

indeed and the pair should consider themselves lucky not to have brought home more tropical germs than they did.

Dr. Grzimek observes his fellow men, whether black, white or coloured, as accurately as the animals and the whole book makes thoroughly good reading. It has twenty-two excellent photographs, including a wild adult male chimpanzee and a wild forest elephant, but the original German edition has three times as many pictures, all of them in photogravure or colour, and some entertaining end-paper maps.

G. S. C.

OUR NATIONAL PARKS. A Guide to the National Parks of the Union of South Africa. Published by the National Parks Board of Trustees of the Union of South Africa. Pretoria. 5s.

This comprehensive little paper-backed volume, covering many aspects of the national parks of the Union of South Africa, forms a competent guide. In spite of destruction that still takes toll of the nation's fauna and flora, "the wild life and plants of their country . . . hold an ineradicable fascination" for South Africans. This is evidenced by the fact that, of the 91,000 visitors to the Kruger National Park in 1954, a large proportion were of Afrikaans stock. It is, therefore, but fitting that this guide should be written in both official languages. The print is clear, and the few minor irregularities of English are of little consequence. Not only is the book admirably factual, but imagination is shown in the addition of unusual items of interest, such as the translated meaning of native place-names, stories about lions, and historical notes that impart a feeling of the veld and the old trekker days.

Anyone having intent to visit the national parks of the Union would do well to arm themselves with a copy of this guide for, apart from enumerating the five parks and the amenities to be found in the various camps, it gives useful notes on the question of reservations, routes, equipment required and suggestions as to conduct (no mean advice when visitors have been known to throw beer bottles at lions in order to see them jump)! The historical background of the National Parks Administration is given, also details regarding some of the game most likely to be seen. The book is illustrated with numerous photographs of camp sites, birds, mammals, trees; efforts, too, have been made to interleave it with advertisements that fit attractively into the theme of open-air life.

P. S.