

News in Brief

Naturalist's Award

The Zoological Society of London this year awarded the Stamford Raffles Award to our Council member, Guy Mountfort, in recognition of his contributions to the study of natural history.

£1000 Legacy

The FPS has received a legacy of £1000 from the late Miss Marianne Fayer Clark.

Proceeds from a Gymkhana

For the fifth year the FPS is indebted to Josephine and Rosemary Burton, of Haslemere, Surrey, who divided the takings at their annual gymkhana between the FPS and the RSPCA. Combined with the proceeds of a stall selling FPS gifts, this brought the Society £40.

Brown Bears in Slovakia

Only about 20 brown bears survived in Czechoslovakia when they were first protected in 1932. Today there are between 300 and 330 in northern and central Slovakia.

Reprieve for Grey Jungle Fowl

Following the Indian government's complete ban on exports of the plumage of the endangered grey jungle fowl, sought after by fishermen for trout and salmon flies, the Board of Trade has withdrawn the quota arrangements for the annual import to Britain of 4250 skins.

Endangered in East Germany

Wild cat, beaver, grey and common seal are all rare or in danger of extinction in East Germany, according to *Ochraha Fauny*, although the wild cat shows signs of increasing. The eastern race of the European beaver is protected in a dozen reserves on the River Elbe. Endangered birds include sea, golden and short-toed eagles, osprey, black stork, mute swan, crane, raven, great bustard and eagle owl.

Beaver Protection in France

A society to watch over the surviving European beaver colonies in the lower Rhône valley has been formed in Paris: la Société Nationale pour la Conservation du Castor. One of its activities will be to transfer animals in threatened areas to safer places.

Ban in Arabian Desert

An order circulated by the Saudi Arabian Minister of the Interior states that the ban on hunting wildlife with firearms in the desert is to be strictly enforced, especially against government employees who hunt gazelles and rabbits, often with official weapons and transport.

French Guiana Protects Turtles

By a decree signed last February the Guyane government has established a close season for marine turtles. From May 1 to July 31 all capture and killing is prohibited, and also the collecting, transport, hawking, display, sale and purchase of marine turtle eggs.