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# The Status of Northern Rhodesian Game

(Observations on the Mammals Scheduled Under  
the Game Ordinance)

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## Part 2

Part I of this authoritative treatise appeared in Vol. 6, No. 1 (pages 21—29) and dealt with some of the animals included on Schedule II, Part I. Animals on this Schedule are completely protected throughout the territory, and may not be killed except in genuine defence of life or property, or under the Governor's Licence, which is only issued in special cases for scientific collecting.

Except where the context otherwise demands, reference throughout is to Northern Rhodesia proper, and does not include Barotse Province.

### SCHEDULE II, Part 1 (Contd.)

#### 13. Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*)

OF the five living species of rhinoceros, the African Black Rhino is the one that survives in greatest numbers, even though rare or extinct in many parts of its former extensive range. In parts of Africa it is still fairly common. In Northern Rhodesia the specified areas wherein the species is totally protected are: the whole of the former Kaonde-Lunda Province; Mumbwa, Namwala and Petauke Districts. In the remainder of the territory one only is allowed on the Special Game Licence, on payment of £10 extra fees. As this extra fee is the same as for elephant, many prefer to take the latter as it is much easier and surely found than rhinoceros, and the value of the ivory is added incentive. Although no doubt a number are illegally killed in certain parts, there is reason to believe that the great decline in the species reported by Col. Pitman in 1934 has been arrested as far as possible.

In the Kafue National Park rhinoceros are known to occur in the Namwala portion in the south, and in the Kasempa portion in the north. Recent investigations in the Kasempa part of the Park have shown that a good deal more exist than has been previously supposed, and signs of them have been found in several parts. On three or four occasions the animals themselves have been seen, and while they are by no means plentiful it is hoped that the complete freedom from molestation which they now enjoy will prove beneficial to them.

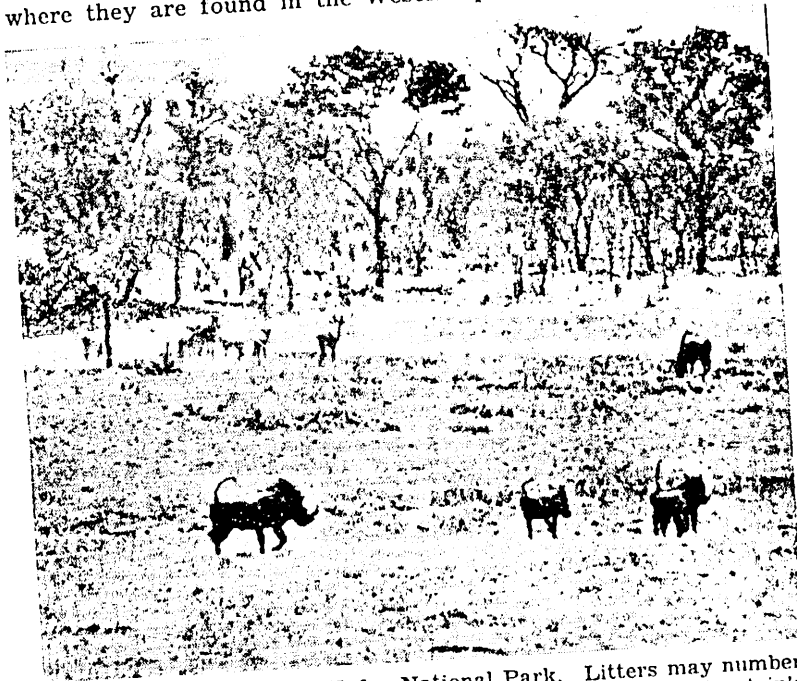
They occur too in the Lavushi Manda Game Reserve, but very

rarely, and are believed to be in a precarious position there. They have been recently re-discovered in the Mweru Marsh Game Reserve, in the very north of the territory. The Luangwa Valley, on both banks of the river, holds a fair number, and here they occur in the Luangwa Valley Game Reserves among other places. In 1949 a small but apparently thriving colony was found to be still living in Mumbwa District not very far from the Nambala Hills, where Col. Pitman reported them in 1934. The area of the Mafunshi and Luwembo Rivers, on the borders of the Kasempa and Ndola Districts are known to contain rhinoceros, though as the area is closed because of sleeping sickness no recent survey of their status there has been made.

These places are the main areas where rhinoceros still exist in Northern Rhodesia, though perhaps not the only ones.

#### 14. Tsessebe (*Damaliscus lunatus*)

This antelope is completely protected in the Northern and Central Provinces, where they exist in an isolated habitat in Mpika and Serenje Districts, along the south-eastern edge of the Bangweulu Swamps. They are quite isolated in this area, and the nearest others are to the right of the Zambezi River, where they are found in the Western part of Balovale, and in



A warthog family in the Kafue National Park. Litters may number as many as six. A solitary wildebeest and a group of Lichtenstein's Hartebeest are to be seen in the background.