

he sentenced the accused to ten days' exposure on the hill-side in a portable cage. A week later the Sergeant reported that the Ape's conduct in confinement was good; he added that fellow-Apes were feeding him through his prison-bars. The Governor thereupon concluded that the prisoner had earned a remission of his sentence, and ordered his release.

THE 1950 TANGANYIKA GAME BILL

That the Government of Tanganyika is taking seriously its obligations under the 1933 International Convention for the Protection of African Fauna and Flora, is shown by the draft of the new Game Bill. The explanatory note particularly reflects an appreciation of the value of wild life and a realization that the world to-day is watching with growing concern the depreciation of the fauna of Africa. It will hardly be disputed that the new Bill exceeds in courage and imagination any game preservation legislation previously attempted in the country, and it will be the earnest hope of lovers of nature everywhere, particularly of the members of the Fauna Preservation Society, that the effort meets the success which it deserves.

The new bill introduces a very unusual system of game licences. Instead of the ramifications of visitors, residents, major and minor game licences, all hunters are put on the same footing. According to what they wish to shoot so they pay, in advance, with a minimum of £1 for a licence. There is, of course, a maximum number of any kind of animal which may be "bought" in any one year. For example permission to shoot one Giraffe only may be bought and it costs £15, whereas up to eight Impala may be shot annually at a cost of 2s. each.

It will be interesting and instructive to see how this system of game *à la carte* works out in practice. What is very important is that it puts the African on the same basis as other races. Under previous legislation he was allowed to kill almost unrestrictedly "to feed himself and his dependents". That the indigenous race should live on the country as it had always done seemed no doubt an excellent and fair provision; in practice it made killing, including killing for profit, uncontrollable and resulted in the decimation of the larger wild life of the country. To put all races on the same footing is a bold step but an essential one.

More open to question is the regulation allowing shooting without licence to a property owner or his servants within five miles of his property. The regulation, it is true, does stipulate that the killing shall be in defence of property, but as it allows killing "within five miles of the property to which the animal has done, is doing, or is likely to do damage", it is hard to see that it will not result in unrestricted killing within the laid down distance. In fact the explanatory note envisages as much, for it says that the new Bill empowers an owner to hunt, licence free, within a radius of five miles of his property. A five mile limit is likely to be very elastic and to result in killing far beyond its limits. Would not one mile be ample to cover the needs of owners genuinely seeking only to protect their property from wild animals?

The use of poisoned arrows previously prohibited is no longer so because, so the explanatory note states, it is impossible to eliminate the African's only effective weapon and because the poisoned arrow does kill quickly. To allow poisoned arrows is contrary to the whole spirit of the 1933 Convention which Great Britain summoned and in the implementation of which she is supposed to lead the way. The Convention reads as follows: "Wherever possible the undermentioned methods of destroying animals shall be generally prohibited . . . the use of poisoned weapons for hunting animals." The use of these barbarous weapons is forbidden in other African territories; it is to be hoped that in the final Act their general use will be found prohibited in Tanganyika also.

When a conviction against the Game Ordinance is secured, the Court may order any animal meat or trophy taken by the convicted person, or any trap, weapon, or vehicle used by him to be forfeited to Government. Surely the forfeiture of the meat, trophy, and trap should be automatic and only the question of the forfeiture of the weapon and vehicle be left to the discretion of the Court. There seems even to be a little confusion here, for under a previous section any animal killed or captured in contravention of the Ordinance is a Government trophy and the property of the Government.

Reserves are divided into three categories, Game Reserves, where all animals are strictly protected, partial Reserves, where certain species only receive protection, and Controlled Areas, wherein permission to shoot and the conditions governing shooting are controlled by the Game Warden. These categories, the animals placed in them, and the areas chosen seem carefully selected to give a high degree of protection. It is disappointing

to see that the Serengeti Plains are still designated as a Game Reserve and not as a National Park, but this is said to be only until the final boundary of the Serengeti National Park has been fixed.

Captain Keith Caldwell, whose knowledge of East African game is unrivalled and who has just returned from Tanganyika, was called into consultation during the framing of the draft bill under discussion. The Society is grateful to its very active member and welcomes the new Bill as a sincere attempt to put game preservation in Tanganyika at last upon a sound footing.

THE FAUNA OF JUBALAND

By JOHN N. WARD and DAVID S. SORRELL

The object of these notes is to give a record of the wild life living in the Lower Juba area of Somalia, and to assist visitors to Jubaland in finding the haunts of the various animals described. The writers do not presume to lay down the methods of identifying these animals because more knowledgeable authors have already done this elsewhere.

The Lower Juba is that area which was the Administrative District of Kismayu under the recent British occupation. It extends from Ghesgud to Dujuma on the left bank of the Juba River, and contains all the land between the right bank of the river and the Kenya border from Ras Ciamboni to Dif, lying south of a line Dif-Dujuma (see map).

The area is approximately 20,000 square miles, and was held by the British from 1898 to 1925 when it was handed over to the Italians. During the 1939–1945 war, Jubaland was quickly taken back under the British flag, only to be returned on 1st April, 1950, to the Italians on the instructions of the United Nations Organization. In spite of the military activity necessitated by these moves, and the fact that the District was the birth-place of the Mad Mullah, wild life abounds and is not unduly molested.

Though the wiry little Bon tribesmen are clever and cunning when hunting, little exploitation has taken place, and the most dangerous man-made weapon known to animals is still usually the bow with the wicked poisoned arrow. The poison on these