

Oryx

The International Journal of Conservation

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The website of the journal is (from 2008):

<http://www.oryxthejournal.org/>

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The Society was founded in 1903 as the Society for the Preservation of the Wild Fauna of the Empire, and subsequently named the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society. Fauna & Flora International is conserving the planet's threatened species and ecosystems – with the people and communities who depend on them.

Oryx - The International Journal of Conservation, is now published quarterly by Cambridge University Press on behalf of Fauna & Flora International. It is a leading scientific journal of biodiversity conservation, conservation policy and sustainable use, with a particular interest in material that has the potential to improve conservation management and practice.

The website, <http://www.oryxthejournal.org/>, plays a vital role in the journal's capacity-building work. Amongst the site's many attributes is a compendium of sources of free software for researchers and details of how to access Oryx at reduced rates or for free in developing countries. The website also includes extracts from Oryx issues 10, 25 and 50 years ago, and a gallery of research photographs that provide a fascinating insight into the places, species and people described in the journal.

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the living forms and we desire to express our indebtedness to Dr. Thaly and the Administrator, the Hon. W. A. Bowring, and particularly to the latter, for so promptly bringing the matter to the notice of the Society.

We hope shortly to learn that steps have been taken to ensure that the species shall receive the most careful protection, for if it still breeds in the steep mountains of Dominica it is beyond doubt extremely rare.

C. W. H.

NOTE.—Since writing the above, information has been received that the bird died on 26th May. The skin is being preserved in the Museum at Roseau, the specimen proving to be a hen. The species has, moreover, been protected by a Special Legislative Order dated 1st July, 1932.

THE RHINOCEROS.

With reference to the article on this animal which was published in No. XIV of our *Journal* (pp. 18 et seq.), Mr. E. O. Shebbeare, of Darjeeling, a recognized authority, has submitted some additional information regarding the distribution of the Indian species and a few corrections, which are welcomed :—

R. unicornis.—There are still a limited number in North Bengal and the adjoining state of Cooch Behar and also in Bhutan. He doubts if there are any in Siam.

R. sondaicus.—There may be a mere handful still surviving in Burma in the Kahilu Reserve and in Shwe-a-daung, but it is uncertain.

R. sumatrensis.—As regards India, there were a few still surviving a short time back in Burma, Assam (Lushai and Tappara Hills), and in the Chittagong Hill tracts in Bengal. Mr. Shebbeare has taken great pains in an attempt to estimate the approximate number of *R. unicornis* still surviving in Assam (North Bengal). They first occur about 51 miles south-east of Darjeeling and there are sporadic occurrences along the foothills for about 330 miles due east

as far as Silsagar. In this long strip of country he estimates that not more than 220 specimens survive to-day.

It is therefore evident that all the species of Indian Rhinoceros are approaching vanishing point and the recent Act passed by the Bengal Legislature and which affords special protection to this creature comes none too soon.

C. W. H.

UGANDA PROTECTORATE.

GAME DEPARTMENT REPORT, 1931.

Extracts from.

Expenditure and Revenue.

1. Figures for 1931 are as follows :—

	£	shs.	cts.
Expenditure	5,558	3	53
Revenue	18,074	18	21

Balance of revenue over expenditure £12,516 14 68

The revenue was derived as follows :—

	£	shs.	cts.
(a) Sale of ivory, rhinoceros horns, and hippopotamus teeth	15,266	12	58
(b) Sale of buffalo hides and other trophies	2	19	13
(c) Game licences	2,805	6	50

2. There is a decrease in the total of practically all licences taken out during the year, the low price of ivory being the main reason where elephant licences are concerned, but bird licences have sold almost as readily as ever in spite of the depressing times.

Illegal Killing of Game and Breaches of Game Laws.

6. Convictions remain about the same in number as during 1930. Only one serious case came to light, that of a European sending out armed natives to kill his elephants. The bag was big, but the fine was bigger.

Game Ordinance, 1926.

7. Legislation dealing with methods of fishing and with the using of aeroplanes and motor cars for hunting was enacted during the year.