LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



This rhino horn is described in a letter from Kenya.

IN DEFENCE OF TURTLE-DOVES

SIR,—Farmers, keepers and others have recently been incited to shoot turtle-doves

turtle-doves are certainly very difficult to photograph at the nest, so perhaps the accompanying snapshot by Mr. J. H. Vickers may be of interest.

J. D. U. WARD.

Oxford.

A CURIOUS RHINO HORN

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of an unusual pair of rhino horns from the slopes of Mt. Kenya.

The front horn, nearly 46 inches long, was carried pointing horizontally forward like the beak of a swordfish.—Yours, etc.,

E. MITCHELL.

P.O. Makurger, Kenya Colony.

SPORTSMEN AND THE LAW

SIR,—Both in the High Court and the County Courts recently the rights and liabilities of performers at, and spectators of, various forms of sport have formed the subject of interesting discussions and important decisions.

A batsman drove a ball out of the ground. It hit a spectator, who claimed damages. He lost—but under other conditions other claimants have succeeded.

Golfers who have driven a ball and caused injury by it to pedestrians or spectators have met with similarly different decisions.

As to golf, much depends upon whether the course is on private property or on common land to which the commoners have a right

nature which could not, by any reasonable cause have been foreseen or resisted." So, if the American judge be right, a "slice"—equally, it is supposed, a "pull"—can be "foreseen" and "resisted."—Hardly a common experience.

The duty of promoters of sporting events is to take reasonable precaution against accident. There is no guarantee of safety; spectators take the risk of inherent perils.

Lord Justice Scrutton said:

"Illustrations are the risk of being hit by a cricket ball at Lord's or at the Oval, where any ordinary spectator expects to take the risk of a ball being hit with considerable force, and does not expect any structure which will prevent any ball from reaching the spectators.

"An even more common case is one which may be seen all over the country every Saturday afternoon, spectators admitted for payment to a field to witness a football or hockey match, and standing near the touch-line.

"No one expects the person receiving payment to erect such structures or nets that no spectator can be hit by a ball kicked or hit violently among the spectators. The field is safe to stand on, and the spectators take the risk of the game."

BARRISTER.

Middle Temple, E.C.4.

BEHAVIOUR OF CYCLISTS