare en vrugte daarvan 'n belangrike deel van hul voedsel uitmaak. Rooibokke is onder die sierlikste antilope; die ramme besit pragtige, liervormige horings, en die reuse-spronge wat hierdie diere kan gee is bykans ongelooflik. Hulle skaar hulle saam in groot kuddes van zoo of meer, wat gewoonlik uit ooie en jong diere met hier en daar 'n ram bestaan.

Van die kleiner bokkies, word die sierlike steenbokkie die meeste deur besoekers gesien; maar wanneer die motor by 'n koppie verbygaan, moet 'n mens soek na 'n klein incengedrukte figuur wat op die top van 'n rots mag wees. As so 'n dier gesien word, is dit die moeite werd om 'n paar minute stil te hou, aangesien dit die bekoorlike klipspringer is. Binne enige oomblikke sal hy waarskynlik sonder inspanning 'n sprong maak van waar hy staan op die punt van die een of ander rots, wat skyn asof dit skaars staanplek vir 'n voël bied, reg oor 'n diep sloot, en maklik op 'n ewe gevaarlike rusplek beland. Somtyds kan klipspringers saans laat of vroeg in die oggend aangetref word onderwyl hulle wei, 'n ent ver van hul skuiplekke af, waarheen hulle, wanneer hulle gesteur word, met 'n reeks rukkerige spronge terugkeer.

Die vlakvark besit algemeen die naam dat hy die lelikste dier in Afrika is. Lelikeid is natuurlik 'n relatiewe term en ek dink dit beteken gewoonlik 'n afwyking van die algemeen aanvaarde standaard van aantreklikheid. Die vlakvark beantwoord beslis aan hierdie opvatting; sy lang gesig, met sy klein ogies en reuse-knobbels op die gesig gee hom beslis 'n buitengewone voorkoms; maar persoonlik sou ek die woord „eienaardig” bo lelik verkies. Mense

angle with the rest of the appendage. Warthogs are grass and root eaters, and do not harm crops. The same cannot be said of the other wild pig of the Park—the bushpig. This creature which, much more than the warthog, resembles in appearance and habit the ordinary pig, is a nocturnal animal, and therefore, though common enough, is seldom seen. It is largely omnivorous; eats roots, grass, cereals of all kinds, birds' eggs, and young animals if it can catch them. It is among the worst enemies of the farmer.

The zebras in the Park are the Chapman variety of the common Burchell zebra. They are distinguished from the Grant variety of the same species, found in East Africa, by brown "shadow" stripes between the alternate black and white markings, and are not always striped down to the fetlocks. They are rather shy animals on the whole, and do not readily accustom themselves to cars, possibly because, being great trekkers always in search of new pastures, they have had experience of firearms outside the Park. It is unusual to see a zebra in anything but the best bodily condition.

Baboons are well known all over South Africa, but everywhere outside the Park they have made themselves so unpopular by the damage they do to cultivated land, that they are completely outlawed, and thus there is much less opportunity for studying their domestic habits than in places where they are unmolested.

Like the other members of the Primate family, which includes Man himself, baboons have little sense of smell, thus differing profoundly from most other wild animals, which depend upon this faculty as their main line of defence or attack. On the other hand, baboons' senses of sight and hearing are amazingly acute, and they are by far the most intelligent of all the Park's wild animals. In fact, the longer one contemplates unobserved a band of them, each member going about its ordinary business unperturbed, the more one is struck by the essentially human traits appearing in their social life: the mother scolding or chastising her offspring, but protecting it from the wrath of the male parent,



No. 83
KNYSNA LOURIE.
KNYSNA-LOERIE.
TURACUS CORYTHAIX.

vind dit altyd amuserend om te sien hoedat vlakvarke met hul vinnige draffie weghardloop, elkeen met die stert regop in die lug en met die kwassie aan die punt wat 'n skerp hoek met die res van die liggaamsdeel vorm. Vlakvarke lewe van gras en wortels en beskadig nie oeste nie. Dieselfde kan nie van die ander wilde vark van die wildtuin die bosvark, gesê word nie. Hierdie dier, wat in 'n baie groter mate as die vlakvark in voorkoms en gewoontes met die gewone vark ooreenstem, is 'n nagtelike dier, en alhoewel hy talryk genoeg is, word hy selde of ooit gesien. Hy vreet byna alles—wortels, gras, alle soorte graan, voëleiers, en jong diere as hy hulle in hande kan kry. Hy is een van die grootste vyande van die boer.

Die sebras in die wildtuin is die Chapman-vertakking van die gewone Burchell-familie. Hulle verskil van die Grant-soort wat in Oos-Afrika aangetref word, weens hul bruin „skaduwee”-strepe wat tussen die afwisselende swart en wit strepe aangetref word en is nie altyd tot by die hoefgewrig gestreep nie. Oor die algemeen is hulle sku diere en raak hulle nie maklik aan motors gewoond nie, waarskynlik omdat, aangesien hulle altyd rondtrek om nuwe weiveld te soek, hulle ondervinding het van vuurwapens buitekant die wildtuin. Dit is iets buitengewoons om 'n sebra anders as in die beste kondisie te sien.

Bobbejane is dwarsdeur Suid-Afrika bekend, maar oral buitekant die wild-

No. 84
WILDEHOND.
WILD HUNTING DOG.
LYCAON PICTUS.



tuin het hulle hulself so onbemind gemaak weens die skade wat hulle in beboude grond aanrig, dat hulle heeltemaal voëlvry verklaar is en derhalwe is daar baie minder kans om hul gewoontes te bestudeer as in die geval van plekke waar hulle ongemolesteer leef.

Soos die ander lede van die primate-geslag, wat die mens self insluit, besit bobbejane swak reukorgane en verskil hulle dus baie van die meeste ander wilde diere, wat hulle grootliks hierop vir verdediging of aanval verlaat. Aan die ander kant kan bobbejane verbasend goed sien en hoor en hulle is beslis die mees intelligente van al die wilde diere van die wildtuin. Trouens, hoe langer 'n mens ongesien 'n klompie van hulle dophou, waar elkeen ongeërg sy gang gaan, hoe meer word 'n mens getref deur die beslis

rightly or wrongly incurred ; the squabbles between the juveniles ; the careful posting of look-outs, and the punishment of such sentries as are considered to have failed in their duty ; the co-ordination displayed when danger threatens ; the assistance given to companions injured or in trouble, and the determination never to take anything for granted where there seems the faintest hint of risk—all serve to rank the reasoning power of the baboon far above that of any other local animal, not excluding the elephant.

I would place, in the matter of general intelligence, the lion third on the list. They are cats, and possess in pursuit of their prey the crafty instincts of that family, but they also show a genius for co-operation and display certain mental attributes which we are accustomed to associate with dogs rather than with felines. For instance, in captivity they definitely become attached to certain persons they know, dislike others, and resent strangers ; they retain their memories of individuals as clearly as do dogs, and they are not naturally treacherous. Dr. Hornaday, for many years curator of the New York Zoological Park, gave it as his considered opinion that "the lion is the most dependable of all wild animals in captivity."

Predatory animals have necessarily to be more intelligent than the herbivora upon which they prey ; they must ever be exercising skill and craft to get the food necessary for keeping themselves alive, a task which to the vegetarian animals is a less arduous one, since their food, if sometimes scanty and difficult to find, at least does not evade them by flight and cunning. So the wits of the carnivora develop proportionately to their difficulties, and, generally speaking,

the more intelligent an animal is, the easier it will be to handle and deal with in captivity if taught sufficiently young.

Cheetahs especially are easy to domesticate ; leopards on the other hand are untrustworthy ; in them, indeed, the worst feline qualities seem more strongly developed than in any other cat.

Warthogs and bushpigs are intelligent and display a strong individualism in captivity.

No. 85
AMERICAN SQUIRREL (INTRODUCED).
AMERIKAANSE EEKHORINKIE (INGEVOER).
SCIURUS CAROLINENSIS.



menslike karaktertrekke wat in hul sosiale lewe weerspieël word. Die moeder wat haar kind uitskel of pak gee, maar hom van die gramskap van die vader beskerm wat hy hom, reg of verkeerd, op die hals gehaal het; die rusies onder die jongeres; die sorgvuldige uitsit van skildwagte en die straf van sulke skildwagte as daar beskou word dat hulle in hul pligte gefaal het; die samehorigheid wat geopenbaar word as die gevaar dreig; die hulp wat aan ander diere verleen word, wat beseer of in die moeilikheid is, en die vasberadenheid om altyd op die hoede te wees waar daar maar die geringste risiko kan wees—almal dien daartoe om die redeneervermoë van die bobbejaan ver bokant dié van enige ander plaaslike dier te stel, die olifant nie uitgesluit nie.

Wat betref algemene intelligensie, sou ek die leeu derde op die lys plaas. Hulle is katte, en openbaar die geslepe karaktertrekke van daardie familie wanneer hulle hul prooi agtervolg, dog hulle gee ook blyke van 'n sin vir samewerking, en openbaar sekere geesteshoedanighede wat ons gewoonlik meer by honde as by die katfamilie aantref. By voorbeeld, wanneer hulle gevange geneem is, raak hulle beslis geheg aan seker persone van wie hulle hou, het hulle 'n afkeer aan ander en verdra hulle nie vreemdelinge nie; hulle onthou persone so goed as honde en hulle is nie vals van geaardheid nie. Dr. Hornaday, vir baie jare kurator van die New Yorkse dieretuin, het die mening geuit dat „die leeu die betroubaarste van alle wilde diere in gevangenskap is”.

Die roofdiere moet noodwendig meer intelligent as die plantetende diere wees waarop hulle jag maak; hulle moet gedurig lis en geslepenheid beoefen om die voedsel te bekom om hulself aan die lewe te hou, 'n taak wat vir die plantetende diere minder moeilik is, aangesien hul voedsel, hoewel dit somtyds skaars en moeilik om te vind is, hulle ten minste nie probeer ontsnap deur te vlug of deur lis nie. Derhalwe ontwikkel die vernuf van die vleisetende diere in verhouding tot die moeilikhede waarmee hulle te kampe het, en oor die algemeen, hoe meer intelligent 'n dier is, hoe makliker is hy om te hanteer in 'n staat van gevangenskap, mits hy jonk genoeg geleer word.

No. 86
STINKMUISHOND.
STRIPED MUISHOND.
ICTONYX STRIATUS.





No. 87
BLUE DUIKER.
BLOUBOKKIE.
CEPHALOPHUS MONTICOLA.

know by instinct what are dangerous and what are safe places whereat to seek food and water. They fully understand the advantages of taking cover, and, under certain circumstances, of maintaining complete rigidity in face of an enemy. But beyond the exercise of the devices essential to preserve existence, to continue the species and to select the most nourishing food, the antelope tribe display few indications of what we might reasonably term intelligence.

The antelopes, as a race, have limited brain power, and outside the primitive instincts connected with food, sex, and safety, seem to possess little mental horizon. In captivity, they are often unreliable and dangerous, lacking, too, in any sense of discrimination between persons. This does not of course imply that under natural conditions they fall easy victims to their enemies. Quite the contrary. Their senses, especially that of scent, are abnormally acute, and they

Jagtiere is veral maklik om mak te maak ; luiperds, aan die ander kant, is onbetroubaar ; dit skyn werklik of die slegste eienskappe van die katfamilie sterker in hulle as in enige ander kat ontwikkel is.

Vlakvarke en bosvarke is intelligent en openbaar 'n sterk individualisme in gevangenskap.

Die antilope, as geheel, besit 'n beperkte breinkrag, en buitekant die primitiewe instinkte verbonde aan voedsel, geslagsdrang en veiligheid skyn dit of hulle intelligensie nie baie verder gaan nie. In 'n staat van gevangenskap is hulle dikwels onbetroubaar en gevaarlik en openbaar hulle 'n gebrek aan onderskeidingsvermoë tussen persone. Dit wil egter nie sê dat hulle in hul natuurlike staat maklike slagoffers van hul vyande is nie. Net die teenoorgestelde is die geval. Hul sintuie, veral dié van gehoor, is buitengewoon skerp ontwikkel en hulle weet instinkmatig op watter plekke dit gevaarlik en op watter plekke dit veilig is om voedsel en water te soek. Hulle verstaan die kuns om skuiling te soek goed, en hoe om in sekere omstandighede doodstil te staan in die teenwoordigheid van 'n vyand. Maar afgesien van die noodsaaklike funksies om sy voortbestaan te verseker, soos o.a. die soek na die voedsaamste voedselsoorte en die voortplanting van die ras, gee die antilope min aanduidings van wat redelikerwys as intelligensie bestempel kan word.

No. 88
YSTERVARK.
PORCUPINE.
HYSTRIX AFRICÆ-AUSTRALIS.



OUR SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS

Other National Parks and Sanctuaries of the Union

IN addition to the Kruger National Park, which is of course the best known, the National Parks Board controls four others within the Union. These are:— **The Kalahari National Park**, which is in extent about 3,600 square miles and lies some 250 miles north of Upington, along the eastern border of South-West Africa. It is still rather inaccessible and so is not open to the public, nor are there at present any residential or camping conveniences. Water is scarce, and is found only in the sand beds of the skirting rivers, the Auob and the Nossop, and by means of boreholes with attached windmills.

It has a resident staff of one white ranger and a few native assistants.

No. 89
SKUKUZA CAMP: COOKING PLACE.
SKUKUZA-RUSKAMP: KOOKPLEK.



This Park swarms with gemsbuck and springbuck, and there are besides considerable numbers of wildebeest, red hartebeest, eland, kudu and ostriches, besides small buck, and a few lions. No doubt when access becomes easier, this sanctuary has a great future before it.

The country consists of sand dunes clothed in light bush. Motor traffic is possible along the hard beds of the main rivers which skirt the Park.

ONS SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE WILDTUINE

Ander Nasionale Wildtuine en Beskermingsoorde in die Unie

BEHALWE die Nasionale Kruger-wildtuin, wat natuurlik die bekendste is, beheer die Nasionale Parkeraad vier ander in die Unie. Hulle is:— **Die Nasionale Kalahari-wildtuin** wat omtrent 3,600 vk. myl beslaan en sowat 250 myl noord van Upington langs die oostelike grens van Suidwes-Afrika aangetref word. Dit is nog tot 'n seker mate ontoeganklik en is dus nie oop vir die publiek nie, en daar is op die oomblik geen woon- of kampgeriewe nie. Water is skaars en word slegs in die sandlope van die aangrensende riviere, die Auob en die Nossop, en in boorgate met windpompe aangetref.

Die plaaslike personeel bestaan uit een blanke wildtuinopsigter en 'n paar naturelle-beamptes.

Die wildtuin wemel van gemsbokke en springbokke, en dan is daar groot getalle wildebeeste, rooihartbeeste, elande, koedoes en volstruise, klein bokkies en 'n paar leeus. Wanneer toegang daarheen makliker is, sal hierdie beskermingsoord ongetwyfeld 'n groot toekoms hê.

Die gebied bestaan uit sandduine, bedek met ligte bossies. Motorverkeer is moontlik op die harde beddings van die vernaamste riviere wat aan die wildtuin grens.

No. 90
SABI RIVER.
SABIE-RIVIER.





No. 91
SIDE-STRIPED JACKAL.
WITKWAJAKKALS.
CANIS ADUSTUS.

Until recently a considerable community of coloured people lived close to the eastern border of the Park in Bechuanaland territory; and it is only quite recently that, through the good offices of that Administration, the Park's Board of Trustees was able to arrange for their transfer to land more remote from the Park. Until this was accomplished the game suffered seriously from the activities of these people, many of whom seem to have been

professional hunters who made their living largely by the sale of hides and biltong, and who, moreover, were well armed with modern rifles.

Poaching by white men travelling to and from South-West Africa occasionally takes place; but control is rapidly tightening up. The interesting experiment has been tried of turning 300 camels, a gift from the Union Government, loose in the Park, which is country exactly suited to their habits; indeed camels form part of the transport of the local Park ranger.

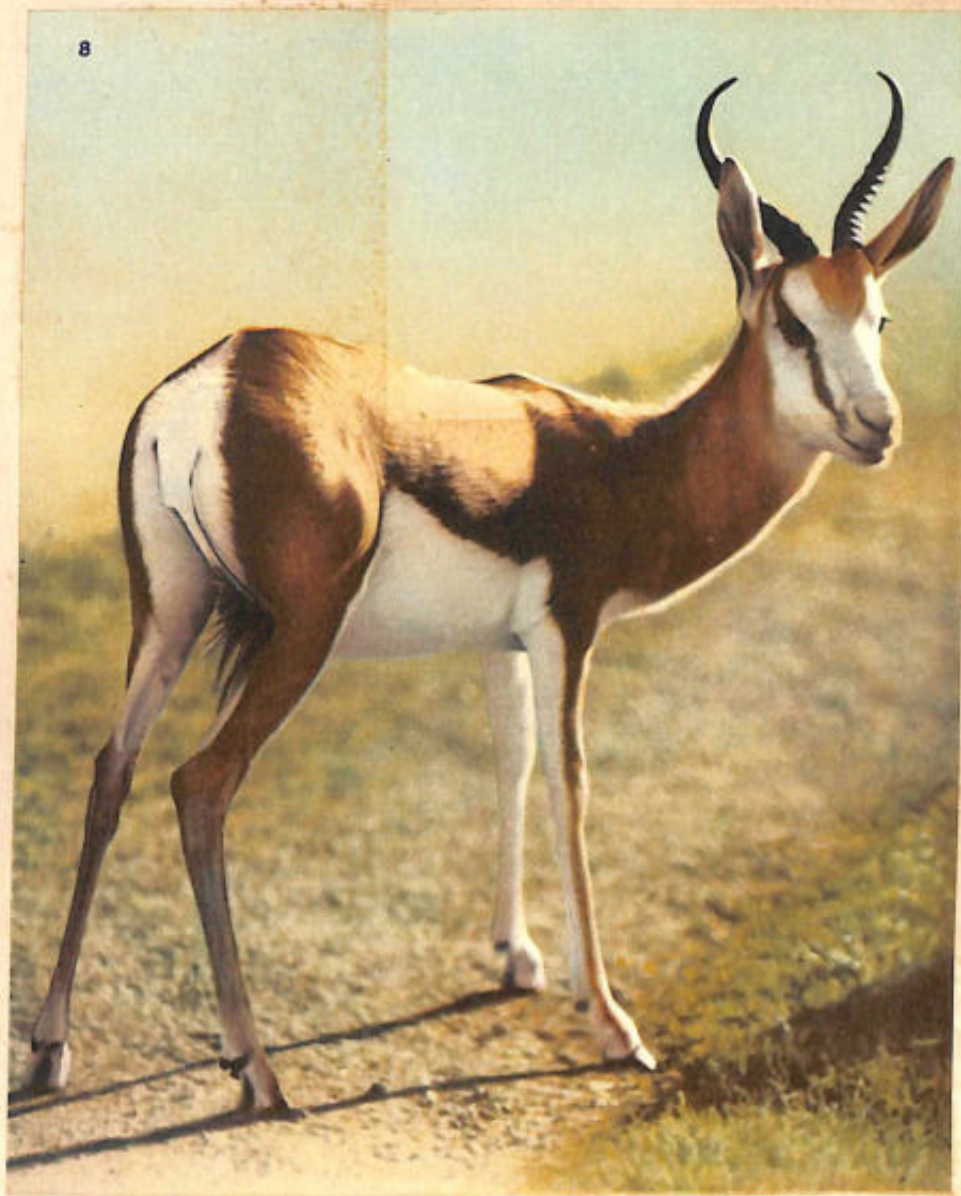
The Addo National Park is about 8,000 morgen in extent, and lies about 35 miles north of Port Elizabeth.

It is primarily designed for the preservation of the herd of elephants, now about 23 in number, which differ in size and in some minor respects from those found elsewhere. In addition, there are, in the dense bush which covers the whole area, a herd of about 200 buffalos, besides many small buck and bushpig.

There are facilities for visitors to visit the Park under certain necessary restrictions, and a ranger with a small staff of natives is in charge.

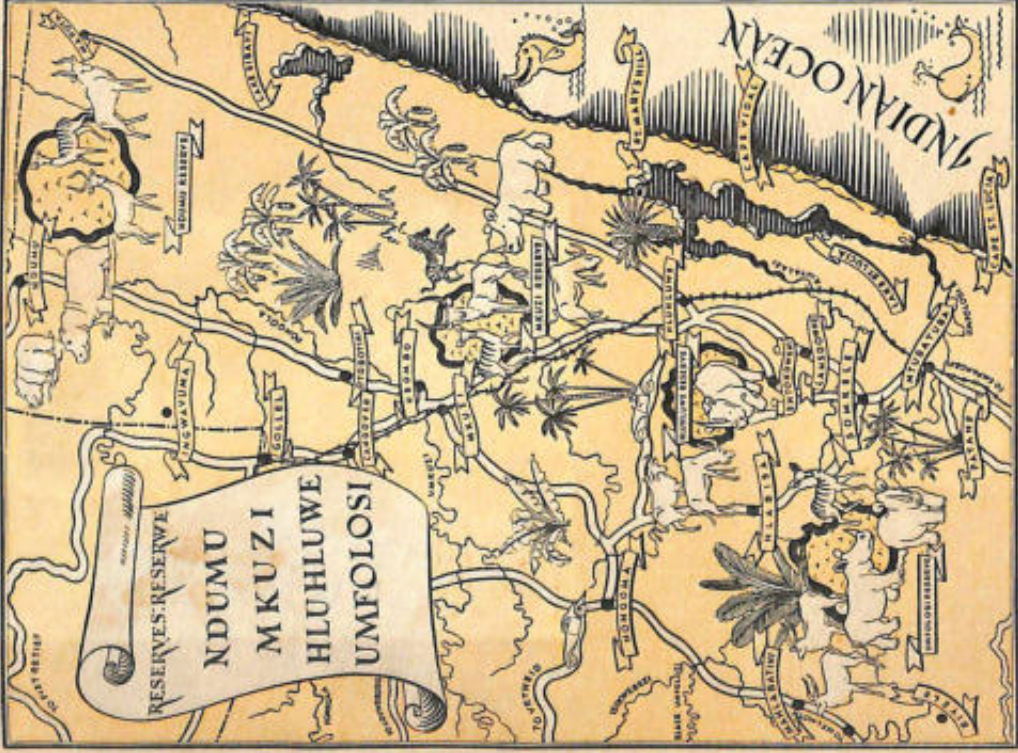
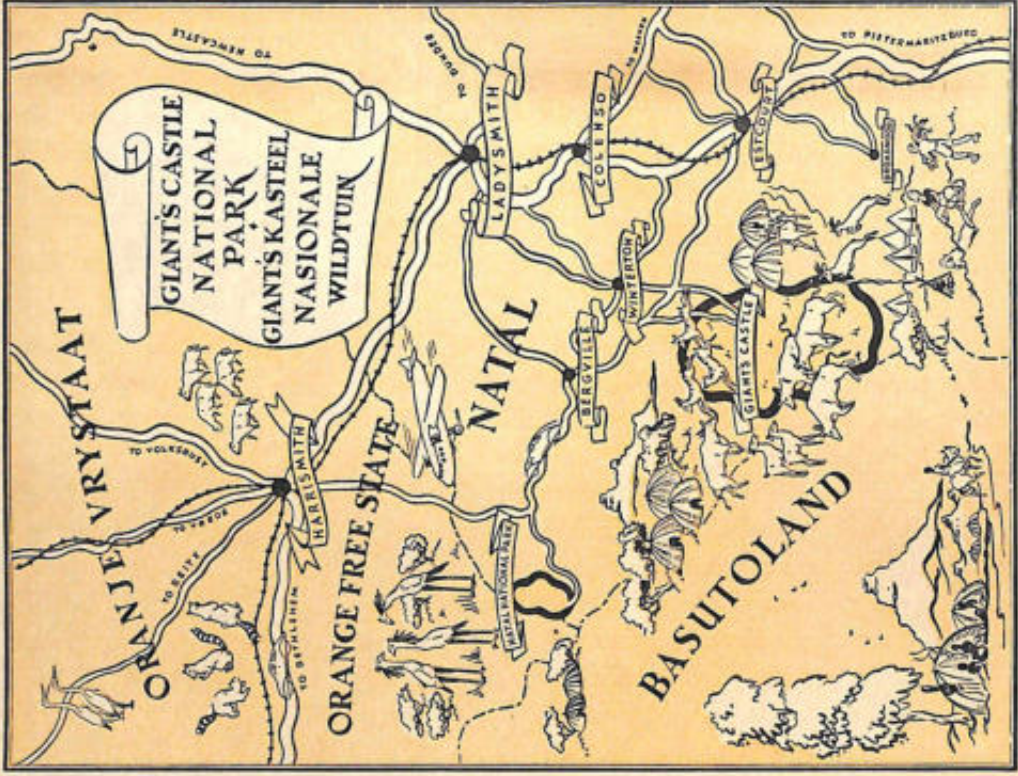
The elephants of the Addo had been preserved for many years by the Cape Government; but eventually they became too numerous for the area of the sanctuary, and used to wander all over the neighbouring farms, causing considerable damage and annoyance to resident agriculturists.

Eventually the nuisance became so great that in 1920 the Cape Provincial Council decided that the elephants must be destroyed. The services of Major Pretorius, the famous big game hunter, were obtained, and he was com-



SOUTH AFRICA'S EMBLEM,
THE SPRINGBOK.

SUID-AFRIKA SE EMBLEEM,
DIE SPRINGBOK.



Tot onlangs was daar 'n aansienlike nedersetting van kleurlinge dig naby die oostelike grens van die wildtuin in Betsjoanaland woonagtig; en danksy die welwillende dienste van die plaaslike administrasie is die wildtuin se raad van trustees daartoe in staat gestel om die verskuiwing van hierdie mense verder weg van die wildtuin af te onderneem. Totdat dit ten uitvoer gebring is, het die wild ernstig gely as gevolg van die bedrywighede van die kleurlinge, baie van wie blykbaar beroepsjagters was en 'n bestaan grotendeels gemaak het deur die verkoop van velle en biltong en wat boonop goed gewapen was met moderne gewere.

Die onwettige jag op wild deur blankes wat na en van Suidwes-Afrika reis, vind af en toe plaas; dog die beheer word vinnig strenger uitgevoer. 'n Interessante proefneming is onderneem, naamlik van 300 kamele, 'n geskenk van die Unie-regering, in die wildtuin te laat los loop, aangesien dit gebied is wat presies aan hul geaardheid beantwoord; trouens, kamele maak deel uit van die transport van die plaaslike wildtuinopsigter.

Die Nasionale Addo-wildtuin is omtrent 8,000 morg groot en lê omtrent 35 myl noord van Port Elizabeth.

Dit is hoofsaaklik daargestel vir die bewaring van die trop olifante wat nou omtrent 23 tel en wat in grootte en in sommige kleiner opsigte van dié wat elders gevind word, verskil. Boonop is daar in die dik bos wat die hele gebied dek, omtrent 200 buffels, behalwe klein bokkies en bosvarke.

Daar is geriewe vir besoekers aan die wildtuin, onderhewig aan sekere beperkings, en 'n wildtuinopsigter met 'n klein personeel natuurlike hou toesig daaroor.

Die olifante van die Addo is baie jare lank deur die Kaapse Regering beskerm; maar later het hulle te talryk vir die wildtuin geword en het hulle oor die omliggende plase begin swerf en aansienlike skade aangerig en 'n bron van ergenis vir die plaaslike boere geword.

Eindelik het dinge so onhoudbaar geword dat die Kaapse Provinsiale Raad in 1920 besluit het om die olifante te vernietig. Die dienste van majoor Pretorius, die beroemde

No. 92
TROUPAND.
ROLLER ("BLUE JAY").
CORACIAS SPATULATUS.



missioned to carry out the work of destruction. At that time there were over 100 elephants in the bush, but so successful was Major Pretorius that in a few months he had reduced them to about a dozen. By this time an agitation throughout the Union against the total elimination of this unique herd had gathered sufficient force to make itself felt by the Cape Administration. Moreover, the survivors had become so cunning and so savage through the long-continued massacre of their companions that even the intrepid Major Pretorius was obliged to exercise more caution than at the beginning of his enterprise.

Accordingly, when there were 12 elephants only left, a halt was called. By this time the animals had conceived so great a horror of their original habitat that, scattered as they had been by the shooting all over the surrounding country, they absolutely refused to return to the bush, and the old problem seemed likely to remain unsolved.

So matters went on unsatisfactorily until the formation of the Parks Board in 1926, when the Addo having been declared a National Park, the Board investigated various means of arriving at some satisfactory solution.

The first step was to provide adequate watering facilities. In the past, one of the chief reasons which induced the elephants to wander afield was that at certain times of the year absolutely no water existed in the Addo.

The Board, therefore, caused boreholes to be sunk, and erected on them windmills protected by strong iron rails against the elephants, and it was hoped that by such means the animals might be induced to return to their old

haunts. But elephants have such long memories that even the provision of good water had no effect. The animals still obstinately remained on the surrounding private farms.

Then the Board engaged as local ranger, Mr. S. H. Trollope, who had undergone several years' experience in the same capacity in the Kruger Park, and was, besides, a big game hunter of wide and varied experience. Mr. Trollope was given virtually *carte*

No. 93
SPRINGBOK.
SPRINGBOK.
ANTIDORCAS MARSUPIALIS.



grootwildjagter, is verkry, en dit is aan hom opgedra om die vernietigingswerk te onderneem. Op daardie tydstip was daar meer as 100 olifante in die bos, maar majoor Pretorius was so suksesvol dat hy hulle binne 'n paar maande tot omtrent 'n dosyn uitgedun het. Op hierdie tydstip is 'n veldtog dwarsdeur die Unie aan die gang gesit om die totale uitroeiing van hierdie unieke kudde olifante te voorkom en het dit genoeg invloed uitgeoefen om die Kaapse Administrasie gehoor te laat gee.



No. 94
SWARTKOP-REIER.
BLACK-HEADED HERON.
ARDEA MELANOCEPHALA.

Boonop het die agtergeblewenes so slu en so wreedaardig geword weens die voortdurende slagting in hul geleedere dat selfs die dapper majoor Pretorius daartoe genoodsaak is om meer versigtig te werk te gaan as aan die begin van sy onderneming.

Gevolgtik toe daar slegs 12 olifante oor was, is die uitroeiing stopgesit. Teen hierdie tyd is die diere so 'n vrees ingeboesem vir hul oorspronklike woonplek, dat aangesien hulle versprei is dwarsoor die omliggende gebied deur die knalle van die geweer, hulle absoluut geweier het om na die bos toe terug te keer en het dit geskyn of die ou vraagstuk onopgelos sou bly.

Sake het op hierdie onbevredigende wyse voortgegaan totdat die Parkeraad in 1926 tot stand gekom het, toe, nadat die Addo tot 'n Nasionale Wildtuin verklaar is, die raad verskeie metodes beproef het om tot 'n bevredigende oplossing te geraak.

Die eerste stap wat gedoen is, was om 'n genoegsame watervoorraad te verskaf. In die verlede was een van die vernaamste redes wat die olifante daartoe beweeg het om verder weg te trek die feit dat daar gedurende sekere tye van die jaar totaal geen water in die Addo te vinde was nie.

Die Raad het dus gate laat boor en windpompe laat aanbring wat deur sterk ystertralis teen die olifante beskerm is, en daar is gehoop dat die diere op hierdie manier daartoe sou beweeg word om na hul vorige woonplek terug te keer. Dog olifante besit so 'n goeie geheue dat selfs die verskaffing van goeie water geen uitwerking gehad het nie. Die diere was vasberade om op die omliggende private plase te bly.

blanche to drive the elephants back into the Addo Bush.

How he succeeded eventually would form a chapter in itself. It was a feat of amazing skill, perseverance and courage. The elephants were terrified, scattered, many of them savagely dangerous.

Mr. Trollope, having hired the services of a large number of natives, proceeded gradually and without unduly terrifying them, to drive the whole herd into one more or less restricted bit of country. He then proceeded to surround it on three sides, the bush itself forming the fourth. By day the circle slowly closed in, shots being fired in the air whenever any elephants tried to break back, and so terrified were they of the sound of firearms that a single report was quite sufficient to stampede them in the opposite direction. By night the natives of the "drive" slept where they were, lighting watch fires at frequent intervals and keeping a close vigil to guard against any night attempts by the elephants to escape.

Surprising as it may seem, in what was, under the circumstances, an astonishingly short space of time, Mr. Trollope got the whole herd back into the bush without a single casualty among his native staff, and at the cost of the death of only one elephant, a savage bull which Mr. Trollope had to shoot at only a few feet distance as it was in the act of charging him.

After the return of the elephants to the bush, Mr. Trollope adopted measures for keeping them confined within it which, during all the period he remained a ranger, were successful and satisfactory.

In later years, and after Mr. Trollope's resignation of his post, the water question again became serious. Some of the boreholes had gone dry, while the elephant herd had increased considerably in numbers. As a result the animals again began to break bounds, and within the last year or two the Board has been seriously concerned with the problem of the provision of further watering facilities.

It is to be hoped that a solution, satisfactory both to those who feel the



No. 95
LEGUAN.
LIKKEWAAN.
VARANUS NILOTICUS.

Die Raad het toe vir mnr. S. H. Trollope as plaaslike opsigter aangestel wat jare van ondervinding in dieselfde hoedanigheid in die Kruger-wildtuin opgedoen het, en wat boonop 'n grootwildjagter met rype ondervinding was. Mnr. Trollope het volle magtiging gekry om die olifante in die Addo-bos terug te dryf.

Hoe hy uiteindelik daarin geslaag het, sou 'n hoofstuk op sigself vorm. Dit was 'n taak wat ongeëwenaarde bekwaamheid, volharding en moed geëis het. Die olifante was verskrik, versprei, en baie van hulle was uiters gevaarlik.

Nadat mnr. Trollope 'n groot aantal naturelle gehuur het, het hy geleidelik en sonder om hulle te verskrik, weereens die hele trop na een min of meer beperkte deel gedryf. Toe het hy voortgegaan om dit aan drie kante te omsingel terwyl die bos self die vierde gevorm het. Gedurende die dag is die kring stadig nouer getrek, en is skote in die lug afgevuur sodra olifante geprobeer het om deur te breek, en so verskrik was hulle oor die knal van 'n geweer dat een enkele skoot genoeg was om hulle in die teenoorgestelde rigting te verdryf. Snags het die naturelle geslaap waar hulle was en binne kort afstande van mekaar vure aangesteek en goed opgepas dat die olifante nie snags sou probeer ontsnap nie.

Verbasend soos dit mag skyn, het mnr. Trollope binne 'n verbasende kort tyd daarin geslaag om die hele trop in die bos terug te dryf sonder 'n enkele ongeval onder sy naturelle, en ten koste slegs van een olifant, 'n wreedaardige bul, wat mnr. Trollope op 'n afstand van slegs 'n paar tree moes skiet, aangesien hy hom storm geloop het.

Nadat die olifante na die bos teruggekeer het, het mnr. Trollope maatreëls

No. 96
ERDVARK.
ANT BEAR.
ORYCTEROPUS CAFER.



getref om hulle daar te hou, wat gedurende die hele tydperk dat hy 'n opsigter gebly het, suksesvol en bevredigend geblyk het.

Later, en nadat mnr. Trollope sy bedanking ingedien het, het die watervraagstuk weer ernstig geword. Sommige van die boorgate het uitgeput geraak, en die olifante het aansienlik aangegroei. As 'n gevolg daarvan het die diere weer hul perke begin oorskry, en binne die afgelope

desirability, from a scientific and sentimental point of view, of preserving this unique herd, and to the often sorely-tried farmers of the vicinity, will be discovered.

The Bredasdorp Bontebuck National Park is a small sanctuary of 850 morgen lying 17 miles south of Bredasdorp.

Within it are some 100 of the nearly extinct bontebuck, together with a number of vaal rhebuck and some duiker.

The Park is fenced, and visitors are admitted to it on payment of 5s. per car. A road runs right round the area, and as the country is quite open, covered only with low scrub, visitors can easily see the animals from their cars.

The bontebuck is the extreme southern form of the better known and more numerous blesbuck, and is distinguished from the latter by its more brilliant colouring and the extensive white patches on the hindquarters. Its range was never extensive, and, largely in consequence of the open nature of the country which it favoured, it was quickly shot out, almost to the verge of extermination. In fact, had it not been for the public-spirited action of Messrs. Albertyn and van Breda, who strictly preserved small herds on their farms, there is no doubt that long years ago the bontebuck would have joined the quagga and the bluebuck in the list of "has beens."

Since the National Parks Board took over the care of the survivors they have increased more than threefold. In fact there is now fear that they may become too numerous for their limited extent of pasture and it has therefore been decided to keep the herd within a limit of 100 and to catch annually all

surplus animals alive for transfer to farmers desiring to re-stock their property, or to Zoos.

No. 97
BUSH-FIG.
BOSVARK.
POTAMOCHOERUS KOIROPOTAMUS.



The presence of the vaal rhebuck herd within this flat terrain covered with salt bush, its soil all soft sand, is rather a remarkable occurrence. The normal habitat of this species is the tops of high table-topped hills and it is seldom found far away from mountainous country. That this herd has become apparently quite reconciled to conditions

jaar of twee is die vraagstuk van verdere waterverskaffing ernstig deur die Raad oorweeg.

Daar word gehoop dat 'n oplossing, wat bevrediging sal gee aan diegene wat uit sowel 'n wetenskaplike as 'n sentimentele oogpunt die voortbestaan van hierdie unieke trop diere versekerd wil sien, en ook aan die boere in die omgewing wie se geduld ten uiterste op die proef gestel is, gevind sal word.

Die Bredasdorpse Nasionale Bontbok-wildtuin is 'n klein beskermingsoord van 850 morg wat 17 myl suid van Bredasdorp lê.

Daarbinne is ongeveer 100 bykans uitgestorwe bontbokkies, tesame met 'n aantal vaal ribbokke en enige duikers.

Die wildtuin is omhein en besoekers word daarin toegelaat na betaling van 5s. per motor. 'n Pad loop reg om die gebied, en aangesien die terrein sonder bosse is en slegs deur lae struikgewasse begroei word, kan besoekers die diere maklik vanuit hul motors sien.

Die bontbok is die mees suidelike vertakking van die meer bekende en talryker blesbok-familie en word van laasgenoemde onderskei deur sy opvallender kleure en die groot aantal wit kolle op die agterlyf. Hulle het nooit ver weg gedwaal nie en weens die gebrek aan bosse van die terrein waar hulle gewei het, is hulle bykans totaal uitgeroei. Trouens, dit is net te danke aan die grootmoedige handelwyse van die here Albertyn en Van Breda wat klein troppe op hul plase streng beskerm het, dat die bontbokke nie al jare gelede soos die kwagga en bloubok, diere van die verlede geword het nie.

Sedert die Nasionale Parkeraad die sorg van die oorgeblewenes op hulle

No. 98
GRONDEEKHORINKIE.
GROUND SQUIRREL.
GEOSCIURUS CAPENSIS.



geneem het, het hulle meer as driemaal vermeerder. Trouens, daar word gevrees dat hulle te talryk sal word vir hul beperkte weigebied, en daar is dus besluit om die trop binne die maksimum van 100 te hou en jaarliks alle surplus diere te vang en aan boere af te staan wat begerig is om van hulle op hul eiendom te hê of aan dieretuine.

Die teenwoordigheid van die vaal ribbokke op hierdie plat terrein wat bedek is met soutbos en waarvan die grond



No. 99
HONEY BADGER.
RATTEL.
MELLIVORA CAPENSIS.

far removed from those natural to it, goes to show the extraordinary adaptability of wild animals, provided food and water remain adequate, to conform to an environment quite foreign to that of their immediate forbears.

The Mountain Zebra National Park is provided for the preservation of the almost extinct Cape Mountain Zebra. It lies about 17 miles west of Cradock, and is in extent about 1,700 morgen.

Besides the zebra, this Park contains rooi rhebuck, klipspringer and duiker. It is not accessible nor open to the public at present, nor is it likely to be so unless and until the half-dozen or so of zebras, which were all the Board were able to save, have considerably increased in numbers.

The Cape Mountain Zebra is an entirely different animal from the common Burchell's Zebra, which in one form or another is found nearly all over Africa. It is smaller, more compact, its ears longer, and its striping of quite a different pattern. Its nearest relative is the Hartmann's Mountain Zebra, found in Damaraland and the Kaokaoveld of South-West Africa. This, however, is a much larger species, differing also in various characteristics from the typical form of the south, which, at long last, an attempt is now being made to rescue from complete disappearance. There are to-day in existence only a few scattered groups of these once numerous creatures: one small party in the above national park, and some others in isolated portions of the Cape Province. They are by nature shy and wild animals and are said sometimes to break fences and otherwise give excuses for their own destruction; excuses which, alas, where wild animals are in question, are never very difficult to find.

The above complete the list of national parks administered by the Board of Control.

The Natal Provincial Council maintains in Zululand four reserves, which, unlike national parks, exist only in virtue of a Government Proclamation in the *Gazette*, and do not therefore possess the stability which an Act of Parliament confers.

uit sagte sand bestaan, is 'n verdere merkwaardige verskynsel. Die normale woonplek van hierdie diere is die toppe van hoë plat heuwels en hulle word selde ver van bergagtige gebied aangetref. Dat hierdie diere hulle die toestand wat heeltemal in stryd is met dié van hul natuurlike omgewing, blykbaar laat welgeval, bewys die buitengewone aanpassingsvermoë van wilde diere, mits voldoende voedsel en water beskikbaar is, om 'n omgewing te aanvaar wat heeltemal vreemd is aan hul voorgeslagte.

Die Nasionale Wildtuin vir Bergsebras is in die lewe geroep om die bykans verdwene Kaapse bergsebra te beskerm. Dit lê omtrent 17 myl wes van Cradock en meet omtrent 1,700 morg. Behalwe sebras, bevat hierdie wildtuin rooi ribbokke, klipspringers en duikers.

Dit is op die oomblik nie toeganklik vir die publiek nie, en dit sal waarskynlik nie die geval wees nie, tensy die halfdosyn sebras wat die Raad in staat was om te red, aansienlik toegeneem het in getalle.

Die Kaapse bergsebra is 'n heeltemal ander dier as die gewone Burchell-sebra, wat in een of ander vorm bykans dwarsdeur Afrika aangetref word. Hy is kleiner, vaster van lyf, sy ore is langer, en sy strepe volg 'n ander patroon. Sy naaste bloedverwant is die Hartmann-bergsebra wat in Damaraland en die Kaokaoveld van Suidwes-Afrika aangetref word. Dit is egter 'n baie groter soort, wat ook in sekere opsigte van die tipiese vorm van die suide verskil, ten opsigte waarvan daar nou eindelijk getrag word om beskermingsmaatreëls te tref. Daar bestaan vandag selfs 'n paar verspreide groepe van hierdie eenmaal talryke diere; een klein aantal in die bogenoemde Nasionale Wildtuin en 'n klompie ander in afgeleë dele van die Kaapprovinsie. Van nature is hulle sku en wild en hulle breek somtyds omheinings en werk op ander maniere hul eie vernietiging in die hand; ekskuse waarvoor wat betref wilde diere, ongelukkig nie altyd moeilik is om te vind nie.

Bogenoemde voltooi die lys van Nasionale Wildtuine wat deur die Raad van Beheer geadministreer word.

Die Natalse Provinsiale Raad beskik in Zoeloeland oor vier reservate, wat in teenstelling met nasionale wildtuine, slegs

No. 100
PELIKAAN.
PELICAN.
PELECANUS ROSEUS.





No. 99
HONEY BADGER.
RATTEL.
MELLIVORA CAPENSIS.

far removed from those natural to it, goes to show the extraordinary adaptability of wild animals, provided food and water remain adequate, to conform to an environment quite foreign to that of their immediate forbears.

The Mountain Zebra National Park is provided for the preservation of the almost extinct Cape Mountain Zebra. It lies about 17 miles west of Cradock, and is in extent about 1,700 morgen.

Besides the zebra, this Park contains rooi rhebuck, klipspringer and duiker.

It is not accessible nor open to the public at present, nor is it likely to be so unless and until the half-dozen or so of zebras, which were all the Board were able to save, have considerably increased in numbers.

The Cape Mountain Zebra is an entirely different animal from the common Burchell's Zebra, which in one form or another is found nearly all over Africa. It is smaller, more compact, its ears longer, and its striping of quite a different pattern. Its nearest relative is the Hartmann's Mountain Zebra, found in Damaraland and the Kaokaoveld of South-West Africa. This, however, is a much larger species, differing also in various characteristics from the typical form of the south, which, at long last, an attempt is now being made to rescue from complete disappearance. There are to-day in existence only a few scattered groups of these once numerous creatures: one small party in the above national park, and some others in isolated portions of the Cape Province. They are by nature shy and wild animals and are said sometimes to break fences and otherwise give excuses for their own destruction; excuses which, alas, where wild animals are in question, are never very difficult to find.

The above complete the list of national parks administered by the Board of Control.

The Natal Provincial Council maintains in Zululand four reserves, which, unlike national parks, exist only in virtue of a Government Proclamation in the *Gazette*, and do not therefore possess the stability which an Act of Parliament confers.

uit sagte sand bestaan, is 'n verdere merkwaardige verskynsel. Die normale woonplek van hierdie diere is die toppe van hoë plat heuwels en hulle word selde ver van bergagtige gebied aangetref. Dat hierdie diere hulle die toestande wat heeltemal in stryd is met dié van hul natuurlike omgewing, blykbaar laat welgeval, bewys die buitengewone aanpassingsvermoë van wilde diere, mits voldoende voedsel en water beskikbaar is, om 'n omgewing te aanvaar wat heeltemal vreemd is aan hul voorgeslagte.

Die Nasionale Wildtuin vir Bergsebras is in die lewe geroep om die bykans verdwene Kaapse bergsebra te beskerm. Dit lê omtrent 17 myl wes van Cradock en meet omtrent 1,700 morg. Behalwe sebras, bevat hierdie wildtuin rooi ribbokke, klipspringers en duikers.

Dit is op die oomblik nie toeganklik vir die publiek nie, en dit sal waarskynlik nie die geval wees nie, tensy die halfdosyn sebras wat die Raad in staat was om te red, aansienlik toegeneem het in getalle.

Die Kaapse bergsebra is 'n heeltemal ander dier as die gewone Burchell-sebra, wat in een of ander vorm bykans dwarsdeur Afrika aangetref word. Hy is kleiner, vaster van lyf, sy ore is langer, en sy strepe volg 'n ander patroon. Sy naaste bloedverwant is die Hartmann-bergsebra wat in Damaraland en die Kaokaoveld van Suidwes-Afrika aangetref word. Dit is egter 'n baie groter soort, wat ook in sekere opsigte van die tipiese vorm van die suide verskil, ten opsigte waarvan daar nou eindelik getrag word om beskermingsmaatreëls te tref. Daar bestaan vandag selfs 'n paar verspreide groepe van hierdie eenmaal talryke diere; een klein aantal in die bogenoemde Nasionale Wildtuin en 'n klompie ander in afgeleë dele van die Kaapprovinsie. Van nature is hulle sku en wild en hulle breek somtyds omheinings en werk op ander maniere hul eie vernietiging in die hand; ekskuse waarvoor wat betref wilde diere, ongelukkig nie altyd moeilik is om te vind nie.

Bogenoemde voltooi die lys van Nasionale Wildtuine wat deur die Raad van Beheer geadministreer word.

Die Natalse Provinsiale Raad beskik in Zoeloeland oor vier reservate, wat in teenstelling met nasionale wildtuine, slegs

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They are the Hluluwe (17,500 morgen), the Umfolozi (31,000 morgen), the Mkuzi (35,500 morgen) and the Ndumu (12,000 morgen).

These reserves contain a large assortment of game: eland, buffalo, waterbuck, kudu, zebra, and wildebeest, nyala and impala, of the large types; but they owe their chief importance to being the last refuge of the white or square-lipped rhinoceros, a harmless, unwieldy creature which was spread all over South Africa to the Zambezi. In them also are still existing almost the last specimens of the black rhinoceros remaining in the Union.

It is satisfactory to know that under careful management both these interesting types are increasing.

The Zululand Game Reserves have had a chequered history. The presence of the tsetse fly and its association with game animals roused the hostility of the neighbouring farmers, who had suffered severe losses in stock. There ensued wholesale slaughter of animals, and at one time there seemed but little hope of the reserves surviving. However, wiser counsels eventually prevailed and in the Harris fly trap was found an effective means of reducing and perhaps ultimately of eliminating the scourge.

Natal, near Giant's Castle in the Drakensberg Mountains, contains a scenic National Park, in which are preserved a few eland and smaller antelope.

The Orange Free State Provincial Council supports an area of 20,000 morgen known as the Sommerville Estates, on which are preserved a large number of blesbuck and springbuck. A number of these are from time to time caught alive and sold to farmers and dealers.

Throughout the Union of South Africa a good deal of private wild life preservation is carried out, in some cases on a considerable scale, and over large tracts of country. The weak point of such private efforts is of course that they often do not outlast the life of their originator.

Generally speaking one may say that to-day a careful watch is being kept over the safety of such species as have so decreased in numbers as to be threatened with extinction unless specially guarded.



uit hoofde van 'n regeringsproklamasie in die *Staatskoerant* bestaan, en kan dus nie aanspraak maak op die stabiliteit wat 'n Wet van die Parlement verleen nie.

Hulle is die Hluhluwe (17,500 morg), die Umfolozi (31,000 morg), die Mkuzi (35,500 morg) en die Ndumu (12,000 morg).

Hierdie reservate bevat 'n groot verskeidenheid wild; elande, buffels, waterbokke, koedoes, sebras, wildebeeste, 'njalas en rooibokke van die grootste soorte; maar hulle verkry hul belangrikheid hoofsaaklik weens die feit dat hulle die laaste skuilplek van die wit of vierkantlippige renoster is, wat 'n onskadelike, lompe dier is wat oor die hele Suid-Afrika tot aan die Zambesie versprei was. Hier word ook feitlik die laaste eksemplare van die swart renoster aangetref wat nog in die Unie bestaan.

Dit is bevredigend om te verneem dat albei hierdie interessante tipes aan die vermeerder is.

Die Zoelolandse wildreservate het 'n wisselvallige verlede gehad. Die aanwesigheid van die tsetse-vlieg en sy verband met wilde diere het die naburige boere in die harnas teen hulle geja, aangesien hulle ernstige verlies aan vee gely het. 'n Grootseer skagting onder diere het gevolg, en op een tyd het dit geskyn of daar maar min hoop sou wees vir die voortbestaan van die reservate. 'n Meer verdraagsame sienswyse het egter eindelijk geseëvier en in die Harris-vlicëvanger is 'n doeltreffende metode gevind om die plaag te beheer en moontlik uiteindelik uit te roei.

In Natal, naby Giant's Castle in die Drakensberge, word 'n skouspelagtige nasionale wildtuin aangetref, waarin 'n paar eland en kleiner antilope beskerm word.

Die Oranje-Vrystaatse Provinsiale Raad beheer 'n gebied van 20,000 morg bekend as die Sommerville-landgoed, waarop 'n groot aantal blesbokke en springbokke beskerm word. 'n Klompie van hulle word van tyd tot tyd lewendig gevang en aan boere en handelaars verkoop. Dwarsdeur die Unie van Suid-Afrika word wilde diere deur private persone beskerm, en in sommige gevalle neem die beskermingsoorde groot stukke grond in beslag. Die swak punt in verband met sulke private pogings is natuurlik dat hulle dikwels nie langer as hul oprigters aan die lewe bly nie.

In die algemeen kan 'n mens daarop wys dat daar vandag baie sorg gedra word om toe te sien dat sodanige diersoorte wat tot so 'n mate verminder het as om met algehele uitroeijing bedreig te wees, spesiaal beskerm word.

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