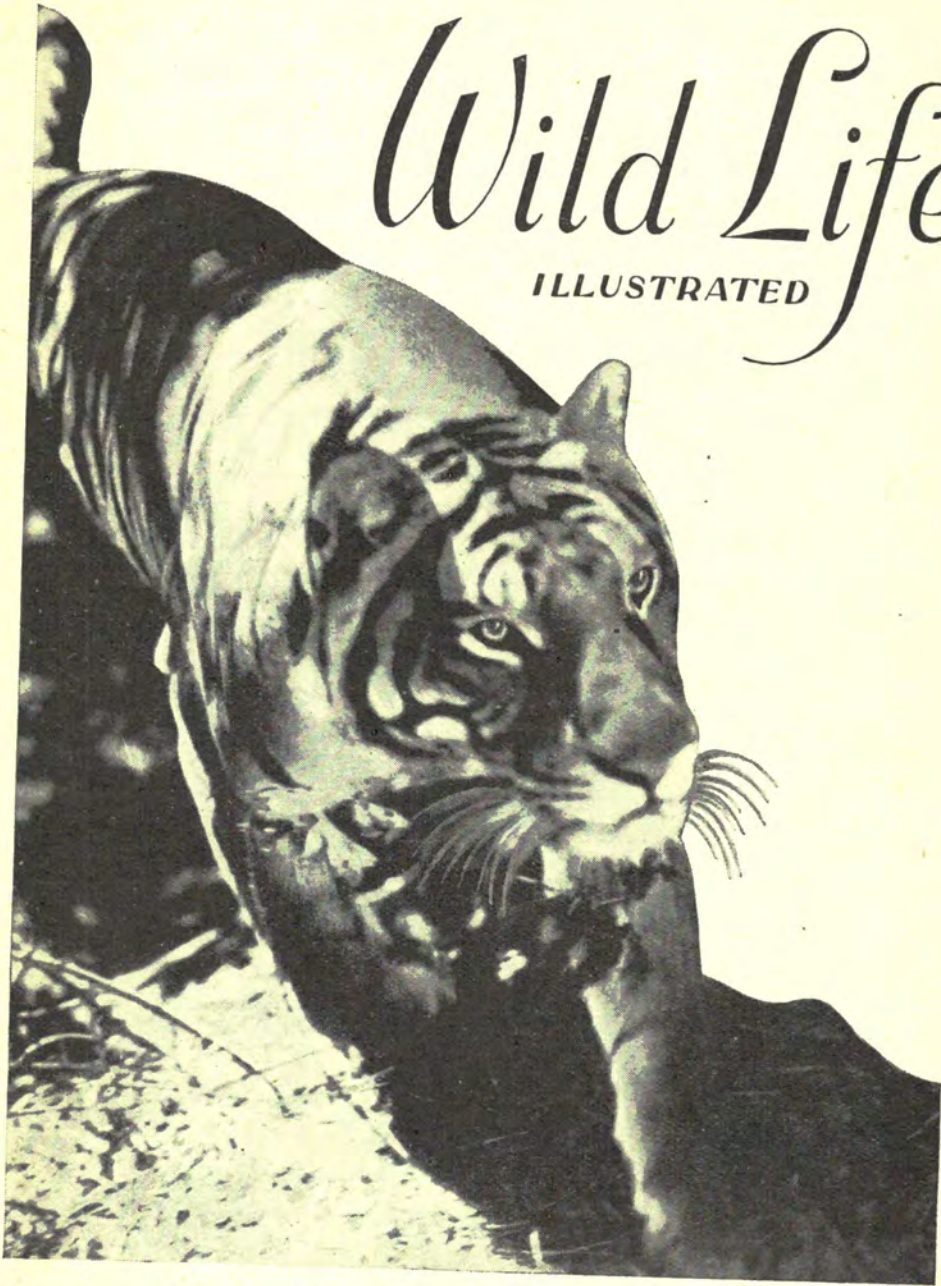


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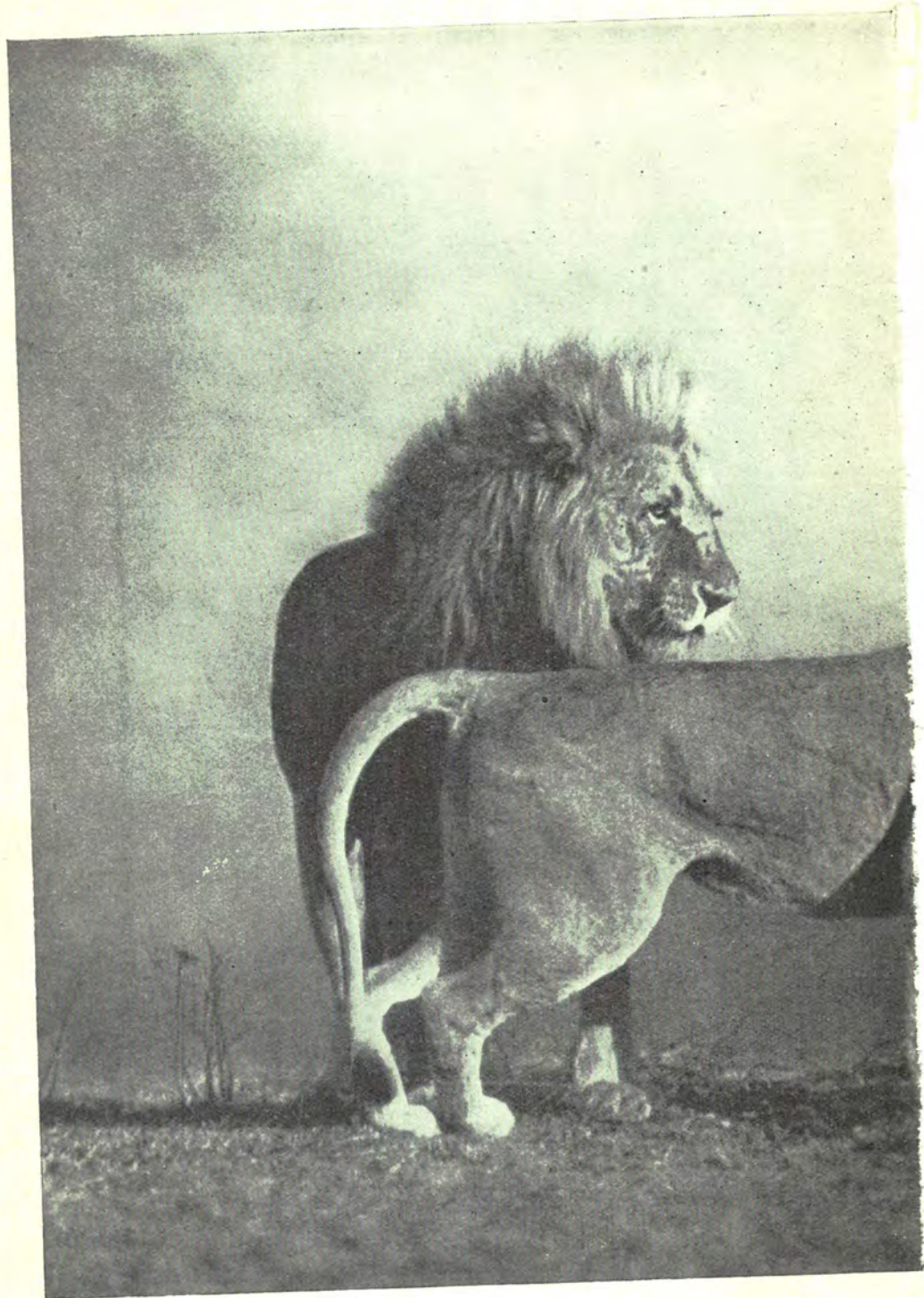
Wild Life

ILLUSTRATED



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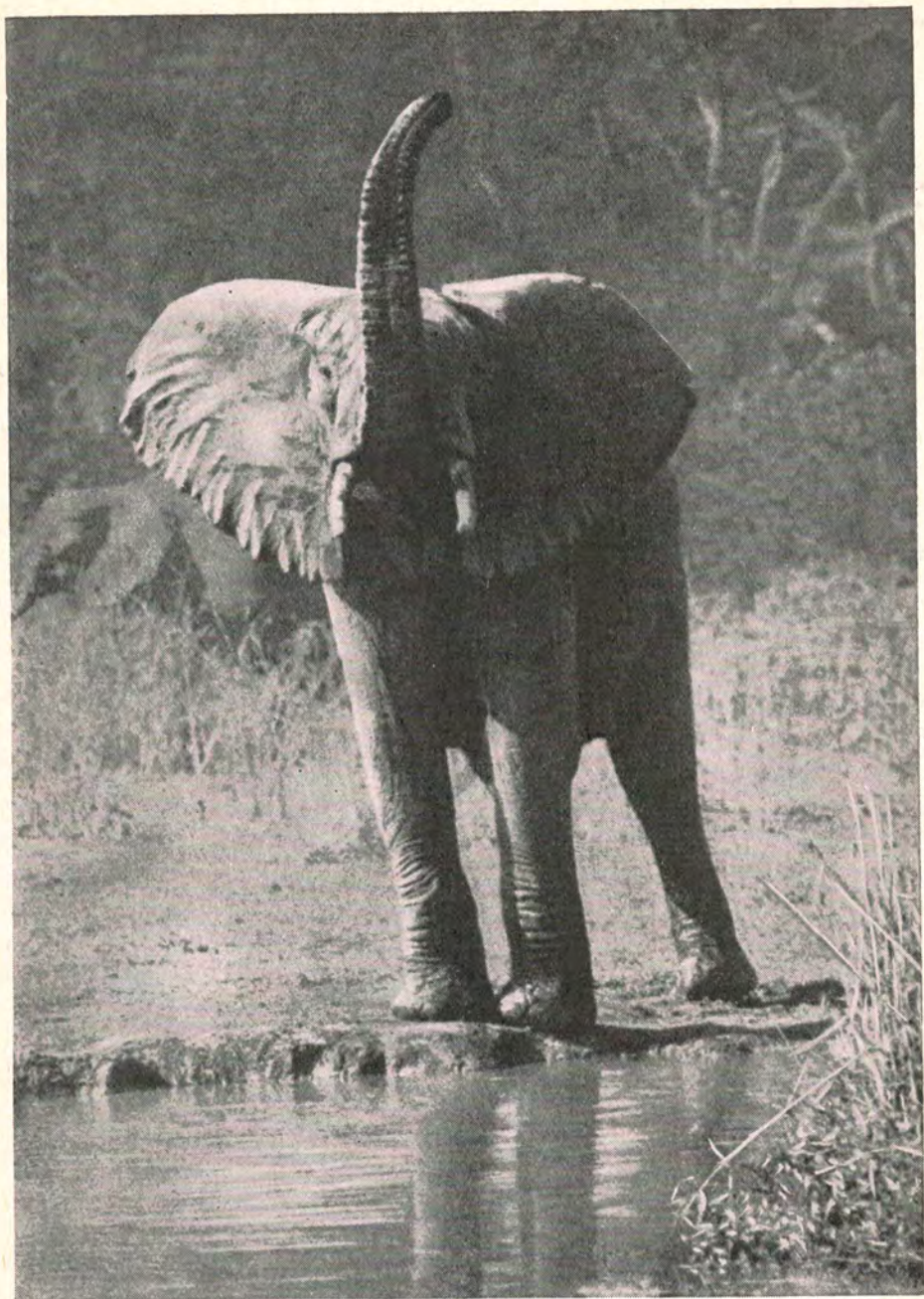
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BEFORE THE SHOWER-BATH

The bull elephant, above, photographed in an African swamp, is about to spray himself with water. His trunk is uplifted for this purpose, not, as might be supposed, in anger.

ELEPHANT, HIPPO AND RHINO

by A. RADCLYFFE DUGMORE.

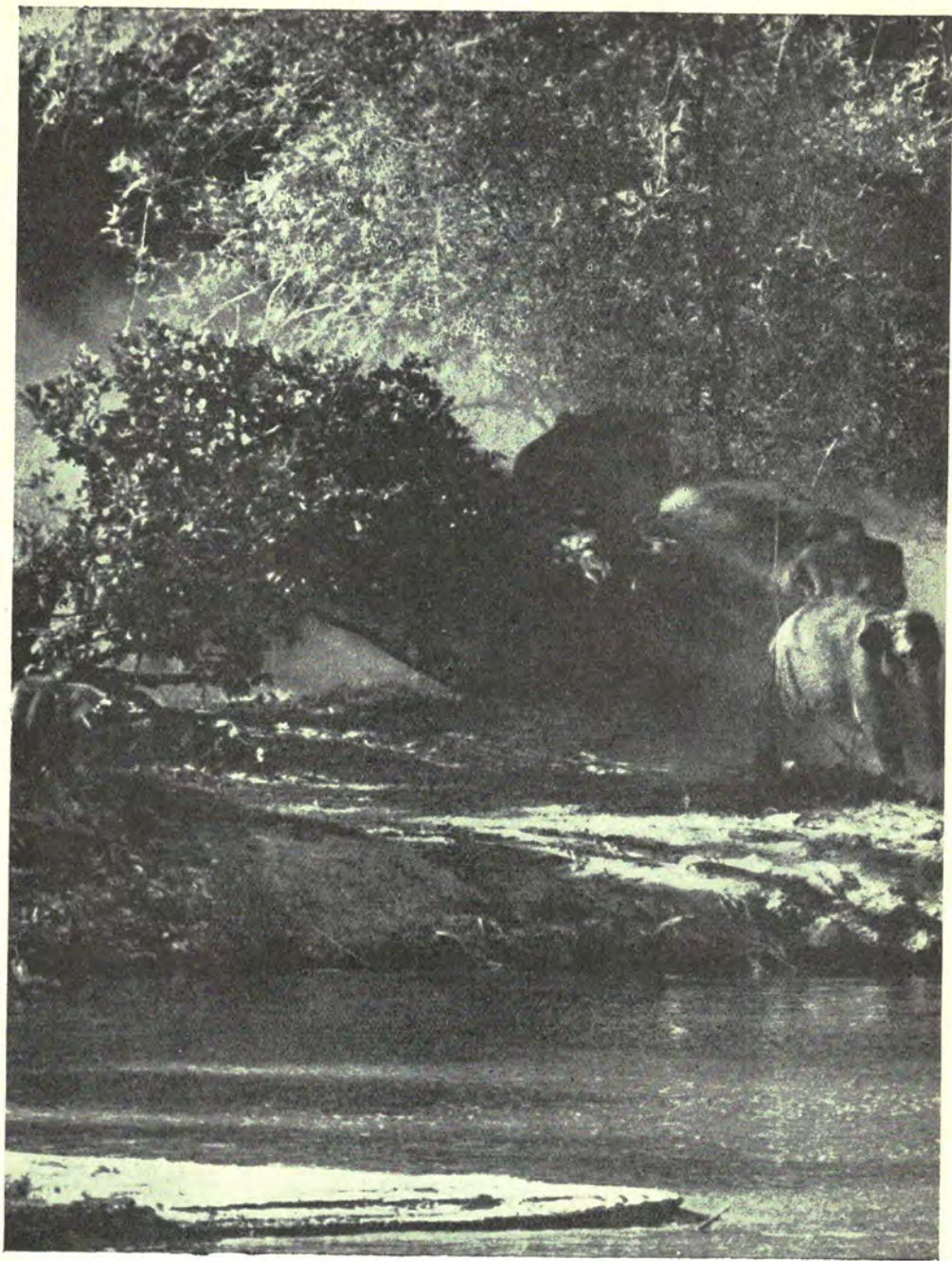
Elephant: the African and Asiatic species: distinctive features: stories of the elephant: the elephant as servant of man. Rhino: black, white and Indian: scarcity of the white rhino. Home of the hippopotamus: native methods of hunting: the pigmy or Liberian species.

THESE are, as most people know, two distinct species: the African and Indian or, more properly, Asiatic Elephant. Though these both come from a common ancestor, their development has made them different in many essentials, and they are both unlike the species of antiquity, the chief of which were the mastodon of North Africa, Europe and the American Continent, and the mammoth of Asia and northern Europe.

The African species has the following distinct features: enormous ears, about 4 feet in width and nearly 7 feet in height; the roughly corrugated trunks ending with two finger-like points of equal length; tusks running to a length of over 9 feet, and in exceptional cases to over 11 feet, and weighing up to 300 pounds each; both male and female have tusks, though those of the latter are lighter and smaller; head with graceful convex form sloping to the base of trunk; back highest about the middle (this varies); skin very rough and deeply furrowed; hind foot with three nails; height difficult to estimate, but over 11 feet, and perhaps

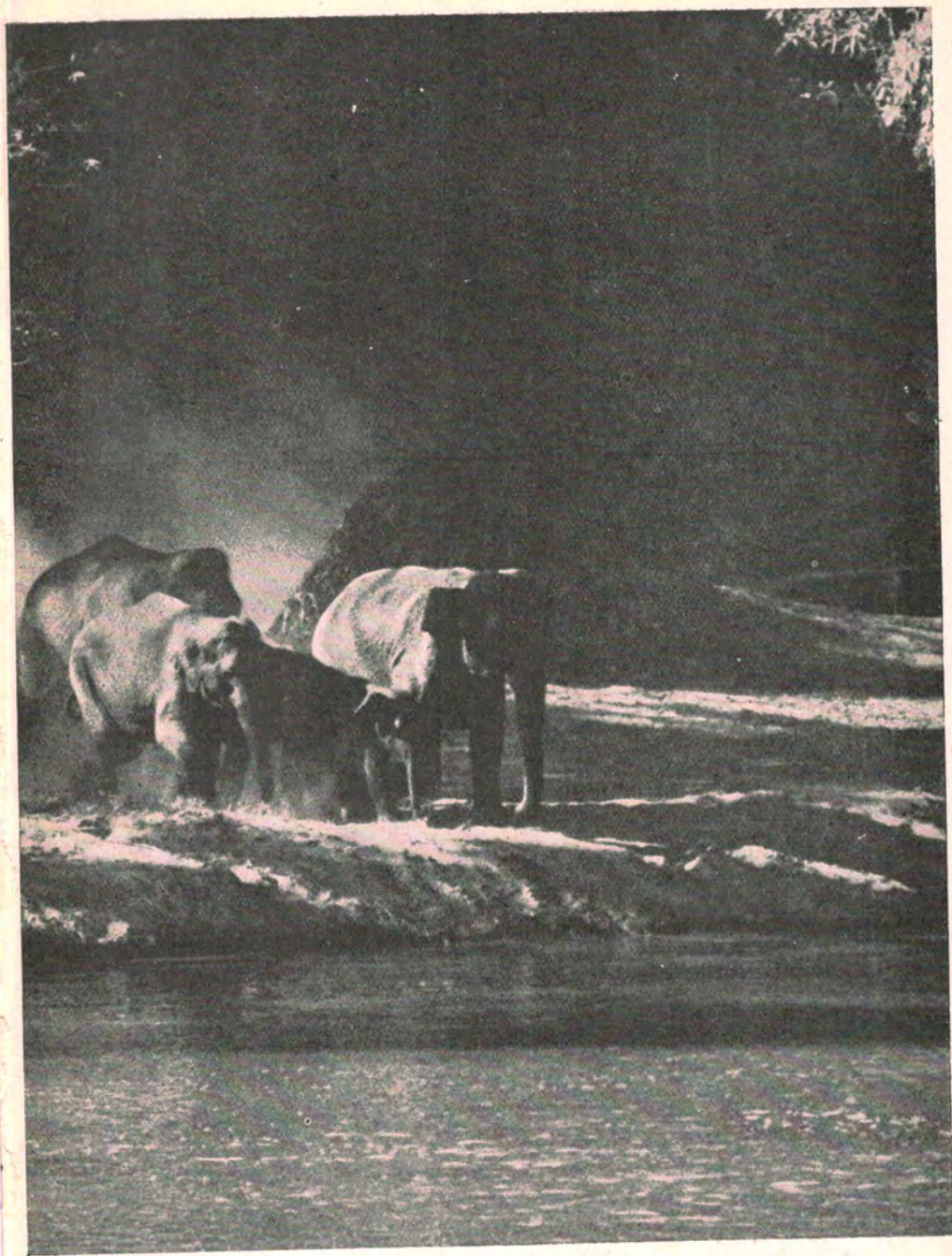
up to 12, females a foot or so lower. The range of elephants formerly extended over the greater part of Africa, but they have gradually been driven south from their more northern area and north from their southern range, so that today they exist chiefly in the central parts of Africa, more or less south of the Sahara and across from east to west coasts. They are very numerous in the Nile valley.

Now for the Indian species. Its characteristics are: high, domed head, much smaller ears than those of the African species and smooth trunk with only one finger-like extension instead of two; tusks are smaller than those of the African, and are seldom found on females; the front foot has five nails and the hind one four; the skin is fairly smooth; the height rather less than the African, though sometimes it has been known to reach as high as 11 feet. The Indian elephant has been employed by man for countless ages to help in all sorts of work that demands strength, whereas the African species, except in parts of the Belgian Congo, has not within recent



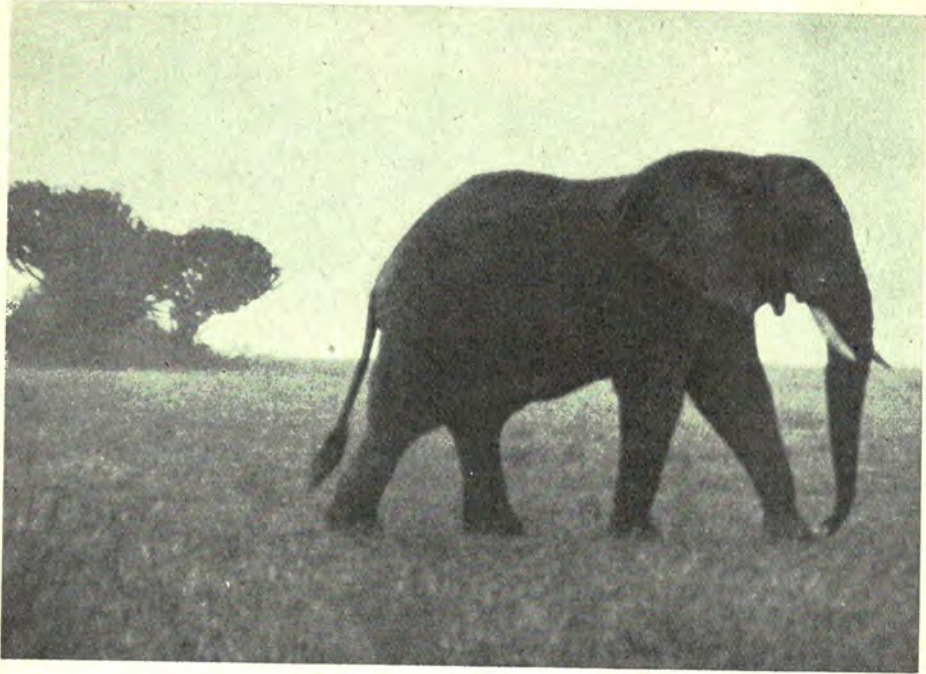
ROUNDING UP WILD

Asiatic elephants have long been captured and domesticated for use as transport animals. Because they do not breed readily in captivity they have to be caught and tamed. The



ELEPHANTS IN INDIA

usual method is to stampede the herd through a funnel-shaped palisade into a small enclosure. The photograph above shows a keddah, or round up, in progress, in Mysore.



THIRSTY TRAVELLER

This lone bull elephant has set out across the dry African plain on a long trek to find water. An elephant can cover up to thirty or forty miles in a day's march.

years been tamed or trained. Elephants may have been used in the past, especially by the Carthaginians, but there is some question as to whether those taken by Hannibal across the Alps were African or Indian. Coins of the Roman Emperor Septimus Severus show designs which seem to represent a combination of the two species.

The Indian species is found in India, Burma, Assam, Cochin-China, Sumatra and Ceylon. Those in the latter country seldom have tusks.

A peculiarity of all elephants is the fact that the young suckle between the front legs, where the mammæ are situated. It is difficult to believe, but we are assured that the elephants' nearest relation

is the humble and inconspicuous little hyrax, or, as it is often called, the coney.

So much has been written about the dangerous qualities of the elephant, especially of those in Africa, that we will deal with these first. Whole volumes could be filled with accounts of hunters killed, or nearly killed, by them, but in almost every instance the animal has attacked in self-defence, often after being wounded. Of course where a cow has her calf and feels that it is in danger she may not wait for the threat to develop, but may attack of her own accord.

Once, in Kenya, in the beautiful forest of Marsabit, the writer was waiting in a carefully made "hide" which gave him a good view of a lovely glade through

which ran a small stream. By the side of this was a dusting-ground much used by elephants. He had made a screen between himself and the glade, but foolishly had not taken any precaution in the way of concealment from the back, where the forest was fairly thick. One day, after several spent in patient waiting, he heard the sound of something moving in the bushes behind him. In the dim, flickering light and shade he saw several elephants heading towards him, led by a very large cow who was evidently suspicious, for she had her trunk raised and her great ears spread wide. To his disgust, he noticed that she had her calf close by her side. A bad combination! Very slowly that huge beast, with her long, gleaming tusks, approached, a few steps at a time, while the rest of the herd of a dozen or so followed at some distance. The writer's position was, to put it mildly, extremely unpleasant. He could not get away. In fact, he dared not so much as move a finger. All that he could do was to lie flat on the ground and wait for what looked like a very sticky end. That wretched elephant continued to come on until she stood over him, so that he could have touched her feet. For fifteen of the longest minutes of his life he remained petrified with fear. Should the elephant take a step forward he would be squashed flat.

A Hairsbreadth Escape

The fact that her trunk was raised high in the air meant that she did not get his scent. The slight murmuring forest breeze kept the scent close to the ground, and this alone saved his life. That she was suspicious but could not locate the whereabouts of the hidden danger was quite evident. Altogether the situation was tense for both. Probably both were equally

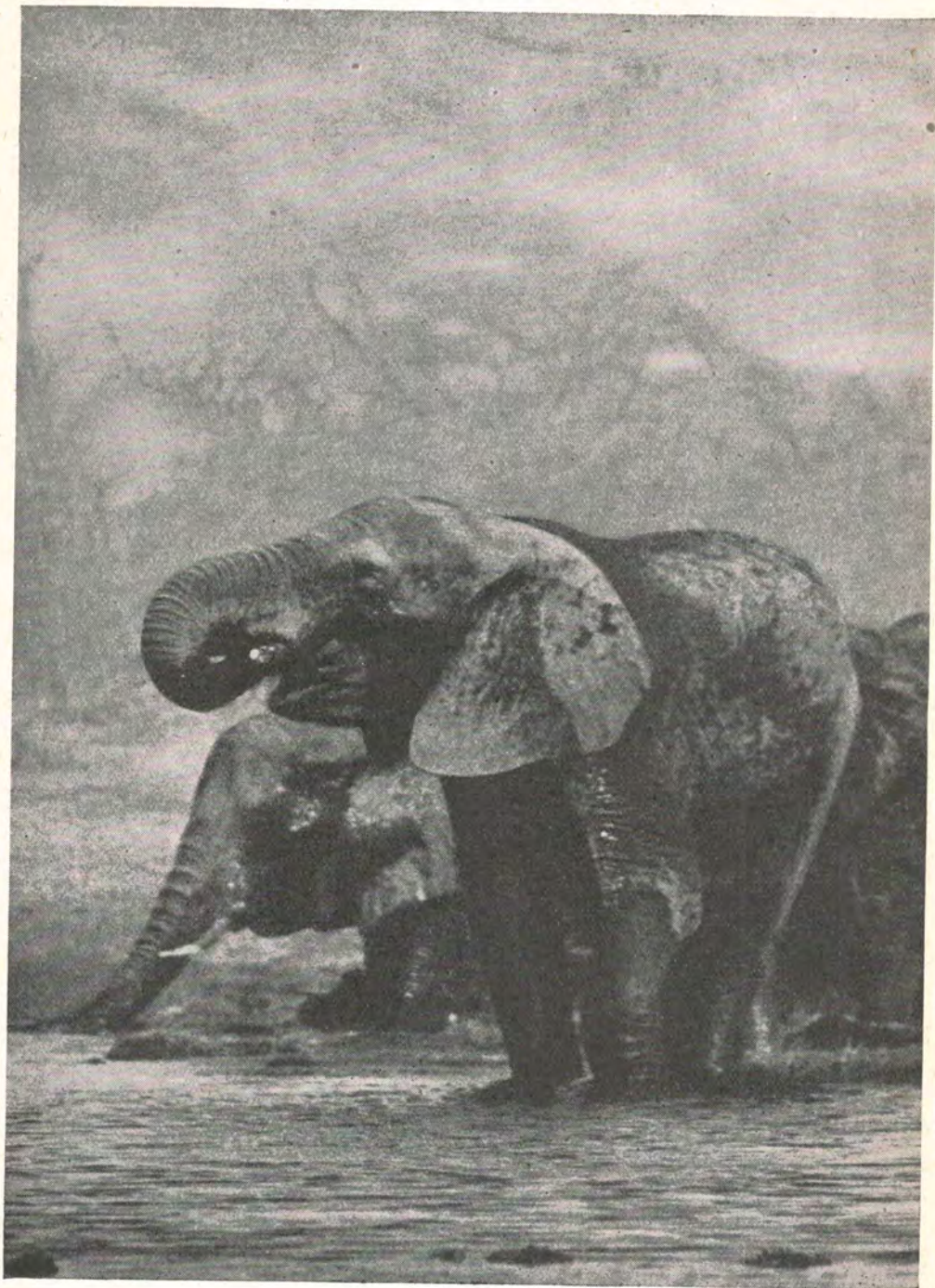
frightened. At the end of a quarter of an hour, to the writer's great relief, instead of coming forward, she took a step backward, then turned and joined her companions. He was relieved but also disgusted that he had not been able to secure a film of the episode. But he did have a wonderful opportunity of studying her at very close quarters, and knew exactly what her skin looked like. While she was standing over him he had the feeling of looking up at a mountain.

How Elephants Discern Danger

Elephants have very poor eyesight—as poor as that of any of the larger animals, but their hearing is extremely keen, and with their large ears they can catch the slightest sound. Still, the writer believes they rely for their safety chiefly on their wonderful sense of smell, and when a trunk is raised high and is seen waving slowly from side to side, you may be sure some scent of danger is in the air.

If given the chance, elephants will make good their escape when they suspect danger and, strange as it may seem, these immense beasts, if they believe they have not been seen, can force their way through very dense forest without even the slightest of sounds. They simply melt away like ghosts. If, on the contrary, they feel they have been discovered, they will crash through the undergrowth, knocking down quite fair-sized trees and making the most terrific row.

People who have not seen these great beasts in their wild state do not believe how inconspicuous they can be. So long as they stand absolutely still, as they so often do for a long time, when they have reason to believe there is danger about, they are most difficult to see; even their tusks look like pieces of dead branches,



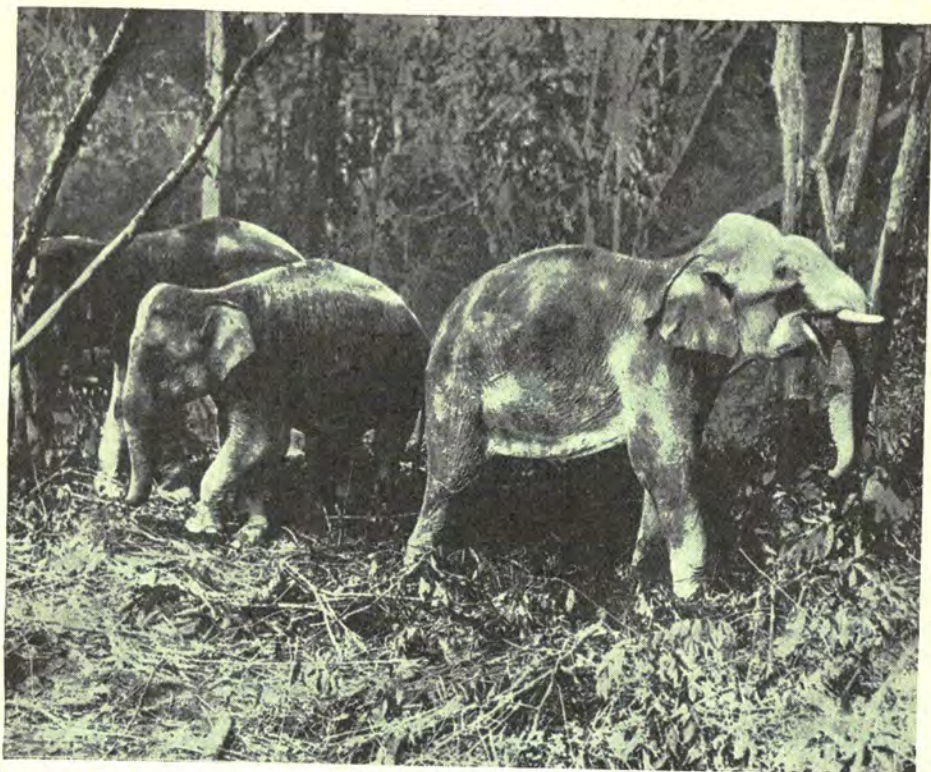
MUD BATH

This remarkable photograph shows African elephants in their wild state indulging in their favourite pastime of drinking and wallowing in the water. They plaster their sides with mud, rubbing it off when dry. Note the immense size of the ears, so different from those of the Indian species.

while their neutral greyish bodies, toned sometimes to various colours by the local earth with which they dust themselves, seem to blend in with the surrounding vegetation in a remarkable way. They need no protective stripes or colours or pattern to conceal them, yet so many people, naturalists and others, implicitly believe that animals with variously coloured and patterned skins have them for their protection. It does seem strange that a strong pattern and a single tone of grey can be equally difficult to see.

As an example of how invisible an elephant may be the following story will serve. A friend of the writer's in Tanganyika had an interesting and sad experience resulting from his inability to see clearly an elephant for which he was searching, and this led to his making a rather serious mistake. On the slopes of Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, there dwelt a mighty bull elephant, and he was named the Crown Prince, because of his peculiar profile. He carried such immense tusks that their points dragged on the ground and left distinct tracks when the animal walked. Now, this monster was no fool. He knew the exact boundary of the game reserve, and was most careful not to stray outside of it except at night. The writer's friend coveted those huge tusks, and sent word to all and sundry that if the Crown Prince was seen clear of the reserve he would pay a good reward for the information. One





MAKING A JUNGLE TRAIL

In Siam elephants abound, the rare "White" variety being regarded as sacred. Shown above is a small herd led by a large tusker making their way through the dense Siamese jungle. Asiatic elephants, disliking bright sunlight, keep to the forests as much as possible.

day word came that the elephant was in some native plantation, so off went the man in a very great hurry. Being a careful sort of fellow, he had previously made a thorough examination of the spoor of the Crown Prince, and knew it in all its detail. In due course he came to where his quarry had been seen, and sure enough there were the tracks of the great feet. Filled with wild excitement, he followed them with too great speed and not enough caution when suddenly he spotted an elephant partly concealed by the undergrowth. Of course he thought it *must* be the one he sought. Without making abso-

lutely certain, in his excitement he fired at the one vital spot that was exposed to view, and down came the unfortunate beast. At the same moment there was a terrific crash nearby and the Crown Prince dashed past. The man had killed a cow. This was a trespass against the law, because, by reason of its small tusks, the animal was in the category which is protected and whose destruction is prohibited.

It was doubly unfortunate as his longed-for prize had escaped. And this had all happened because part of the body of the one he had shot had been clearly seen, whereas the one he wanted had es-

caped his notice altogether, while it had been standing within a few yards of him. One might almost conclude that the wise old creature had understood what was going on, and had acted accordingly.

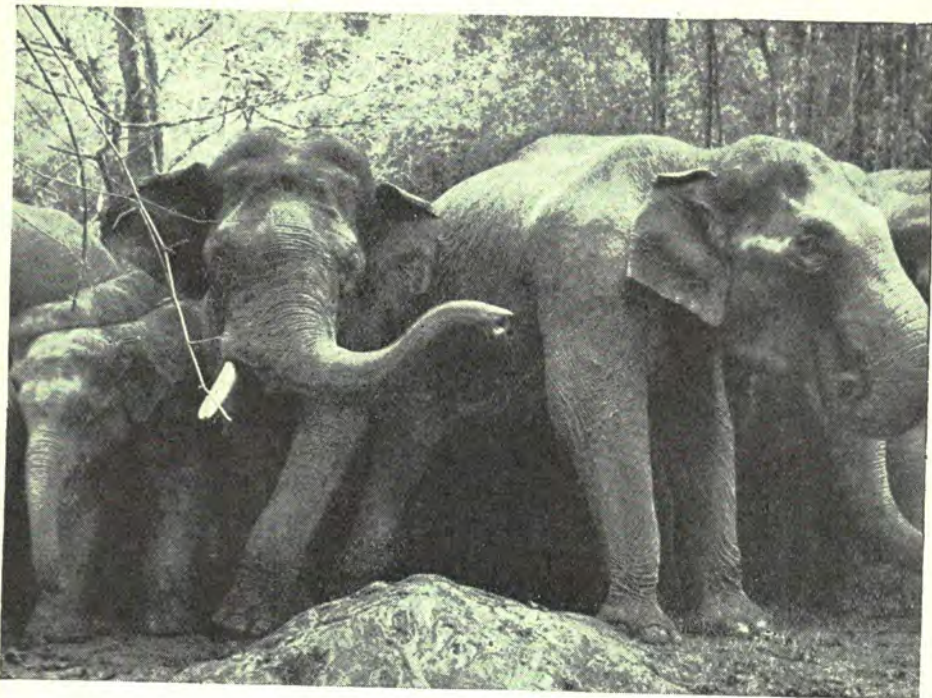
It is strange that in spite of its thick skin an elephant hates the feeling of dripping water falling on him from the trees. The writer once made a painting of elephants in the Marsabit forest, and it showed a clear, sunlit clearing in the middle foreground, and in that open space he put several elephants, among them a cow and her calf. A very famous

naturalist and hunter came to see the picture. He knew Africa as well as any man could, and the habits of the game, and when he noticed the writer's painting he turned to him and remarked that as he had always regarded his work as being true to life, he was surprised at the mistake of showing elephants standing placidly in the sunlight. But in fact the picture was of the Marsabit forest, which is subject to dense fogs or mists, which cover every tree with moisture, and when the sun rises it seems to release a veritable shower of drops, so while this is falling



ELEPHANT LABOUR IN BURMA

Immense strength allied to a high degree of intelligence make the captive elephant a faithful friend of man. In the teak forests of Burma the logs are carted and stacked by elephants who go about their tasks with efficiency. Affection and understanding exists between the elephant and its driver and they are here seen in co-operation.



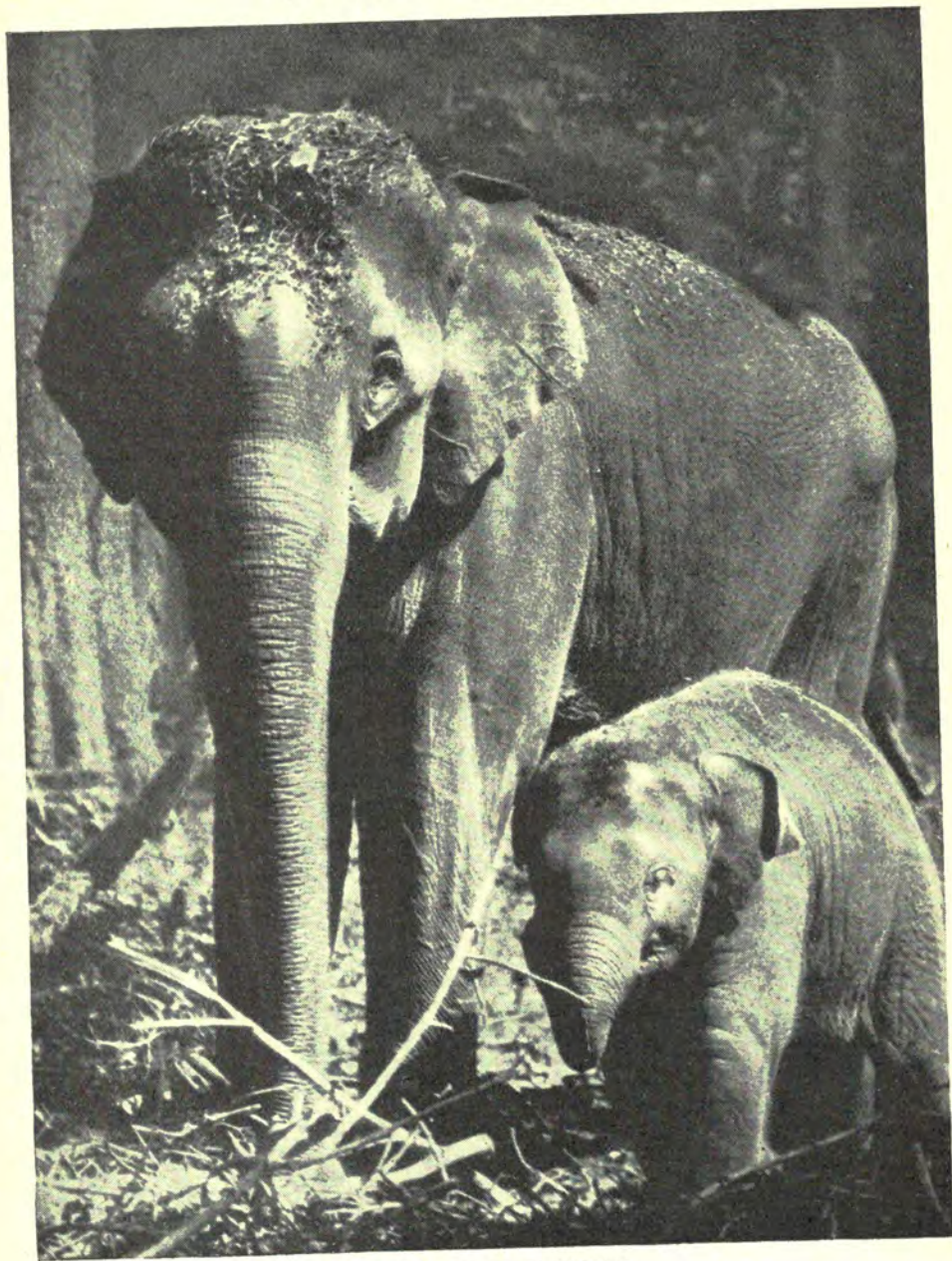
JUNGLE STAMPEDE

Above is shown a stampede of elephants in India. Heedless of the noise it makes the herd ploughs through and over every obstacle, until checked in its panic-stricken onrush and finally driven into a man-made enclosure waiting to receive them.

will the elephant resort to the open spaces, even though it means being in the sun.

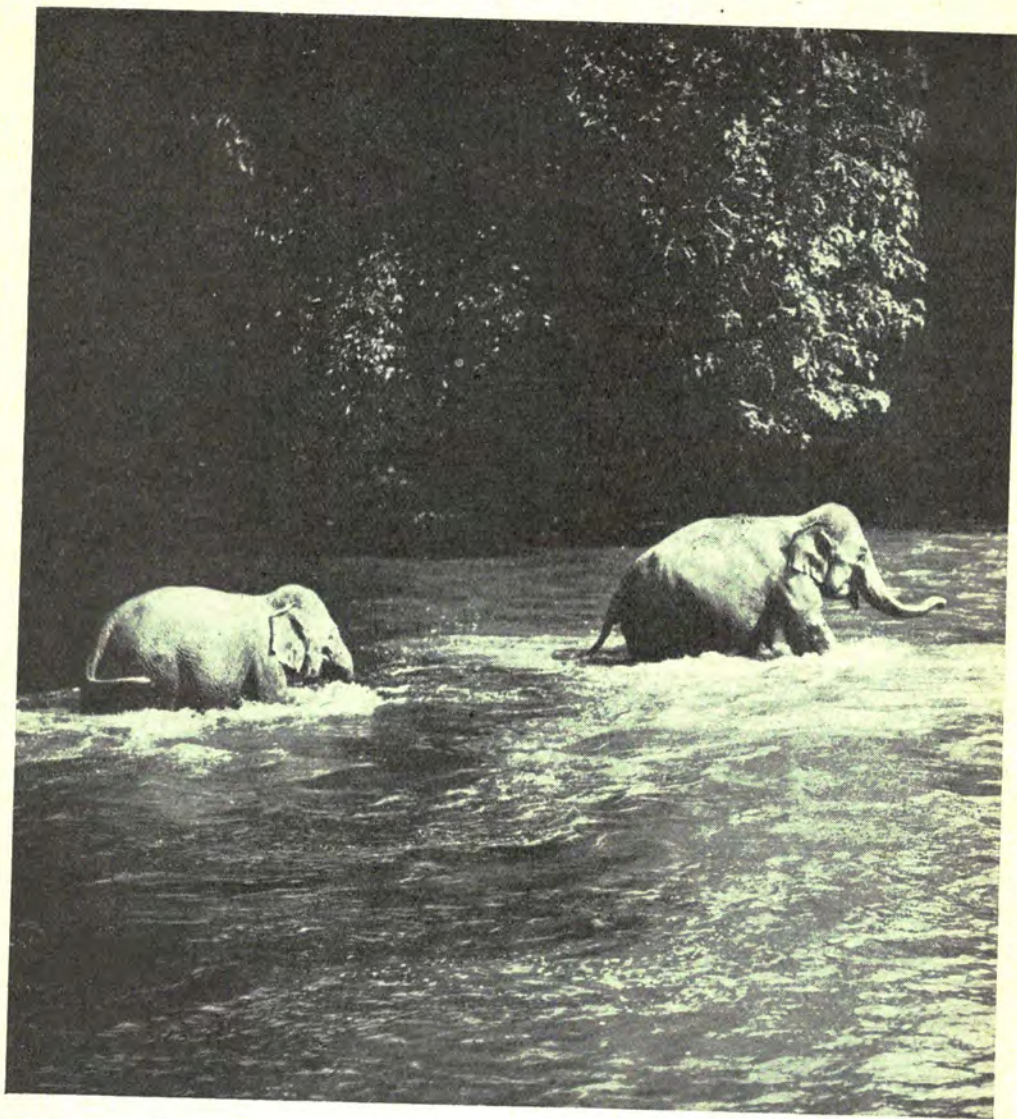
It is strange how much animals vary their habits in different districts, often with no apparent reason: for example, the herds in Kenya and Tanganyika do not as a rule trumpet unless badly frightened, and even then not often, while those in the Nile country will sometimes keep up a constant shrieking which is most disconcerting. The writer once spent some very nerve-racking hours trying to obtain photographs of a famous herd which were known as the suffragettes (because they were mostly females). This was in the country to the west of and not very far from the upper Nile. One morn-

ing at dawn, while in camp, information was brought in by a native that the great herd was not very far away—in fact “just over the next hill”. There was no time to be lost, so, without waiting for food, the writer started off with the camera-bearers and a few porters. “Not very far” turned out to be some 20 miles. However, eventually he came upon the herd, and they were in very bad country from the photographer’s point of view, for it was covered with small thick-leaved trees, which made it impossible to see any distance, but one could hear the petulant shrieks long before seeing the animals themselves, and it made the blood run cold, in spite of the intense heat. The



MOTHER AND CHILD

This captured cow elephant, with her young offspring beside her, appears to wear a doleful expression in captivity. Owing to their reluctance to leave their young, females of a herd are more easily captured than the males, and are valued for their tractability.



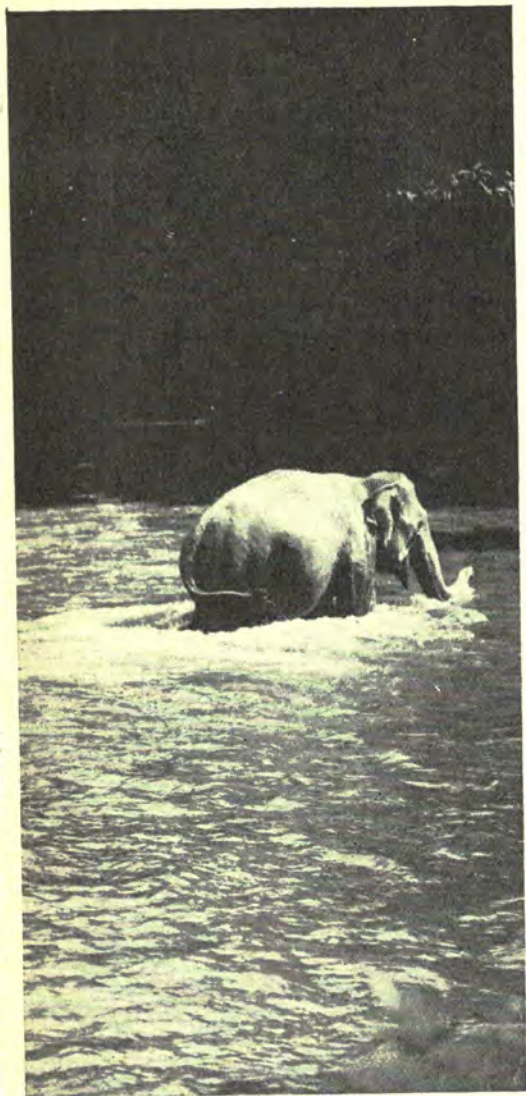
whole region looked as though a tornado had swept over it, for, in feeding, the elephants had torn the trees to pieces, leaving a track several hundred yards wide completely devastated.

There seemed to be about 400 in that herd, and among them were two very large bulls with immense tusks. Unfor-

tunately for the writer, while he was trying to secure a good view, a cow with her calf by her side saw him just as he was getting on to a low anthill, and a moment later, without the least hesitation, she charged at full speed. The gunbearer had bolted, and small blame to him, and the writer was unarmed. Just as he

RIVER CROSSING

A troop of Asiatic elephants, with the characteristic high forehead and small ears, is seen in this picture crossing a pool by night in the heart of the jungle. In the forests of Thailand the elephant lives in the wild state just as its ancestors have done from time immemorial.



thought his last moment had come and could almost feel the elephant's breath on his neck, she, for no apparent reason, suddenly turned and made off with horrible screams, which gave the alarm to the rest of the great herd, and off they went with a terrific sound of crashing trees plus continuous trumpeting that was like a

charge of tanks fitted with special horns.

While elephants may stay in a given locality for quite a long time, they do not object to making a move when necessary, and will travel great distances in search of what they want. They travel with remarkable speed, too. Food, of course, is the usual cause of their migrating, for just as soon as the supply begins to fail, off they go. Their food consists chiefly of tree-branches, and they chew up not only the leaves, but also the wood. It is generally believed that they do not eat grass.

In Search of Food and Drink

However, they do enjoy to the utmost a feed of growing maize or other succulent crop. Water is a matter of very great importance to them, and they will go any distance to obtain it. Where there are no convenient ponds or rivers they will dig holes in the apparently dry bed of a river, and rarely if ever fail to find what they are searching for. Not only do they need water for drinking, but they like to bathe in it and to plaster their skin with mud; then as this dries they rub themselves against tree-trunks until most of it is removed. They also resort to dust-baths, and when the earth is bright, as it is in some parts of Kenya, the effect obtained is truly remarkable. A herd of bright-red elephants is something to cause astonishment, and is about the last thing one expects to see. Taking together the evidence of the accounts by various obser-

ELEPHANT VERSUS TIGER

This is one of the most dramatic photographs ever taken of animal life. Out of the jungle a tiger had sprung upon a "convoy" of working elephants. Making use of his weight, and the thickness of his skin to withstand the tearing claws of his striped adversary, the elephant rested his ponderous forelegs upon the tiger. The snarls of the latter grew less terrible and died away—the elephant had won.

vers it seems to be a fact that the African elephant invariably sleeps standing up, and does not lie down, as does the Indian species. Most travellers in Africa will, whenever possible, select an elephant trail to be reasonably sure of easy gradients, for those wise animals appear to be good surveyors, and always choose the best route.

It might be well to touch on the much-discussed subject of the so-called elephant cemeteries or graveyards. These are supposed to contain great stores of tusks, *but*—and this is important—there are never any bones or teeth. Now, from all the data available there seems to be this explanation: hunters, traders, or tribesmen collect tusks for sale, which by a mischance, such as death from disease or battle, may disappear. Perhaps they hid their store of tusks when danger threatened and never came back. For many years the treasure remains hidden, and then possibly some chance traveller comes across it and proclaims that he has discovered one of the elephant's famous graveyards. But, of course, the idea is quite ridiculous, for there is a definite answer to the question "Where do elephants go to die?" Like all wild animals, they know when death is coming, and they go off *alone* to die, in some remote spot in the forest. The various scavengers—birds, animals and insects—soon make away



with all the meat. Then the bones are eaten by mice or other creatures. Vegetation grows quickly on the spot. Shortly all trace of the carcass has vanished. But there is no cemetery, fiction-writers to the contrary.

While we think of the African elephant as a creature of the wilds, free and at large, bowing to no human, we look on the Indian species as a servant of man, a figure gorgeously attired for parades and



spectacles or doing all sorts of heavy work which his master demands of him. Yet it does exist in the wild state, living its own life in the forests, as its ancestors have done from time immemorial, though for many centuries it has been hunted, trapped and taken prisoner, to be trained for menial labour and arduous tasks.

Sportsmen still hunt the Indian elephant for ivory, but they are carefully protected in most of their range, except

when a rogue appears in a district, when his destruction is necessary. But the mere fact of the Indian elephants' value as workers means that they are far more valuable alive than dead, and this accounts for their not being exterminated even in the thickly populated districts in which they live. They are respected even by the bloodthirsty sportsmen who consider it great fun to destroy elephants and other grand animals of the wild.

ANIMAL LUMBERJACKS

Elephants employed in timber work in India soon develop a nice sense of balance, enabling them to rest the huge logs of wood upon their tusks, keeping them in position by the pressure of their trunks. This fine photograph shows a group returning home in dignified procession with their loads.

The five distinct known species of Rhinoceros are confined to the continents of Africa and Asia, and, of these, the Black, or prehensile-lipped, the White and the Indian are the best known. As the African species have had the greatest amount of publicity, and are probably the most interesting, we will deal first with them, starting with the black species.

The black rhinoceros is found in many parts of Central Africa, and is perhaps most abundant in Kenya and Tanganyika. These relics of a past age weigh as much as 2 tons and stand nearly 6 feet in height. They have a well-fitted skin, which is fairly smooth, and is about half an inch thick. Strips of this tough skin are made into whips and sticks and, strangely enough, when dry and polished, look almost like clouded amber. A characteristic of both the African species is the fact that they have two horns. Most horned animals have them arranged on either side of their head; not so the rhino. He has one in front of the other, the forward one being right over the nose. These horns vary considerably both in length and shape: some are straight, some are curved, some are thick, others slender and up to 30 inches in length. Usually the front horn is the longer, and the female as a rule has the longest ones. As a matter of fact, though spoken of as horns, they are actually composed of tightly compressed bristles forming a very hard



substance. They are not attached to the skull, but grow out of the skin. Unfortunately, these horns have a high commercial value, and are bought by the Chinese for medicinal purposes, and this has led to the animals being hunted remorselessly. As they are very easy to stalk and shoot, the only thing that has saved them from extermination is the protection afforded them by game laws.

The rhino's nose, or, rather upper lip, is extended and pointed and somewhat prehensile, but perhaps its most noticeable feature is its very uncertain disposition. Some individuals are so thoroughly ill-tempered that they have given to the whole species a very bad reputation. It is all very well for certain people to say that the rhino does not charge, but it so



happens that the writer has been charged, and with ill intent, too, on several occasions. That the charge, if there is only one of the big creatures, can be avoided is true enough, provided you have the presence of mind to keep cool and stay put until the animal is within 5 or 6 feet, and then, just before contact is made, jump aside very quickly, for then the head is held low and the position of the eyes prevents him from seeing you.

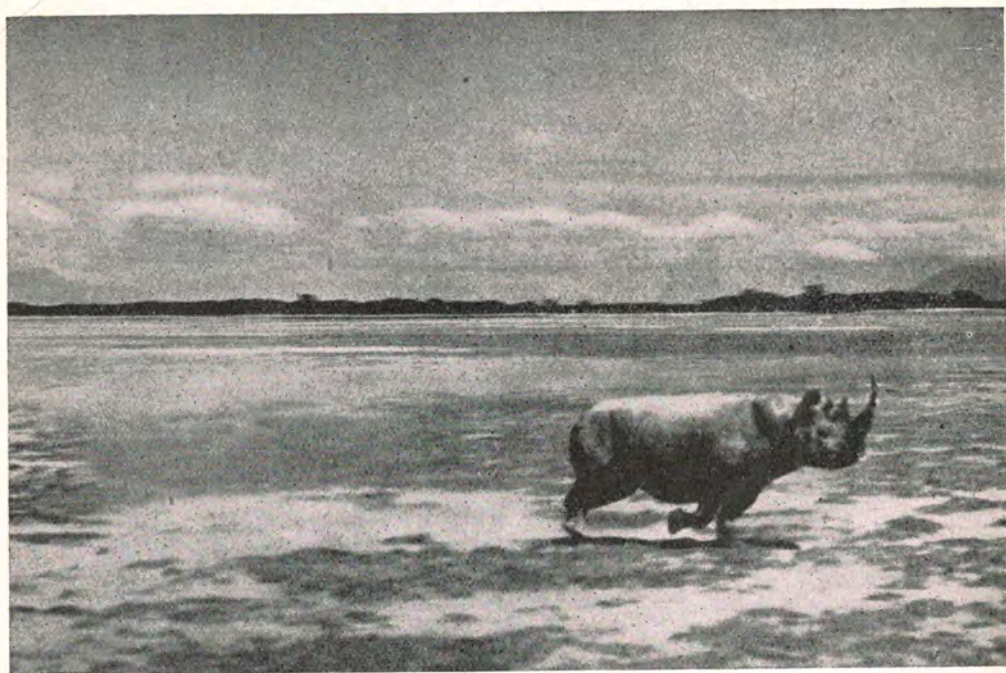
The speed at which these great and apparently clumsy beasts can travel is amazing, and must be seen to be believed, and they turn with utmost rapidity.

As a rule the rhino is found in fairly open country, where it can be easily seen, but some prefer to live in the dense forest, where they may be encountered without

the slightest warning at close quarters, and also with disastrous results. For then the sudden meeting with their old-time enemy, man, causes them to rush madly at the intruder, who, owing to the thickness of the undergrowth, is unable to get out of their way.

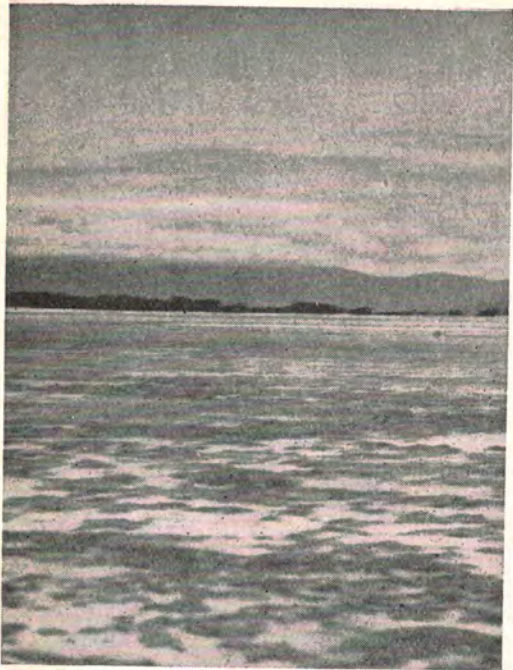
The food of the rhino consists of leaves: not the large, juicy ones that would seem suitable for so large an animal, but absurdly small and insignificant ones, and so far as the writer has been able to discover they do not as a rule eat grass. Like most of the larger animals, they enjoy bathing and wallowing in the mud. The birds which are found on their backs are not sentinels, as generally believed, but are there simply to pick off the many insects which are such a pest.

(W.L.)



IN ARID COUNTRY

African explorers took this photograph when their plane landed in a dry lake-bed in Kenya, causing the rhinoceros to dash away in fright. Though weighing up to about two tons the black rhinoceros is capable of a great turn of speed, and it would test the powers of a good horse to escape from its swift and violent charge. Patches of earth impregnated by salt are eagerly sought by all kinds of animals, and the two rhinos in the lower photograph have come across a plentiful supply. Animal photography is made additionally difficult by the fact that most wild life bestirs itself mainly at night. The scene shown was recorded at about seven o'clock in the morning, before the rhino's "bedtime", and the vantage point of the photographer was a tree conveniently situated close by.



Sometimes their love for water leads to disaster, because, strange as it may seem, crocodiles will actually attack them, in spite of their great size, and drag them under water to their death. In proof of this a photograph was made some years ago showing various stages of the tragedy.

Sight and Hearing of the Rhino

The eyesight of the rhino is well known to be poor, and unless an object is moving they do not seem able to make it out at a distance of much more than 40 or 50 yards. Their hearing is fairly acute, but it is on their sense of smell that they chiefly rely for their protection. They will detect the presence of man a quarter of a mile or more away if the wind is favourable. On getting the fearsome scent, they act in a most amusing manner, rushing about this way and that with tail erect, and often making horrible petulant snorts, and then suddenly off they gallop.

The writer always feels deeply grateful to the black rhino for having given him some of his most thrilling experiences (perhaps somewhat dangerous at times) and his most exciting photographs.

Once he had a rather funny experience with rhino. He was camped in northern Kenya when, in the middle of the moonlit night, he heard some animal making quite a noise very near his tent. Nothing but a rhino would cause such a disturbance and, being afraid the clumsy old creature would break up his camp, he rushed out, dressed only in pyjamas, and there sure enough was the stupid animal, meandering about, very much to the alarm of the porters. Not wanting to hurt him, the writer picked up some stones and pelted the big target, and after he had been hit a couple of times off he went at a fast trot, puffing and snorting as he went.

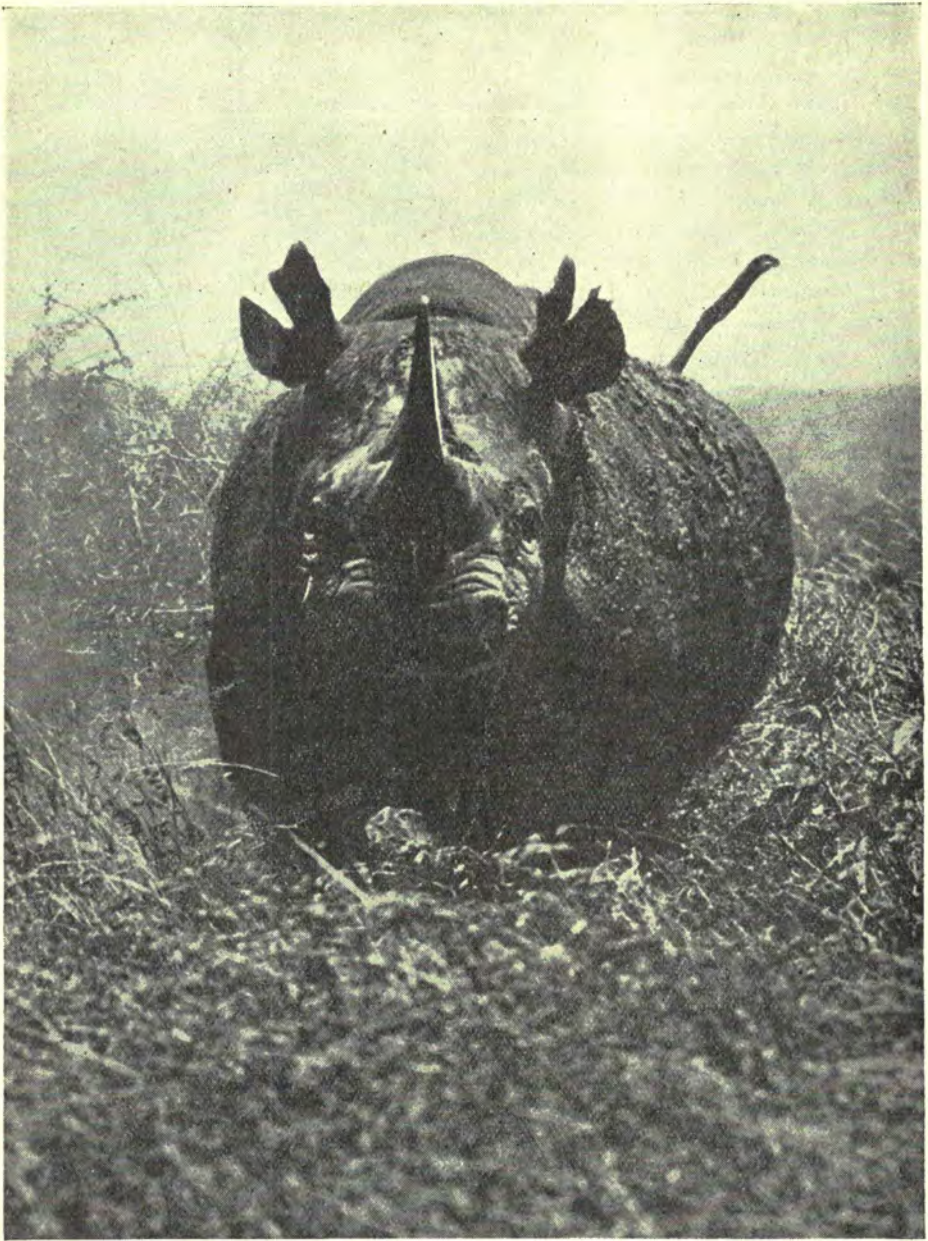
Rhino breed only once in every two or three years, and usually have a single calf. This stays with its mother until it is quite large. How old they are when weaned is uncertain, but the writer has seen them suckling for a few minutes between browsing on the small leaves which form their regular diet. Some of these healthy children must have weighed upwards of three-quarters of a ton.

The second largest of living quadrupeds is the so-called White rhinoceros, sometimes spoken of as the square-nosed species. It is second in size only to the elephant, and stands rather over 6½ feet in height, but what its weight is can only be surmised—probably about 3½ tons.

Rarity of White Rhinoceros

In former times they were fairly common in many parts of Africa, but owing to the ease with which they can be hunted they have become very rare. Among the few remaining districts where they still survive is one region of Zululand, where the very few are being carefully protected in the hope of starting, not a herd, but a collection. There are some in Uganda north of Victoria Nyanza and in parts of the Belgian Congo, also in the Sudan in the White Nile Provinces of Mongalla and the Bahr el Ghazal. In the neighbourhood of the Yeï and Meridi rivers the writer has seen signs of several, but only once had he the luck to see one, and then for but a brief moment. Unfortunately the wind was in the wrong direction, and the great beast made off with surprising speed, only giving time to realize how thoroughly ugly it was.

The name "white rhino" is rather misleading, as they are really a dull grey. Their most conspicuous feature is the remarkable length of their two horns,



CHARGING MONSTER

The black rhinoceros, so often likened to a tank, is seen making an actual charge and was photographed at a range of 15 yards with impressive result. Dodging it was no easy task, but fortunately it was accomplished without having to kill the two-ton beast.

"PREHISTORIC" SCENE OF TODAY

The black rhinoceros has got a bad reputation because, owing to its stupidity and poor eyesight, it really does charge people, occasionally with disastrous results. Mother and calf are here seen in Africa. Unlike the Indian species, the Africans, both black and white, have two horns, composed of compressed bristles which are not attached to the skull.

which in the female attain a length of over 60 inches, while those of the male seldom exceed 40 inches.

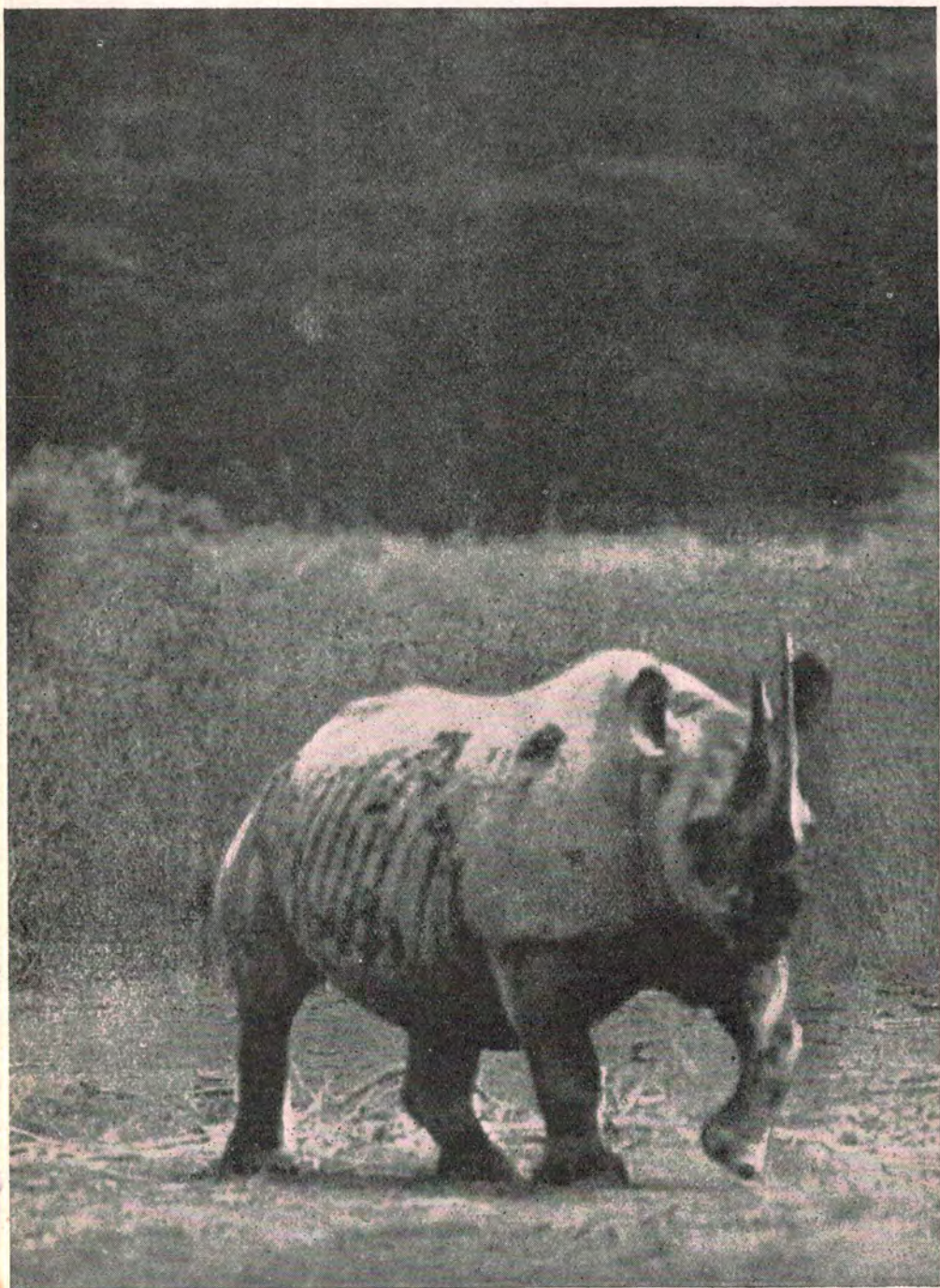
The protection of these rare animals is not too easy. In fact it is almost impossible to enforce game laws in so large a country where there are so few officials. The result is that the natives who prize the meat and know the value of the horns, indulge in periodic game drives in which hundreds of natives take part.

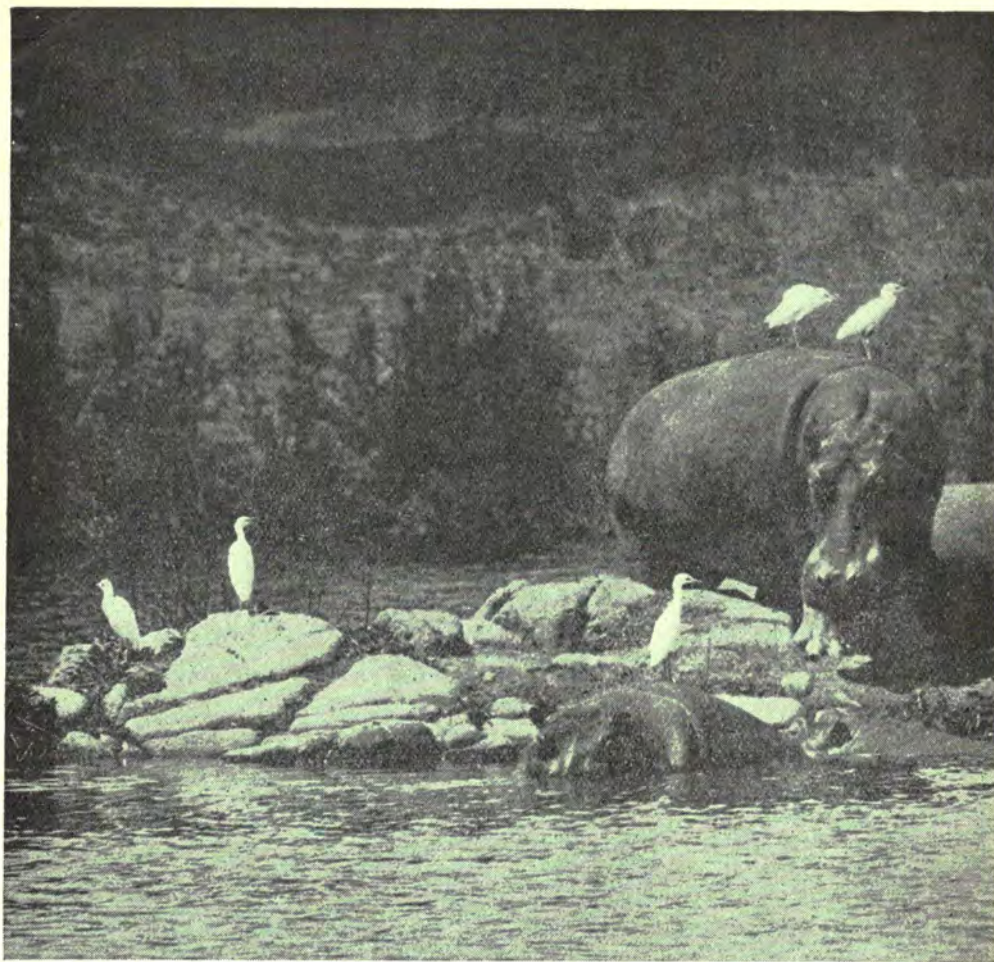
It is strange how thoroughly the white differ from the black species. They may be said to be practically harmless, for only on the rarest occasions have they been known to make an attack, and never an unprovoked one. They are very easy to stalk, provided the wind is favourable, for while their sense of smell is keen and their hearing fairly so, they, like the black variety, do not rely on their eyesight, which is very poor.

Whether they can be saved from extermination remains to be seen, but it is a well-known fact that once a species becomes very scarce it is almost impossible, except under most favourable conditions, to stem the tide that sweeps it away.

Though it is quite possible that the Indian and African rhinoceros came originally from the same stock, they have changed greatly both in appearance and habits. The two African species—that is,







THE HIPPOPOTAMUS

On an island in an African river, the "river-horses", as they are known, bask in the sun. They spend a large part of the daytime in and about the water, though when

the black and the white ones—have fairly well-fitting skins, while the Indian does not patronise a good tailor, and therefore wears ill-fitting clothes with deep folds or wrinkles and very rough studded surface. Rudyard Kipling, in an amusing fable, which gives a fanciful account of how the rhino acquired the folds in his skin, remarks on the animal's bad temper. He was referring to the Indian rhinoceros, but the comment ap-

plies even more aptly to the African variety. Certain though it is that the Indian rhino is extremely ill-humoured, his temper is not nearly as bad as that of his African cousin.

The single horn is another conspicuous feature, as against the two horns of both the African kinds, and this horn is very much shorter, anything up to 2 feet being quite rare. In general, Indian members of the tribe seem to prefer swampy country.



HAS AN "ESCORT"

At night comes they wander considerable distances in search of food. As seen above, egrets, perched on their backs, render service by eating ticks and leeches which infest them.

They are very shy, and always try to escape from their enemies without making trouble. In fact, they are not nearly as cantankerous as the black species. Should they, either in self-defence or otherwise, come into personal contact with man, they attack with their teeth rather than the horn. In size they are rather larger than the black species.

The range of the common Indian species is from the foot of the Hima-

layas from Nepal to Bhutan and Assam.

The Javan rhino of eastern Bengal, the Malay peninsula, Java and Borneo has a smoother skin, and only the males carry horns, while the Sumatran species has two horns and is very much smaller, being not more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high at the shoulder.

A Dwindling Tribe

Most people conjuring up a picture of an African river feel that it would not be

complete unless it contained at least one Hippopotamus. Yet today only too many of the old places will never see a hippo again. They have become very greatly reduced in numbers and are restricted to certain limited areas. Even the White Nile, where they used to be very abundant, has had its herds decimated, and the few that remain have become more and more shy. People who called themselves sportsmen used to shoot them from the steamers going up and down this second largest river of the world, but that form of so-called sport has been stopped.

Formerly the hippo was very widely distributed in Africa and, strangely enough, also in Europe, but that was a long time ago. Thirty years ago in the Tana river (Kenya) it was quite a common thing to see thirty or forty of the great beasts in one herd, leading their peaceful lives swimming about and blowing jets of water from their noses, or sleeping quietly at the surface or on the rocks. Today one would expect to see only a very occasional individual.

Hippopotamus Ivory

Though not objects of beauty, they are very interesting in their own way, and are different from any other animal, both in appearance and habits. Their bodies and heads are enormous, for their weight is estimated at about 4 tons, but with their very short legs they are only 4 feet 8 inches in height, while they are 12 feet long. Their great teeth, which weigh up to 7 lb. each, and have a length of over 30 inches, on the curve, were formerly used for dental ivory, and are still used for ivory ornaments.

The home of the hippo is always in the immediate neighbourhood of rivers or lakes or even swamps, and at night many

a traveller has been frightened by their strange roars, which are often mistaken for those of the lion. There is usually one loud roar followed by several grunts—a quite disturbing sound on a dark night. Unfortunately they are very destructive to crops, and though easily kept away by simple scarecrows, the natives, not taking precautions, frequently lose their harvest.

Hunting the Hippo

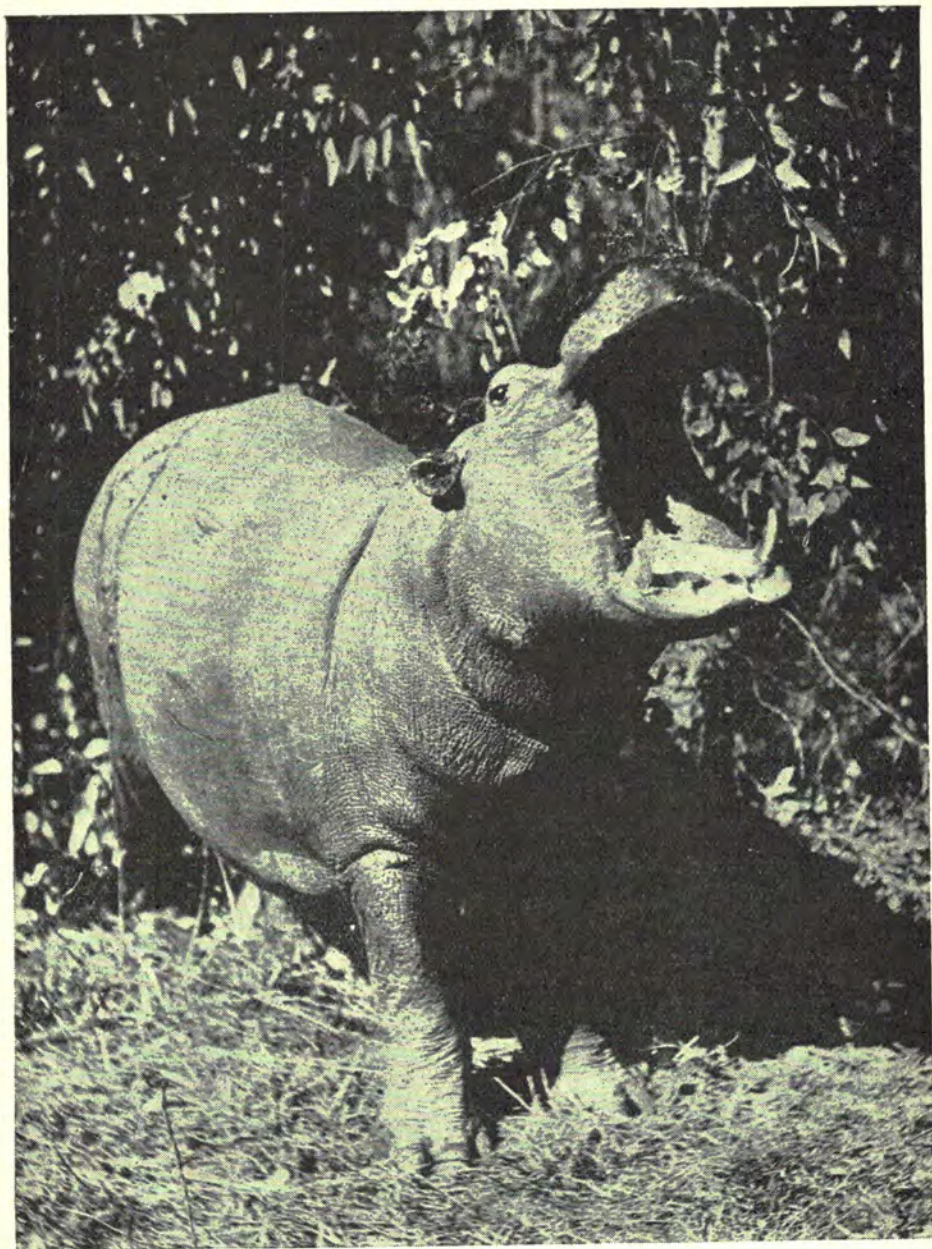
Natives regard the meat as a luxury, and hunt the hippo in various ways, with harpoons on the Nile and with poison arrows elsewhere. The meat is not at all bad, being like a cross between beef and pork. The skin makes good whips and sticks and resembles that of the rhino in being much like amber when polished.

The hippo is essentially a water-loving animal, and he is really more at home in a river than on land. He swims with surprising ease, and sleeps with only the upper part of the head and back showing. When moving hippos expose nearly half the head, and it is then that they look like a horse. This has resulted in the name of "river horse" being applied to them. They can stay under water for several minutes, and as they rise they send up a fine spray. They feed chiefly at night.

When the mother is expecting her calf she will sometimes go for miles until she finds a suitable and secluded pond. Even a small one will answer. Later she returns to the herd. The probable reason for this is fear of the crocodile, which, while it will not molest a full-grown hippo, readily attacks a young one.

The hippo differs from the rhino in having four instead of three toes.

Besides the common one, there is also the pigmy, or Liberian species, which is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, and weighs 400 lb.

**READY FOR BREAKFAST**

Home of the ungainly short-legged hippopotamus is always in the immediate vicinity of water, where they live in herds and formerly were numerous. They are, like most very large animals, vegetarians. This photograph was taken in the Transvaal.



GORILLA IN THE CONGO

Of the two varieties of gorilla, one frequents the forest lowlands, the other lives in mountainous country. The photograph above shows the mountain dweller of the tribe.