





*Black rhino bull breaking off charge.*

Capt. J. L. Shenton, M.C

At Mtubatuba there is a first-class aerodrome and visitors by air and rail can arrange for private taxis to pick them up there and take them to the Reserve, about 30 miles distant. There is an excellent hotel at Mtubatuba and one at St. Lucia, 18 miles away; visitors frequently stay at these hotels and spend the day in the Reserve. This course is also often followed by visitors to the Creek Rest Huts and campers at False Bay Camp, distant respectively 45 and 32 miles from the Reserve and both under the control of the Game Conservator.

**Facilities for Visitors** No official transport is available, but visitors coming by train can be met by arrangement at Mtubatuba and brought to the Reserve if they wish to spend their time in resting or walking or rambling in the Reserve. Because there are no lions visitors are permitted to walk at will in the Reserve but generally should be advised by the Game Conservator and be accompanied by an experienced person or a game guard in case of a chance encounter with a rhinoceros. Ticks are always present in the summer months and if the beaten tracks are left an odd snake or two may be met, although generally speaking snakes are not plentiful in the area.

The topography of the country varies from typical lowveld thorn country to semi-mountainous areas at the rest huts and their surroundings which are 1,500 feet above sea level. Here the hills are clothed with true rain forest of extreme density. The altitude of the rest huts makes it possible to keep the Reserve open the whole year round, there being no risk of malaria even

in the hottest months; in fact, even in such periods, blankets at night are usually called for.

The rest huts are of two types and comprise the cottages which cater for family parties and provide a living room, two bedrooms (four beds in each), a kitchen, pantry and bathroom. The second type is the rondavel style which can hold two or three beds and has communal cooking and ablution facilities. In all cases bedding, linen, cutlery and cooking utensils are provided; also a Native servant who can do plain cooking. Visitors must provide their own food; this is important as there is no store or restaurant in camp. Excellent stores are at Mtubatuba and failing supplies from elsewhere a stock of foodstuffs should be obtained there. The camp is provided with hot and cold water and electric light, and petrol can be obtained.

The two essential facts visitors should bear in mind are: (1) Before beginning the journey, communicate with the Game Conservator by letter at P.O. Box 25, Mtubatuba, Zululand, or by telegram or telephone to Mhluwe Game Reserve, Mtubatuba, and (2) bring all food and photographic materials you may require.

The daily charges are 6s. a night for each adult; children between the ages of 5 and 16 years 3s. a night; children under five years free. Game guards cost 3s. a day or part thereof for each party.

There is a communal lounge and reading room for which no charge is made. Camping in the Reserve is not permitted but visitors may picnic at suitable spots.

**Many Species of Animals** The animals likely to be encountered range from the tiny Livingstone Antelope in the rain forest to the buffalo and rhino which range the whole Reserve; those most commonly seen include zebra, blue wildebeeste, waterbuck, koodoo, nyala, impala, bushbuck, reedbuck, mountain reedbuck, duiker, warthog, baboons and vervet monkeys. There are present some leopards, hyena, bushpig, cheetahs, red cats, wild cats and mongoose of various kinds, and also the honey ratel and antbear, all of which are nocturnal except the ratel, which may be met at any time and is best avoided.

H. B. POTTER Capt. C.M.Z.S.  
Game Conservator, Zululand.

S.A.R. & H.

*The Rest Huts at Mtubatuba*

