

Giant Eland



Black Rhinoceros

A two-horned black rhinoceros weighs about a ton and a half. His heavy, wrinkled skin is an inch thick, and his powerful blunt head is like a battering ram. He is an unpredictable beast and one of the few that will charge a man without provocation. This bad habit is generally attributed to the fact that he has very poor eyesight and depends almost entirely on his senses of smell and hearing. He has little to fear from other animals, but any unfamiliar sound or scent seems to send him into a panic, whereupon he lowers his head and charges blindly. Charging rhinos have overturned trucks and automobiles, and one once knocked a locomotive of the East African Railway off its track. The rhino's horns are not true horns at all, but bone-hard growths of thickly-matted hair. The tribesmen use his thick hide to make shields, and eat his flesh after pounding it on stones to soften it.

Grant's Gazelle



Giant Eland

When the Dutch settlers in South Africa first saw this giant antelope they called him an eland, which means elk. This was a fitting name, for the eland, largest of all the antelopes, is as big as an American elk — a full-grown bull stands almost six feet at the shoulders. The eland is an agile leaper and a fast runner. He can also be a fierce fighter when his life, or that of his young, is in danger. Elands have been known to trample lions to death with the sharp hoofs of their forefeet. They do not seem to fear any animal — even man — except when they have been heavily hunted.

Black Rhinoceros



Grant's Gazelle

This graceful creature is one of the most common antelopes in Africa. He travels in great numbers over the plains of Kenya and Tanganyika and is known to every hunter who goes out on safari with gun or camera. The Grantie hardly makes more than an appetizer for a hungry pride of lions, so he is seldom molested by the big cats. He is, however, the favourite prey of cheetahs and wild dogs. The Grant's gazelle can go for months without water. He seems to get all the liquid he needs from the moisture in the grass on which he grazes.





East Africa—The Bush Country

East of the jungle and south of the desert lies Africa's fabulous bush country. Here the great plains roll triumphantly from sky to sky across a high plateau. They are studded with sprawling patches of thorny bush and tall, flat-topped acacia trees—carpeted with vast reaches of rich, luxuriant grassland—scarred by patches of desert as arid and forsaken as the Sahara—broken up by thick forests—framed by blue-ridged mountain ranges—watered by rivers that carry the melted snows and tropical rains down from the towering mountains. And the whole country is cut in two by the Great Rift Valley where the earth split apart a hundred million years ago.

The bush is the world's last great natural zoo. Over most of it, wild animals roam as freely as they did before the first white man ventured south of the Sahara—great herds of elephants, lions, zebras, giraffes, rhinoceroses, buffaloes and antelopes of a hundred different kinds. The early hunters who first came into the bush country told stories of tremendous herds of antelopes and gazelles that numbered in the millions and covered the plains like a living brown carpet.

The ruthless slaughter of wild animals that followed the first migrations into the bush resulted in the extinction of many species and all but wiped out the wild game. But today the animals are protected by law and hunting is regulated, so that now the great herds are coming back. Most of the safaris that go into the bush today under the guidance of licensed White Hunters do so for the purpose of seeing and photographing the wild animals, but not to hunt and kill them.

Scattered across the bush country are the villages of the native tribesmen, who work their small farms and tend their herds of long-horned Ankole cattle. Among them are the Masai, the Watusi, the Wakamba, the Kikuyu, the Wagogo, the Meru and dozens of other tribes, all with their strange costumes and customs, their religious rites and day-long dances. Some of these people, notably the Kikuyu and the Wakamba, happily work for the white man—tending his farms, building his roads and dams and working in his mines. Others, like the Masai and the Watusi, cling proudly to their ancient independent ways.

But even when they are working on modern jobs,



the natives often apply their own tribal customs to the task. If two dozen men are working on a road-building job, for example, they will form a straight line with a leader in front to direct them. The leader starts a chant and begins to dance, his long, feathered headdress waving and bobbing in the wind. The workers follow the rhythm of the dance, bringing down their picks or swinging their shovels in unison. On it goes all day long, the men dancing and chanting as they work, doing a 20th Century job in an age-old African way.

The Great Rift Valley of East Africa is something like the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, but on a truly monumental scale. Millions of years ago, when the earth was cooling and the mountains were being thrust upward, the bedrock split and left this gigantic crack in the surface. It is as much as 4,000 feet deep, and in places is fifty miles wide. It comes down out of the north, coils around the bush country like a monstrous serpent, and finally ends at the Indian Ocean.

The rocky floor of the Rift is littered with dead volcanoes, lakes of clear blue water, and dried-up lakes that are now deposits of gleaming-white salt and soda. In the valley of the Western Rift, an off-

shoot of the Great Rift, lie Lake Tanganyika, Lake Edward, Lake Albert and Lake Kiva. In times past, Lake Kiva was the original source of the Nile. But a volcanic upheaval blocked the northward flow of the waters and backed them into Lake Tanganyika. Now Lake Victoria feeds the Nile at its southernmost headwaters.

Many of the mountain slopes of the bush country are rich and fertile. Here, modern farms grow coffee, tea, cotton, peanuts, rubber, sisal and other products. Lush grasslands provide rich grazing for cattle. In the interior of the bush, diamonds and gold have been discovered. No one yet knows how valuable these finds will prove to be, for they are only now in the process of development.

Like almost all of the interior of Africa, the history of the bush country does not go back much beyond a hundred years. The first explorers were missionaries, like Johannes Rebmann who discovered Mount Kilimanjaro, and Dr. David Livingstone who established a school and hospital on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in 1865.

But thanks to the lure of the wild game and the growing popularity of safaris, the bush today is the best known and most publicized part of Africa.



East Africa—The Bush Country

East of the jungle and south of the desert lies Africa's fabulous bush country. Here the great plains roll triumphantly from sky to sky across a high plateau. They are studded with sprawling patches of thorny bush and tall, flat-topped acacia trees — carpeted with vast reaches of rich, luxuriant grassland — scarred by patches of desert as arid and forsaken as the Sahara — broken up by thick forests — framed by blue-ridged mountain ranges — watered by rivers that carry the melted snows and tropical rains down from the towering mountains. And the whole country is cut in two by the Great Rift Valley where the earth split apart a hundred million years ago.

The bush is the world's last great natural zoo. Over most of it, wild animals roam as freely as they did before the first white man ventured south of the Sahara — great herds of elephants, lions, zebras, giraffes, rhinoceroses, buffaloes and antelopes of a hundred different kinds. The early hunters who first came into the bush country told stories of tremendous herds of antelopes and gazelles that numbered in the millions and covered the plains like a living brown carpet.

The ruthless slaughter of wild animals that followed the first migrations into the bush resulted in the extinction of many species and all but wiped out the wild game. But today the animals are protected by law and hunting is regulated, so that now the great herds are coming back. Most of the safaris that go into the bush today under the guidance of licensed White Hunters do so for the purpose of seeing and photographing the wild animals, but not to hunt and kill them.

Scattered across the bush country are the villages of the native tribesmen, who work their small farms and tend their herds of long-horned Ankole cattle. Among them are the Masai, the Watusi, the Wakamba, the Kikuyu, the Wagogo, the Meru and dozens of other tribes, all with their strange costumes and customs, their religious rites and day-long dances. Some of these people, notably the Kikuyu and the Wakamba, happily work for the white man — tending his farms, building his roads and dams and working in his mines. Others, like the Masai and the Watusi, cling proudly to their ancient independent ways.

But even when they are working on modern jobs,



the natives often apply their own tribal customs to the task. If two dozen men are working on a road-building job, for example, they will form a straight line with a leader in front to direct them. The leader starts a chant and begins to dance, his long, feathered headdress waving and bobbing in the wind. The workers follow the rhythm of the dance, bringing down their picks or swinging their shovels in unison. On it goes all day long, the men dancing and chanting as they work, doing a 20th Century job in an age-old African way.

The Great Rift Valley of East Africa is something like the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, but on a truly monumental scale. Millions of years ago, when the earth was cooling and the mountains were being thrust upward, the bedrock split and left this gigantic crack in the surface. It is as much as 4,000 feet deep, and in places is fifty miles wide. It comes down out of the north, coils around the bush country like a monstrous serpent, and finally ends at the Indian Ocean.

The rocky floor of the Rift is littered with dead volcanoes, lakes of clear blue water, and dried-up lakes that are now deposits of gleaming-white salt and soda. In the valley of the Western Rift, an off-

shoot of the Great Rift, lie Lake Tanganyika, Lake Edward, Lake Albert and Lake Kiva. In times past, Lake Kiva was the original source of the Nile. But a volcanic upheaval blocked the northward flow of the waters and backed them into Lake Tanganyika. Now Lake Victoria feeds the Nile at its southernmost headwaters.

Many of the mountain slopes of the bush country are rich and fertile. Here, modern farms grow coffee, tea, cotton, peanuts, rubber, sisal and other products. Lush grasslands provide rich grazing for cattle. In the interior of the bush, diamonds and gold have been discovered. No one yet knows how valuable these finds will prove to be, for they are only now in the process of development.

Like almost all of the interior of Africa, the history of the bush country does not go back much beyond a hundred years. The first explorers were missionaries, like Johannes Rebmann who discovered Mount Kilimanjaro, and Dr. David Livingstone who established a school and hospital on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in 1865.

But thanks to the lure of the wild game and the growing popularity of safaris, the bush today is the best known and most publicized part of Africa.