

calculation. On Rhum, for instance, the pre-war deer population was estimated at 1,750 beasts and about 70 stags were killed annually—exactly 1 : 25. Since the war the population has been in the region of 900 deer, which has yielded about 35 stags annually.

I am sure, therefore, that Mr. Perry's figure of "probably less than 100,000" is vastly underestimated, for this would mean, when hinds are also taken into consideration, that approximately 16 per cent of Scotland's deer population is being shot annually—a figure which does not take into consideration death from other causes which in a severe winter can be extremely heavy.

The area of Scotland scheduled as deer forest is about three million acres, and it has been suggested, therefore, that my figure of 200,000 deer would indicate a density of one deer to about 15 acres, which is too great. It is, however, quite erroneous to suggest that all the deer are concentrated on the deer forests, which in all, cover *less* than 25 per cent of the total area of the counties in which deer are to be found. There are, therefore, vast areas of Argyllshire, Inverness-shire, Perthshire, and Sutherland, etc., which, although not scheduled as deer forest, nevertheless hold stocks of deer which in some areas are quite considerable.—G. KENNETH WHITEHEAD.

WHISKERED BAT IN NORFOLK

In the last number of *Oryx* (November, 1953, page 198), it is stated that the specimen of *Myotis mystacinus* (Kuhl) caught near Melton Constable in 1953 constitutes the first county record. This is not correct. The species was previously discovered in the neolithic flint mines at Grimes Graves, Norfolk, on 24th March, 1947, by Mr. D. E. Sergeant and Dr. D. L. Harrison (see *The Naturalist*, 1947, p. 152).—MICHAEL BLACKMORE.

LESSER HORSESHOE BAT IN SHROPSHIRE

A specimen of the lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros minutus* Montagu), sex not determined, was caught by Mr. George Mason at Nash Court, near Ludlow, Shropshire, on 27th October, 1953, and identified by me. It is the first record for the county. The bat was found in a cellar which is also used as a boiler-house. Probably disturbed by the opening of the door and the switching on of the light, it was flying when Mason entered but soon settled. No measurements were taken, but the size of the wings and body, and the characteristic face left no doubt as to its identity. During inspection the animal frequently