



common duiker, blue and yellow-backed duikers, Sharpe's grysbok, situtunga including the rare spotted sub-species. A few zebra, warthog and wild pig exist. Bird life is abundant and this area includes some of the rarer game birds.

Numerous rare small rodents are also known to inhabit this Reserve. Pythons and the cobra family are very well represented, and crocodiles inhabit the larger and deeper streams.

The majority of the Reserve is, during certain seasons of the year, heavily waterlogged and in the past has never been settled in, or cultivated by the adjacent African tribes.

**FACING:** In this map (compiled by the Editor from a Government Survey Map kindly supplied by the Director of Game and Tsetse Control, N. Rhodesia), the stippled area indicates the Fort Rosebery Game Reserve. The parallel-shading along the course of the Luapula River constitutes the boundary between Northern Rhodesia and the Belgian Congo.

### Expedition to the Kaokoveld

Acknowledgment is due to Dr. B. Lundholm, one of the expedition's members, for the following notes.

**A**N expedition to the Kaokoveld — sponsored, organised and lead by Mr. Bernard Carp, of Cape Town — has recently returned to the Union. The expedition was undertaken in co-operation with the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, Kaffrarian Museum, King William's Town, and National Museum of Southern Rhodesia, Bulawayo, and was made for the purpose of collecting mammals, birds, insects, plants and ethnographical specimens. A considerable amount of interesting material will be brought to light when the collections have been scientifically studied.

Though the expedition was not particularly concerned with the collecting of big game, the present game position in the area was studied with keen interest. The whole area is at the same time a game and a Native reserve, a position of affairs which is not always very satisfactory, though in this case the Natives are few and not great game hunters and the fauna seems to be in a fairly undisturbed condition. As a result of two successive years of good rains there is plenty of grass and water in the area at present and the game is so scattered that no large concentrations were observed. It was of great interest to compare the present situation with that of 1935, when the late Capt. Shortridge visited the Kaokoveld and wrote his book on the Mammals of South West Africa; it was noted that several species have obviously increased, as for instance the giraffe and black rhinoceros.

The most impressive animals were without doubt the elephants, of which several small herds were actually seen, but whose

droppings and spoor were found over practically the whole area. These animals appeared to prefer the more mountainous parts and to avoid the flat country both to the east and west. Rhinos were also seen on several occasions and it was remarkable to find their spoor some 30 miles out in the Namib, while last year one was even seen at a small waterhole 8 miles from the sea among the coastal dunes.

In the Kaokoveld Hartmann's Mountain Zebra is still numerous and their paths through the mountains were to be seen everywhere. Burchell's Zebra was also seen in fair numbers on the flats, even far out in the Namib, where the grazing was still surprisingly good as a result of the good rains. Two Red Hartebeeste were observed in the Namib, just beyond the mountains, but it is not yet clear whether these belong to an isolated population or are connected with the nearest major group round Etoscha Pan. It is of considerable interest to record that the rare dikdik is still fairly common in some parts of the country. Along the Cunene River the Black-faced Impala was very abundant and has been recorded from near Ohopoho, about 80 miles to the south.

The expedition made a special effort to investigate the persistent rumours of the occurrence of Square-lipped Rhinos in the area, but with only negative results; it was, however, observed that the country seems to be far too hilly and thus unsuitable as a good terrain for these animals.

Reports about the occurrence of the true Quagga were also carefully investigated, but, with one exception, these reports proved to have been based on Mountain Zebra when seen in a certain light which obscured the stripes. The one exception was a report given by Hottentots at Zesfontein, where the one and only description of a true Quagga was made with remarkable accuracy. There is thus a slight possibility that there may be a few of these Quaggas still surviving in this area. The expedition actually traversed the area where these Quaggas are supposed to have been seen, but in fact saw very few signs of any kind of game let alone Quagga, and it is felt that the chances of finding such are extremely remote.

### Duplicating Film

THE attention of members is drawn to the fact that the Society is now making arrangements for the duplicating of films, and it is hoped that, by this means, a much-needed Film Library will soon be built up. All who have the welfare of the Society at heart are requested to submit suitable wild life films to headquarters, so that duplicate shots or copies can be made. Every possible care will be taken with all films submitted.

## Extracts from Third Report of the Natal Parks Game and Fish Preservation Board

(For the period 1st April, 1950, to 31st March, 1951)

**Ndumu Game Reserve.**—It seems probable that Natal's last remaining small herd of elephant have now taken up residence in the Sihangwane Forest, and it is to be hoped that they may find permanent sanctuary there. During the year five of these pachyderms wandered as far south as Mkuzi, and returned to their habitat without causing annoyance or damage.

**St. Lucia Estuary.**—As in previous years there has been some mortality among hippos throughout the St. Lucia Game Reserve, and it is invariably found that bulls are concerned and that death has resulted from injuries sustained in fighting. These fights between bull hippos often result in many grievous wounds to one or other contestant, even to the extent of broken legs or shoulders.

**Umfolozi Game Reserve.**—Several Square-lipped Rhinos have died from various causes and it is evident that a number of yearly losses is to be expected with this species, although the same cannot be said so far as the Black Rhinoceros is concerned. One unusual death during September was caused by a fall over a krantz which resulted in the animal breaking its jaw and two of its legs.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ZULULAND RESERVES

**Delegorgue's Pigeon.**—An example of this rare bird was watched at close quarters by Captain Potter in the Hluhluwe Reserve, and it is of interest that it is the only time the species has been recorded there in over 20 years.

**Rhino Dislikes.**—Intense dislike would seem evident on the part of both species of rhino for any non-indigenous plant, shrub or article. A Black Rhino which entered the Chief Conservator's garden on numerous occasions persistently destroyed oleanders, tree dahlias and other exotic shrubs. In one night the animal flattened six out of seven Chinese Guava trees, but on all occasions indigenous trees and shrubs were left undisturbed.

In the Umfolozi Reserve, where at one time processed timber poles were being used, the Square-lipped Rhino made a regular habit of dispersing the stacks of treated timber, some poles being found up to fifty yards from the pile with horn marks clearly evident.

**Giant Rat.**—This rare animal, *Cricetomys gambianus*, a large coarse-haired rat with an overall length of just on three feet, was noticed by the Secretary in the Hluhluwe Reserve, he having been familiar with it in the Namuli Mountains in Northern Portuguese East Africa. Few examples have been