

the Cape of Good Hope.
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before leaving again on another golfi

United National South West Party

RECORDS WITH 'NEW SOUND' FOR WILD LIFE LOVERS

Hoopoe gets in the groove

IF you are in doubt as to the various sounds made by Egyptian geese, the purple crested lourie or the hoopoe — or, in fact, any of some 17 assorted birds — a couple of extended play recordings which are to be issued today by the International Library of African Music will put you right.

More than that, the records, which are to be followed by others presenting the sounds of the wild animals of Southern Africa will, it is hoped, contribute to the drive to increase

interest in and to preserve wild life.

To learn more about the plans of I.L.A.M., yesterday I visited Mr. Hugh Tracey, the organisation's founder and director, in his office near Krugersdorp—a room festooned with all kinds of African musical instruments.

"We look for support," declared Mr. Tracey, "to the considerable body of South Africans who are strongly attached to their wild life. This series of recordings, I am sure,

will be warmly welcomed by them.

"Wild life," and for a moment Mr. Tracey looked glum, "is definitely in danger. I'm afraid there are a number of irresponsible politicians who do not have the strength of character, or even the desire, to protect our game.

"I think that this series will be of particular interest to visitors to our game parks and reserves as an accompaniment to their films of wild life, and to ornithologists everywhere."

Unfortunately for posterity,

many animals make little or no sound—sound by which they can be identified anyway. Most antelopes do not, and all you can hope to get from a giraffe is the noise of its gallop as it disappears into the middle distance.

"However," said Mr. Tracey, "we did record lion, spotted hyenas, hippos, white rhinos, zebras, bush pig, baboon, black-backed jackal and blue wildebeest."

Heaven forbid that these animals disappear from our scene. But if ever they should, at least their sounds will remain. H.C.C.

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