

daily visitors from far and wide indicated that the Reserve has provided large numbers of visitors with relaxation and recreation this year.

A straying Hippo was reported in the Reserve area and although no actual contact was made with the animal, evidence of its presence was found in many places in the area.

A Caracal Lynx was also reported in the Reserve area. Its spoor was seen, but careful investigations failed to locate the animal.

A 12-foot python, killed on private property within the Reserve, was found, on investigation, to have been feeding upon the cat population living on the property concerned.

A dead whale, washed up on the foreshore near the mouth, caused a nauseating smell and fears of a shark danger. A close watch was maintained while it remained in the area, and all native bathers were warned to beware.

NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

From Field Officers' reports

RESCUE OF BOGGED SQUARE-LIPPED RHINO

Report N. A. Steele — Umfolozi

November, 1959

A report was received late at night that a Square-Lipped Rhino was bogged down at the confluence of the Tjevu and Black Umfolozi Rivers. Three Rangers and a gang of Game Guards set off for the area to attempt a rescue. The animal was well and truly bogged, and it appeared to be exhausted. The Land Rover was driven on to the river bed, and a steel cable hitched round the Rhino's hump. The first pull was unsuccessful. The animal rolled on to its side, and this time became very badly stuck. It was impossible to lift the Rhino up the slight bank out of the bog, so the job was tackled with pick and shovel. After two hours of hard work, the bank was removed. The cable was tied round the Rhino once more, and connected to two Land Rovers, this time. The Rhino was towed out on to the bank, but it unfortunately panicked and rolled back, nearly drowning in the mud as its nostrils became submerged. The whole gang of workers lifted its head and placed logs underneath it. The Land Rovers then moved round to another position, and a further attempt was made. The Rhino, screaming and trumpeting, tried to help itself, but moved in the wrong direction. At 3.30 p.m. digging re-started, filling the hole made in the mud by the Rhino. Each time the animal moved, sand was thrown underneath its belly. At 4.15 p.m. it was finally extricated and the tired rescuers returned to their quarters.

BABOONS THROWING STONES?

Report N. A. Steele — Umfolozi

June 1962

From time to time one hears reports of Baboons which are alleged to have rolled boulders down on people standing below