

THE INTERNATIONAL ZOO YEAR BOOK. Vol. III. Published for the Zoological Society of London by Hutchinson. 4 guineas.

This is the third volume of this most informative publication, which everybody seriously interested in the purpose of zoos, their inmates and indeed their justification, must buy. For the joint editors, Miss Caroline Jarvis and Dr. Desmond Morris, Curator of Mammals, say in the Introduction, "The policy of zoos all over the world must surely be conservation." It is only when they add "whether rare species of animals are preserved in a natural or captive environment is of secondary importance" that some people might differ.

The book contains a wealth of interesting articles and important information. It is divided into three sections: (1) Small mammals in captivity; (2) New developments in the Zoo World; (3) Reference section. To mention at random a few of the articles—the Problem of Exhibiting Small Mammals in Zoos by D. Morris; Exhibition of Nocturnal Mammals by Red Light by Joseph A. Davis Jr., Associate Curator of Mammals, Zoological Society of New York; "Jambo," the second gorilla born at Basle Zoo by Ernst M. Lang. The reference section gives among other important information—the main zoos and aquaria of the world, staff, visitors and animal inhabitants, zoological research undertaken by zoos, species of animals born in captivity, a census of rare mammals in captivity.

A list of animal dealers, with the animals they offer for sale, given in Volumes I and II, is not now included.

C. L. B.

## SHORTER NOTICES

REPORT OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1962. H.M. Stationery Office, London. 10s.

During the period covered by this Report eight new nature reserves were established in Great Britain, bringing the total up to 100. There were also extensions to existing reserves. A general survey of the Norfolk Broads was started to assess the impact of contemporary developments on the requirements of wild life conservation and the type of research which is needed to establish a long-term planning policy. The Conservancy gave advice on planting proposals made by the Forestry Commission and private enterprise; it advised on the use of toxic chemicals, made a statement of policy on the introduction of exotic species, made recommendations for an experimental phase of the management and control of grey seals. The Conservancy is alive to the new threat to wild life from commercial services by hovercraft. A section of this comprehensive and easily read Report is devoted to scientific research. One of the appendices gives a list and details of National, Local and Forest Nature Reserves. The whole is essential reading for those interested in the preservation of the natural scene in Britain.

WATER DEPOSITS AND WETLANDS REQUIRE CONSERVATION. Academy of Sciences of the Estonian S.S.R., Tallin. АКАДЕМИИ НАУК ЭСТОНСКОЙ ССР, ТАЛЛИН, УЛ. КОХТУ, 6. 12 kop. (1s. 4d.).

In this booklet (in English) nine authors have contributed articles on the following aspects of the conservation of wetlands: rivers and lakes in

the Estonian landscape ; classification of Estonian Wetlands ; the need for protecting underground water reserves ; the fight against water pollution ; the protection of fish in the inland water deposits ; the role of waters and marshlands in the preservation of rare animals ; the Nigula National Park as a specimen peatland ; the Viidumäe National Park and the protection of fen vegetation ; the study of peatlands and problems of nature conservation. There is also a list and map of the National Parks and permanent nature reserves of the Estonian S.S.R.