

SHORTER NOTICES

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY—THE FIRST TEN YEARS. From the Nature Conservancy, 19 Belgrave Square, London, S.W. 1. Price 1s. 6d.

This is a popular account of the Nature Conservancy since its foundation by Royal Charter on 23rd March, 1949. It briefly explains the organization and work of the Conservancy, the purpose of its researches and how the money allotted by the Treasury, £350,000 in 1958–59, is spent. A coloured map shows the name, position, approximate size of the seventy-two national nature reserves in Great Britain and of the other local reserves, wildfowl refuges and research stations with which the conservancy is concerned. The booklet is pleasantly illustrated.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TANGANYIKA NATIONAL PARKS, JULY, 1957–JULY, 1958. From the National Parks Office, Arusha. 2sh. 50c.

The report starts with a summary of the principles which guided the Serengeti Committee of Enquiry and of the recommendations which resulted therefrom. The modifications imposed by the second Serengeti White Paper follows and the report points out that both the future of the wild life in the Ngorongoro Crater and the maintenance of the full migratory cycle of the Serengeti herds, will depend on recognition of their importance by the administrators of the new Conservation Unit.

A brief description of the new Serengeti National Park is given, with a map, and of the research done by Dr. Bernhard Grzimek and his son Michael. Seven pages are devoted to interesting "Game Incidents".

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE UGANDA NATIONAL PARKS, JULY, 1957–JUNE, 1958. Uganda Argus Ltd., Kampala. 1sh. 50c.

In the foreword, Mr. R. L. E. Dreşchfield, Chairman of the Trustees, tells us that a part of Kigezi which borders the Parc National Albert, has been included in the Queen Elizabeth National Park. This area was especially mentioned in the Secretary's report on his African tour, *Oryx* IV, 4, p. 244, and is very important because of its herd of 1,000 topi and its kob.

Before consenting to this addition to the park, the Kigezi District Councillors visited it, and leaving their Land Rovers, went out on to the open plain. "Then the topi came thundering

past, followed by the kob ; there must have been two thousand of them. They galloped past the line of cars and councillors like a regiment of cavalry on review. It was as though the topi were themselves demanding admission to the park."

Construction, visitors, education, the weather and research are dealt with briefly and the hippopotamus problem at greater length ; but that will be the subject of an article in the next *Oryx* by Mr. R. M. Bere, the Director. There are notes on some of the animals in the parks, and of the deplorable necessity to shoot that fine elephant, the Lord Mayor of Paraa, because of the damage he did to visitors' cars. His death is due to the indiscipline, stupidity and callousness of visitors who, in search of sensational photographs, encouraged him by offerings of fruit, to come to their cars.

Additions to the check list of birds published in the previous year's report are given.

THE SOCIETY'S BUSINESS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Offices of the Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, N.W. 1, on Wednesday, 22nd April, 1959, at 5.0 p.m.

The Marquess of Willingdon, President, in the Chair.

Tea may be obtained before the Meeting in the Fellows' Restaurant at prices according to Members' requirements.

AGENDA

- (1) Reading and confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
- (2) Presentation of the Auditors' Report.
- (3) Discussion of the Auditors' Report.
- (4) Presentation of the Council's Annual Report.
- (5) Discussion of the Council's Annual Report.
- (6) Election of Officers of the Society.
- (7) Election of members to fill vacancies on the Council.
- (8) To consider proposed amendments to Rules of the Society, Numbers 2 and 7. These amendments were published in *Oryx* IV, 6, to enable members to have twenty-one days' notice of them, in accordance with the Rules of the Society.