

VIENNA INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THE BRITISH EXHIBITS.—I.

Now that the success of the International Shooting and Field Sports Exhibition, which is being held in Vienna during the present summer, is assured (and it cannot be denied that serious doubts as to the feasibility of the scheme as regards the British Section were entertained in official quarters at one time), full credit should be given to His Majesty's Government for having decided to be represented officially at the exhibition. It is, we believe, an open secret that the personal interest taken by his late Majesty King Edward VII. in the undertaking as soon as he heard of it at Marienbad last year was a potent factor in the decision which was arrived at, while the support given to the proposal by His Majesty's Ambassador in Vienna carried, of course, considerable weight. It would have been a deplorable state of things if there had been no British Section to be seen in the Prater this year while Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, Norway and other countries were showing their sympathy in the Austrian project by official participation in a very handsome and liberal spirit. The gratifying and complimentary remarks that have been made in Austrian official and sporting circles and by the Vienna Press about the British Pavilion are only a part of the evidence of the satisfaction that is felt in Austria that this country, which is still courteously regarded as a leader to be followed in matters of sport, has taken so prominent a part in the first International Shooting



THE BRITISH PAVILION.

and Field Sports Exhibition that has ever been held, and which was initiated and carried out under the auspices of a committee of distinguished Austrian sportsmen.

The newly established Exhibitions Branch of the Board of Trade, which wisely has been created for the purpose of ensuring that Great Britain shall be adequately represented in International exhibitions on a more systematised and comprehensive plan than has hitherto been the case, is the department responsible for the general management, organisation

and finances of the Vienna Field Sports Exhibition; but it already had on its hands the very heavy work of preparation in connection with other International exhibitions to be held this year at Brussels and Buenos Ayres, and in 1911 in Rome and Turin. The President of the Board of Trade, therefore, invited Lord Desborough to act as chairman of a small committee to look after the interests of the British Section of the Vienna Sports Exhibition. Besides his lordship, this committee consists of the Earl of Lonsdale, Mr. C. E. Fagan (secretary of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington), Mr. Theodore Cook, Mr. U. F. Wintour (director of the Exhibitions Branch of the Board of Trade) and Mr. T. L. Fairholme, who has been appointed Commissioner-General resident in Vienna. Later, the aid of the authorities of the Natural History Museum was very sensibly officially asked for by the Board of Trade and most willingly given by the Trustees, and much of the work of



SOME OF THE HEADS LENT BY KING GEORGE V.

NEWFOUNDLAND CARIBOU.

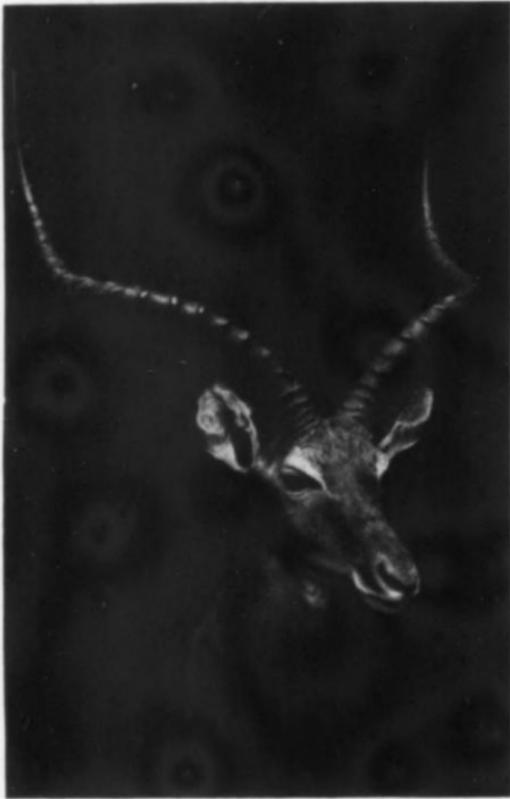
Length on outside curve, 33½ in.; girth, 5½ in.; tip to tip, 23 in.; widest inside, 28 in.; points, 23 and 23. Note double "snow scraper."

HIMALAYAN IBEX.

Length, 45½ in.; girth, 9½ in.; tip to tip, 27 in.

NEWFOUNDLAND CARIBOU.

Length on outside curve, 40½ in.; girth, 6½ in.; tip to tip, 35 in.; widest inside, 36 in.; points, 20 and 24. Another remarkable "snow scraper."

**IMPALA.**

Lent by Mr. W. N. McMillan. Length, 28½ in.; girth, 6½ in.; tip to tip, 24 in.

**FEMALE GEMSBUCK.**

Lent by Mr. F. C. Selous. Length, 42½ in.; girth, 7 in.; tip to tip, 19½ in.

**GRANT'S GAZELLE.**

Lent by Mr. W. N. McMillan. Length, 24½ in.; girth, 6½ in.; tip to tip, 14½ in.

organisation and registration, as well as the collection of the magnificent series of trophies of the chase and other objects intended for the exhibition, has perforce been carried out in that institution owing to the special nature of the exhibits.

Thanks to the very generous way in which owners have responded to the request for loans, there is now to be seen in the British Pavilion such an assemblage of hunting trophies as has certainly never been got together before.

The building itself is a remarkably good reproduction of an old Cheshire house of the Tudor style of architecture, surrounded by an old-fashioned English garden, planted with shrubs and bushes familiar to country homes. Standing on the right of the main entrance to the Rotunda, the central point of the exhibition grounds, the British Pavilion occupies perhaps the best

position. The quiet and beautiful simplicity of its external appearance, in striking contrast to the far more ornate façades of the neighbouring pavilions and to the much more imposing, not to say impressive, buildings of Germany and Hungary, has been appreciatively commented upon by many visitors.

The walls of the interior are covered by a dark green material, well adapted to show the heads in the strong sunlight of Vienna. In the most prominent position in the centre of the pavilion stands the skeleton of the famous race-horse and Derby winner, Persimmon, lent by His late Majesty King Edward VII., who further showed his personal interest and sympathy in the efforts of the British Committee by himself selecting five of his best heads (two moose and three wapiti) from the collection at Sandringham

on the occasion of his last visit to his Norfolk home only a few days before the grievous event which has cast such a gloom over the whole country. On one side of Persimmon is the skeleton of Eclipse, justly the most celebrated of all race-horses, the property of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The

kind act of the governing body of the college in allowing this precious relic of the famous English thorough-bred to be sent to Vienna—the first time Eclipse has left these shores—has been much appreciated by the many Austrians interested in horses. They have all heard of Eclipse and they will all take this opportunity of seeing his skeleton, which, moreover, is not the only relic of the great horse exhibited in the British Section. There is also to be seen the hoof of Eclipse, in the form of a snuffbox mounted on a silver-gilt ewer. This historic relic was presented by King William IV. to the Jockey Club, who kindly consented to its removal from the clubrooms at Newmarket in order that it might be shown in the Austrian capital. The committee were also successful in obtaining from the Royal Veterinary College the loan of the

**RECORD TUSKS OF ELEPHANT.**

Shot by Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton. Length (on curve), No. 1, 9 ft.; No. 2, 8 ft. 11 in. Length (straight line), No. 1, 7 ft. 9½ in.; No. 2, 7 ft. 6 in. Girth, No. 1, 2 ft. 1 in.; No. 2, 1 ft. 11½ in. Weight, No. 1, 198 lb.; No. 2, 174 lb.

**BLACK FOREST-HOG.**

(British East Africa.) Shot by Lieutenant-Colonel J. Watkins Yardley. Top canine, length, 9 in.; girth, 5 in.

skeleton of another great English stallion, namely, Hermit, the winner of the sensational Derby of 1867 with the odds of 1,000 to 15 against him. These three skeletons form the centre line of the interior of our pavilion.

We now propose to give a brief account of the splendid collection of heads of big game, which naturally forms by far the most important and representative feature of the British Section. It should be understood that the aim of the committee has been to bring together as complete a representation as possible of the species of big game occurring within the British Empire. This policy has not met with universal acceptance, because, as they belong to exotic species, it has necessitated the exclusion of some of the finest trophies in this country, although these were shot by British sportsmen. The intention of those responsible was, we believe, not to illustrate the achievements of individual sportsmen, but rather to show the varied resources in the way of big game of the British Empire. In this respect the committee may fairly be congratulated on the result attained. Mr. Lydekker, who is rightly considered our best authority on the subject, was asked to draw up a list of species of big game and other animals of sport occurring within the limits of the British Empire, and he named about one hundred and sixty-five such species. Of these perhaps one hundred and fifty are represented by one or more specimens in the British Pavilion at Vienna. In some instances a species (the greater kudu, eland, gemsbuck, etc.) is represented by three or four magnificent examples, while among the absentees are Grévy's zebra, hunting leopard, Pacific walrus, great Indian rhinoceros and several of the Asiatic bears.

His Majesty King George has sent seven fine specimens, selected by Mr. Fagan from the trophies at Marlborough House. The animals represented in the Royal loan are the Newfoundland caribou (2), musk ox (*Ovibos moschatus*), a specimen showing well the characteristic form of the horns, which almost meet one another in the middle line of the skull; the Himalayan ibex (*Capra sibirica*), tahr, markhor and the Javan rusa deer. The last-named is represented by a head and horns of the race introduced from Java into the Mauritius, and is the record



BLACK LEOPARD.

(British East Africa.) Lent by Mrs. W. N. McMillan.

specimen for that island. The measurements are as follows: Length on outside curve 37½ in., circumference 5¾ in., tip to tip 16 in., widest inside 17¾ in., points 3 and 3.

It should be mentioned that the trophies are exhibited in the pavilion in four main divisions, namely, Africa, which occupies the whole of the south wall space; India and Canada, which between them fill the north side; and the British Isles, which are shown at the west end of the building. The African collection is much the largest, and we will deal with it first. The series of heads of the Cape buffalo is exceptionally good, specimens being shown by Mr. F. J. Jackson, a fine head with a width of palm, measured on face of horn, 12¼ in., shot by him in East Africa so long ago as 1887, one year before the old East African Company took over the country; Mr. S. L. Hinde, shot on the Upper Tana River, width of palm 13½ in.; Captain Meinertzhagen, and Sir Richard Glyn, Bart., the second record head, shot in 1863 on the Limpopo River, about ten miles below the Ngotuanu River. The measurements of this splendid head are as follows: Greatest width, outside 49 in., inside 44½ in., tip to tip 40½ in., width of palm measured on face of horn 11¼ in. Mr. R. O. Roberts has



RECORD WHITE RHINOCEROS.

(Mashonaland.) Shot by Mr. F. C. Selous. The small dark circle at base represents a halfpenny, which measures exactly 1 in. in diameter. Front horn: Length, 37½ in.; girth, 27½ in. Second horn: Length, 17¾ in.; girth, 24 in.



FIVE-HORNED BLACK RHINOCEROS.

Shot by Colonel E. G. Harrison.



NORTHERN WHITE RHINOCEROS.

(Upper Nile.) Lent by Mr. C. V. A. Peel. Front horn, 29 in. Second horn, 10 in.

also a very fine specimen of the Cape buffalo, shot by him in the Kenia Province of British East Africa, the measurements being: Greatest outside width 48in., tip to tip 44½in., width of palm 11½in.

The greater kudu is represented by several magnificent examples, notably those of Mr. F. C. Selous, shot on the Macloutsie River, Khama's country, in May, 1890 (illustration); Major C. L. Graham 4th Hussars, shot in North-West Rhodesia,

the other antelopes are worthily represented in Vienna. Limits of space will, unfortunately, allow us to mention only some of these trophies. Nothing could be finer than the specimens of sable (*Hippotragus niger*) contributed by Major Graham (North-West Rhodesia), Mr. F. J. Jackson, C.B., and Captain P. R. Bald; the gemsbuck (*Oryx gazella*), lent by Mr. H. A. Bryden (Kalahari Desert), Mr. W. A. Simpson-Hinchliffe, Mr. G. M. Bond (Ngamiland) and Mr. F. C. Selous (North Kalahari). The

collection contains six grand heads of Pala or Impala (*Æpyceros melampus*), contributed by Mr. F. J. Jackson, Mr. F. Russell Roberts, Major B. R. Horsbrugh, Captain Francis Hausburg, Mr. W. N. McMillan and Mr. E. M. Crossfield. The last two are record specimens, but we believe that H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught has brought home a head, shot by him during his recent trip in East Africa, that surpasses all existing records of this species. Among the smaller forms of antelopes attention may be directed to the two specimens of Mrs. Gray's Kob (*Cobus maria*), shot respectively by Sir William Garstin and Lieutenant A. H. Vivian, Rifle Brigade; the addax, shot by Captain P. E. Vaughan in the desert, some one hundred and eighty miles south-west of Dongola; the splendid specimens of Grant's gazelle contributed by Mr. W. N. McMillan; Thomson's gazelle, of Mr. S. L. Hinde; and Speke's gazelle, of General Sir Arthur Paget. The series of gazelles exhibited is, however, too large for detailed notice.

Mr. F. C. Selous' trophies include the record skull and horns of the white rhinoceros shot by him in Mashonaland in 1880. The anterior horn in this specimen is the longest for a bull that Mr. Selous ever saw, although the horns of white rhinoceros cows often grow much longer. He shot one in Eastern Matabeleland in 1872 whose horn measured three feet nine inches over the curve. There is a fine specimen of the head of the same species of the northern form from the Upper Nile, lent by Mr. C. V. A. Peel of Oxford. Next to the Indian elephant the white or Burchell's rhinoceros is the largest

mammal that has trodden the earth in modern times, and it is much to be deplored that it is now nearly exterminated. The British Museum possesses the type specimens of both the Southern and Northern forms, and it is owing to this fact that the specimens of this animal shot by Mr. Roosevelt in the Lado Enclave on the White Nile have been sent to London for the purpose of comparison.

Of the common or Black rhinoceros there are three fine specimens, and one described as having five horns, really showing small and malformed horns, shot by Colonel E. G. Harrison, C.B., D.S.O.

Among the rarities in the collection are a well-mounted head of the bongo, belonging to the Eastern race, exhibited by Major Horsbrugh, a fine trophy of the hirola, or Hunter's hartebeest (*Damaliscus Hunteri*), shot on the Juba River in 1903 by Colonel E. G. Harrison, C.B., D.S.O., and a specimen of the great black forest-hog (*Hylochaerus Meinertzhageni*), shot by Lieutenant-Colonel J. Watkins Yardley. As is well known, this creature was first discovered by Captain Meinertzhagen on the Nandi plateau and round Mount Kenia, and specimens of it are still scarcer than those of the okapi or bongo. The British Museum possesses only the type



FROM BRITISH AFRICA.

Note Mrs. McMillan's lion and the kudu, eland and sable antelope of Major Graham.

September, 1909; Captain Meinertzhagen, from Nyasaland, September, 1908; Mr. F. Russell Roberts, Sudan; and Mr. W. A. Simpson-Hinchliffe, South Africa. There are several equally fine trophies of that grand antelope the eland. Especially noteworthy are the heads lent by Mr. F. J. Jackson (East Africa), Major C. A. Sykes (Rhodesia), the fourth best specimen recorded; Mr. F. C. Selous (Mashonaland); Major C. L. Graham (North-West Rhodesia), a grand specimen shot by him in September, 1909; Captain R. J. Collins of the Bahr-el-Gazal Garrison, a fine male head of the giant eland of the Sudan (*Derbianus gigas*); and Captain R. B. Airey, who contributes another equally good example of this race. It may be remembered that Mr. Roosevelt shot three specimens of the Sudan giant eland, which are intended for the National Museum at Washington. We cannot help expressing regret that our own national collection at South Kensington does not contain a mounted example of this animal, one of the few deficiencies in the incomparable series of antelopes in the Natural History Museum. It is to be hoped that the authorities will shortly succeed in obtaining one or two very fine specimens, since there should be no difficulty in doing so by invoking the aid and good offices of the Sirdar. Nearly all

specimen, for which it is indelited, we believe, to Captain Meinertzhagen.

Another great rarity is a beautifully mounted specimen of a black leopard of exceptional size secured by Mrs. W. N. McMillan close to Nairobi in East Africa. This, of course, is not a distinct species, but a case of melanism and an individual variety of the common leopard, born from parents of the normal colour. A close inspection of the skin reveals the spots under the black.

The same lady has been good enough to contribute a mounted specimen of a lion shot by her in British East Africa in January, 1906. The "king of beasts" is further represented by specimens from Rhodesia, lent by the British South Africa Company, from Somaliland, shot and lent by General Sir A. Paget, and by a magnificent head and fore part, modelled and lent by Mr. Rowland Ward.

The elephant trophies include Sir Robert G. Harvey's well-known pair of tusks from the Tana River; another fine pair from South Africa, lent by the British South Africa Company; a single tusk (weight one hundred and forty-seven pounds) from an elephant shot by Major F. R. Burnham, D.S.O., lent by the Sports Club; and what we believe to be the world record pair of tusks belonging to an elephant shot by a white man. These splendid trophies are the property of Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton, who killed the elephant in Central Africa, west of the Albert Nyanza.

The registration, packing and transmission from London to Vienna of all these trophies of the chase have been arduous and anxious labours, for the committee are duly sensible of the responsibility attaching to them as temporary custodians of so many fine things which they are able to exhibit only by the generosity of owners, without whose invaluable and cordial co-operation an adequate display creditable to the sporting reputation of this country could not have been made. The fact that not a single object reached Vienna in any way damaged is testimony to the care with which Mr. Rowland Ward, who was entrusted with the packing of the specimens, carried out this important task.

CROQUET.

EXCEPT for a breakdown in the weather during the last two days, there was nothing to prevent last week's championship

meeting at Roehampton from being as successful as any of its predecessors, while from a spectator's point of view the interest of this fixture was greatly enhanced by the difficulties against which the players had to contend. The introduction of Ayres's composition balls (with which the majority of the competitors were unacquainted), in conjunction with the fiery nature of the lawns until nearing the end and the extreme rigidity of the three-and-three-quarter-inch hoops, proved sufficient to render the play of a more give-and-take character than is usually the case. The faultless exhibitions were few and far between, and in a large majority of the matches the interest was sustained to the bitter end. With the strong Irish brigade in full force, the entry for the Open Championship, which included two representatives of the fair sex in Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton and Miss N. E. Coote, was thoroughly typical of the full strength of the game, a remark which applies with equal force to the Ladies' Championship and the Mixed Doubles Championship. The success of Mr. C. L. O'Callaghan in the first of these events was a most popular one, and especially so in view of the fact that he has been on three previous occasions within an ace of carrying off this coveted honour. Now that Mr. Maurice Barry and Mr. K. H. Izard are lost to croquet, there is no more attractive player than this brilliant Irishman,

whose quickness of execution and cleanness of stroke are valuable assets to a game which can boast of so many slow and deliberate exponents.

The runner-up, Mr. H. F. W. Prince, has never been seen in better form, and he only lost the championship through making a faulty approach at the rover hoop when finishing the second game. His easy style is at times so nonchalant that it impresses spectators as bordering on carelessness, while as regards his temperament for the game, Mr. Prince is a player to be envied. Except for the first few minutes, no finer play has ever been seen in the final round of the championship than that which these two men showed, and this is particularly gratifying in the light of the many moderate exhibitions that "nerves" have been responsible for in previous contests. Owing to the luck of the draw, Mr. R. C. J. Beaton had no trouble in getting into the last four, but it was only after a good display of fighting abilities that Captain R. G. O'Callaghan (brother to the winner) gained that distinction. For a stranger to the competition the latter may be said to have covered himself with glory, and another new aspirant to fame in Mr. A. R. Murphy also did extremely well.

Owing to a single game only being allowed in the Mixed Doubles Championship till the semi-final round, some startling results are liable to occur, and on the present occasion the defeats of Mr. and Mrs. Beaton (who have won this event three times) and Mr. G. Ashmore and Mrs. I. Newton (the runners-up for the last two years) in the early stages proved no exception to the general rule. Cautious tactics in double play have for so long been carried to excess that it was pleasing to note an inclination on the part of some of the combinations to adopt a more forward policy, and in this category may be included the winning pair in Mr. C. L. O'Callaghan and Miss H. Johnson Houghton, who repeated their success of the previous year as a fitting reward for their consistency throughout the event.

Never has the Ladies' Championship presented a more open appearance than on the present occasion, as it was possible at the



FROM BRITISH AFRICA.

Note Sir Robert Harvey's tusks, lion lent by Mr. Rowland Ward and Mr. Selous' kudu and eland.

onset to point to about a dozen players whose chances were of a rosy nature. The elongated character of many of the matches and the narrow margin of points by which success was achieved corroborated this statement in a marked degree. There are so many good lady players of great experience with slow and deliberate methods that it was refreshing to find some of the less practised hands of more dashing execution holding their own well in the early stages.