

Briefly . . .

Award for Miss Barclay-Smith

Miss Phyllis Barclay-Smith Hon. Secretary of the ICBP (International Council for Bird Preservation) and also of its British Section, was awarded the CBE in the Birthday Honours for her outstanding services to conservation. At the end of last year she resigned after eighteen years the hon. secretaryship of the Advisory Committee on Oil Pollution of the Sea.

Gold Medals for Conservation

Sir Julian Huxley, a Vice-President of FPS, Professor Dr Bernhard Grzimek and Dr Jacques Verschuren, Director of Congo National Parks, were each awarded a gold medal by the World Wildlife Fund at the WWF Congress in London last October for their outstanding contributions to wildlife conservation.

Wildlife Management School

Africa's French-speaking school of wildlife management opened last November at Garoua, in Cameroon. This is the counterpart of the very successful English-speaking school at Mweka, in Tanzania, where many of the wardens and other staff serving in both East and West African parks have been trained.

Golden Eagle Breeds in England

Last summer saw what was probably the first successful breeding by golden eagles in England since the 18th century, when one young flew safely from an eyrie in the Lake District. The nest had been guarded day and night by the Nature Conservancy, RSPB and Lake District Naturalists' Trust.

Javan Rhino Births

From the Udjong Kulon reserve in western Java, where all the world's Javan rhinos are now concentrated (probably under 30), comes news of two young born last year. Dr Rudolph Schenkel and his wife, supported by WWF, are working there on the management of the vegetation in the interests of the rhinos.

Getting the Children Interested

The Rhodesian National Parks Department is running special two-week study courses for junior school children in the Wankie National Park, in which ordinary lessons are combined with talks on conservation from the parks staff and wilderness trail trips. This is a pilot scheme which it is hoped will lead to the establishment of bush study schools that could take 5000 children a year.

Two Otters Go into the Red Book

Two South American mammals have been added to the Red Data Book: the marine otter *Lutra felina*, of the Pacific coast, and the southern river otter *L. provocax*, of Chile and Argentina.

Another Drop in the Gir Lions

The lions in the Gir Forest (the only lions in India) continue to decrease; from 175 in 1968 to an estimated 150 in 1969. Lack of prey for the lions to feed on is still believed to be the main cause, leading to high mortality among cubs.