

described in other studies where birds were known to have died of acute DDT poisoning, and analysis had shown that they contained more than a lethal dose of DDT. There were thirty-three different species among the 140 dead Hanover birds, including ground, bark, and tree-top feeders: they included fifty-five robins, fifteen chipping sparrows, and ten myrtle warblers. Many species affected were not present in Hanover on the spray dates. Population studies comparing designated areas in Hanover and Norwich produced some pertinent observations. By early June, Hanover areas showed that 70 to 79 per cent of the robins present four to six weeks before had disappeared; in Norwich only a small reduction was noted. During the nesting season some decline is to be expected, since birds sitting on nests would not be noted. At the same time, the ratio of total individuals of all species, Hanover : Norwich, declined from 1.5 : 1 in mid-April to 0.5 : 1 by 1st June. In other words, while in April there were 50 per cent more birds in Hanover areas than in Norwich, on 1st June there were 50 per cent fewer.

Thirteen species of game new to the parks of Uganda are certainly to be found, and seven others probably, in the new national park, the Kidepo, which was declared in March, 1962, but is not yet open to visitors. The

**A New
National Park
in Uganda**

thirteen include cheetah, klipspringer, zebra, and bat-eared fox, and among the seven are aardwolf, caracal, and greater kudu. The new park, which covers 486 square miles, is in north-west Karamoja on the Sudan border.

John Savidge, scientific officer to the Uganda National Parks, who has recently conducted an ecological survey there, writes about it in the annual report for 1962-63. The Kidepo basin lies at an altitude of between 3,000 and 4,000 feet; the hills which encircle it reach 6,000 feet and Morongole Mountain 9,000 feet. "With this abrupt change in altitude," he writes, "go marked changes in rainfall, soils, and vegetation. This variety is reflected by the contrasting plains and mountain scenery and in the spectacular spectrum of wild life." The most widespread and numerous species is Jackson's hartebeest. There are very few black rhino, which, he says, are threatened with extermination by poaching. The main problem of the area is its remoteness—it is 500 miles from Kampala—but there is one airstrip and a number of good airfield sites in the park.

The latest caribou problem, that of radioactive contamination of the caribou in Canada, Alaska, Scandinavia, and the U.S.S.R., was raised last year in the U.S. Senate by Alaska's Senator E. L. Bartlett, and the U.S.

**Research on
Radioactive
Caribou**

Public Health Service has made an initial grant of \$100,000 to the Arctic Health Research Center at Anchorage, Alaska, to start a permanent research programme. The problem which was described in ORX, April, 1963, was raised by Dr. William O. Pruitt, Jr.,

who worked with the Canadian Wildlife Service in the intensive study of barren-ground caribou started a few years ago, in an article in *The Beaver*. Both caribou and reindeer are "hot spots" in terms of contamination with radioactive material, primarily strontium-90 and cesium-137, the source