

GENUS *Cynelopex*

The Pale Fox (*C. pallida edwardsi* Rochebrune) is the smallest member of the family and attains a length of only 2 feet 6 inches. It is a pale buff in general colour with a little speckling of blackish-brown down the centre of the back; the root of the tail is more heavily marked and the tip is entirely black. The large ears are much the same colour as the rest of the upper side, but the belly is greyish or whitish. The legs are lighter or darker rufous on the outside. It is just possible that the Saharan race *C. p. rüppelli* Schinz with a white tail tip is to be found just inside our area.

GENUS *Lycaon*

The Hunting Dog (*L. pictus sharicus* Thomas & Wroughton) is a large animal about 4 feet 6 inches in length from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail. It has very large rounded black ears. The hair of its coat is sparse and is an asymmetrically variegated pattern of orange, black and white; the basal portion of the tail is orange, but the apex is black and white; there is a distinct black line down the centre of the head and neck usually extending on to the back. The legs are very long, and the mature animal stands 2 feet at the shoulder. There are only four claws on the fore feet instead of the usual five in other dogs. This animal may be seen by day hunting in packs; it is very swift.

Secretary Birds in Bornu

SINCE authentic records of the secretary bird in Nigeria are so few, the following should be of interest.

On November 22nd, 1935, I saw a pair near the roadside between Damaturu and Biu. The country here is low, open orchard bush, and the grass had already been burnt off, so I had a very good view. I followed them slowly through the bush for about a quarter of an hour. They did not attempt to fly, but walked away quickly with a jerky, though majestic, gait, stopping when I stopped and turning their heads to look at me. They were fifty or sixty yards away. Finally I ran to get nearer and they rose rather heavily, circling once before they disappeared from view. Then the black remiges became apparent and the long, thin, black central tail feathers streaming behind, which had not been visible when the birds were on the ground.

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Yola,

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