



TANGANYIKA

**Annual Report**  
of the  
**Game Department**  
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J. H. Swynnerton

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securely. Three or four times the balance of the carcass was shifted until it was securely held to the Leopard's satisfaction. Meanwhile, the Lioness seemed to have decided that it was at a disadvantage and jumped to the ground. After a few moments it walked to a shady spot some fifty yards distant and after watching the Leopard it finally lay down and apparently went to sleep. The Leopard now seemed to believe that it had a good opportunity to remove the kill to a safer spot undetected. It carefully carried the gazelle down the tree and dragged it off in the direction of a larger tree close by, but it was immediately noticed by the Lioness and was chased back into the tree still carrying the "Tommy", only managing to save itself by a few feet. The Lioness now departed and the Leopard appeared to notice us for the first time. It came down the tree instantly and disappeared into the bush. We passed the same spot in the afternoon and noticed that the kill had been removed."

Major A. Russell sends in the following report:—"A small herd of Elephant, usually seven, very often come to the Meru Saw Mill in the evening and remain standing on the edge of the forest about 100 yards away, and listen, as if fascinated by the buzzing of the saws; the sawmill people and others enjoy watching them.

"On a line stretching roughly from Domberg to Ngongongare, including the Ngurdoto crater but excluding the Meru Forest Reserve, there are in my opinion about three hundred Elephant; one herd of about twenty has taken up more or less permanent residence in the Ngurdoto crater where they can be seen almost any time.

"Over the same area Rhino are very numerous and although it is extremely difficult to estimate their numbers, I think one thousand would be well inside the mark and they are definitely on the increase."

Dr. C. H. N. Jackson reports the following, which provides an interesting comparison with conditions twenty years ago:—

"At the end of June I went to Singida by way of the track going three miles past Katesh and then over Balangida Lahu. Here the herds of Zebra and Wildebeest and Grant's Gazelle seemed as abundant as twenty years before and Impala were common in the acacia woodland. I should mention that in 1942 and again in 1948 I visited the magnificent game country to the north-east of Balangida Lahu rising up to Gebog Hill (5,600 feet) on the edge of the miombo country south of Hanang and found the animals quite as abundant as in 1928. I think this region, being difficult of access, has been little disturbed. It is uninhabited but on my 1948 visit I found a party of Sandawe with Kongoni they had killed.

"Rhinos still occur in the blocks and on at least one occasion the aeroplane spraying insecticide at a low altitude was able to intervene in a chase when a Rhino threatened to end the career of one of the ground staff who was going hard for the highest ant hill he could see at hand.

One of the most notable gaps in the game country since my safaris in 1927-28 is of course the lovely Bereku Ridge country north of Kondoa. This was formerly the haunt of any number of Giraffe, Eland, Zebra, Roan, Kongoni, Busnbuk, Chauler's Reedbuck and Common Duiker, besides the odd Kihno. There were also Lesser kudu in these hills. The drastic tsetse clearings made in the war when sleeping sickness broke out at Babati on the main road and the inexorable pressure of population have combined to devastate this region."

Mr. du Preez sent the following report from North Mara District:—"My observations for the past year have been a great disappointment in that the game has decreased by at least two-thirds of the normal previous years. I studied and nursed several Roan herds and the largest number counted together was fifty-five bulls, cows and calves. A fortnight ago I took a party out and noticed that there were only one or two Roan together and they appeared very nervous, obviously hunted by poachers."

He goes on to say: "We set out at 6.30 a.m. the next morning with the object of photographing game. About a mile from our camp we saw the first Kihno. We approached to within about 100 yards of it and took photos while it was feeding. The animal was not in the least disturbed at the noise of the movie camera. . . . We saw another large herd of Buffalo; there were about four hundred in the herd, bulls, cows and calves. We drove up to them and I was most surprised to note how tame they were. There was not the least sign of them trying to charge in spite of the fact that there were small calves."

"It is hard to avoid a feeling of depression regarding the numbers of Lion in this area to-day as compared with 1917. Some sportsmen (so called) have, I know, been greedy when hunting in this area and have taken advantage of the four Lions allowed on a major licence which would account for the decrease. Local natives still report the Lions as numerous, but from my own observations I am unable to believe this."

"Very little game in the areas I visited and what there was cleared out of the country at sight or sound of a lorry. Tracks over the area made immediately after the rains seem to show that regular hunting has taken place over a very long period in areas away from the roads."

"X, who has just returned from Musoma, tells me that a new gold mine has been opened. . . . He says that every sort of game has now disappeared from the vicinity and that the car and lorry tracks leading into the bush everywhere have to be seen to be believed. Possibly therefore this is the cause of the depletion."

The following report was received from Mr. D. I. Ker:—"A point of interest concerns the possibility (I now believe a probability) of a new species of Kudu-like antelope in the Ugalla River area, a report of which was, I



"PRIDE OF BANAGI"

## REVENUE FROM GAME SOURCES DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS, 1941-1950

Source of Revenue	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total	Average per year 1941-50
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ivory ... ..	18,160	23,827	27,389	30,410	36,889	53,076	53,138	42,616	45,654	45,546	385,505	38,550.5
Rhino Horns ... ..	774	821	905	511	786	2,392	2,526	954	2,317	2,889	14,875	1,487.5
Hippo Teeth ... ..	62	76	151	228	300	686	484	209	276	346	2,818	281.8
Leopard Skins ... ..	19	2	43	803	603	1,240	668	617	1,358	992	6,345	634.5
Lion Skins ... ..	-	-	-	1	24	15	8	6	23	9	86	8.6
Cheetah Skins ... ..	-	-	1	-	5	33	1	2	10	5	57	5.7
Other Game Trophies ... ..	4	3	2	12	-	191	23	308	225	102	870	87.0
Live Animals ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	261	1,242	601	900	1,152	4,156	415.6
Game Licences... ..	1,284	1,244	1,811	1,963	3,211	10,080	8,734	11,749	17,752	22,235	80,063	8,006.3
Grand Total ... ..	20,303	25,973	30,302	42,928	41,618	67,974	66,824	57,062	68,515	73,276	494,775	49,477.5

## LEGISLATION

Appendix E

The following Government Notices affecting the Game Ordinance, 1940, appeared during the year:—

1. *Distinctive Marks for the Registration of Ivory and Rhinoceros Horns:* Government Notice No. 63 of 1950, adding "Gelia, GA"; Government Notice No. 146 of 1950, deleting "Buba, BH" and substituting "Yasulu, KS" and "Kibondo, KB".
2. *Protection of Animals:* Government Notice No. 116 of 1950, protecting Sable Antelope in Morogoro District.
3. *Revocation of a Game Reserve:* Government Notice No. 214 of 1950, revoking the Pare Game Reserve in Pare and Masai Districts.