

data on reproductive and developmental phenomena, times of oestrous, hibernation, mensurational data, and dental formulae. There is a good index.

The work is thoroughly to be recommended for quickly ascertaining information concerning any species included in the area.

W. C. O. H.

SHORTER NOTICES

REPORT OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1961. H.M. Stationery Office, London. 8s. 6d.

We last published a list of British nature reserves in May, 1961, under "Editorial Notes". The present column now seems more suitable.

Eight National Nature Reserves were declared during the period of this Report, making a total of ninety-two, covering 290 sq. miles. Appendix II of the Report gives the names of all these, their area, restrictions to access (if any), and the name of the warden. Similar information is given about Local Nature Reserves and Forest Nature Reserves, and about the two Wildfowl Refuges, Humber and Southport.

Other work of the Conservancy is of course covered—for example: risks to wild life through toxic chemicals used in agriculture; fires on forests, heaths, and moors; research on fauna; international activities.

This Report is an essential for all who are interested in nature conservation in Britain.

THE WILD RESOURCES OF EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA. By Dr. E. B. WORTHINGTON. H.M. Stationery Office, London. 2s. 6d.

The author is Deputy Director-General (Scientific) of the Nature Conservancy, and this is his report on a visit to East and Central Africa which he undertook for the British and Territorial Governments in 1960. It is divided into ten short sections, one of which, "Conservancy through wise use", together with another "Research" give the theme of the whole report. A by-product of these, as it were, are the hippopotamus cropping scheme in Uganda and the Galana river area elephant cropping scheme in Kenya. The Serengeti is concisely dealt with and reasons given for its satisfactory future, provided certain factors are given full weight. The difficult but all-important problem of influencing African opinion is touched upon. The Report ends with a Summary and Recommendations.

BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

We welcome the quarterly *Bulletin* of IUCN in its new and attractive form. An especially useful feature is the inclusion with each number of a

“ Checklist of Conservation Organizations and Information ” by countries. Tanganyika, Sweden, the German Federal Republic and Canada are dealt with in the first two numbers.

Issues of the *Bulletin* will be sent to :—

- (1) Member governments and member organizations of IUCN ;
- (2) Libraries, institutes, universities, and other organizations on an exchange basis ;
- (3) *Friends of IUCN* who signify that they will conform to a new minimum annual contribution, to be established by the Executive Board in May, 1962. A small portion of this contribution will be used to send *Friends* the *IUCN Bulletin*. The balance is urgently needed to support IUCN's expanded general programme.

THE UNIQUE ANIMALS OF AUSTRALIA : PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID FLEAY (Australian News and Information Bureau) and others : published by Lansdowne Press, Melbourne, price 8/6. Thirty pages of excellent photographs of animals, birds, reptiles and a moth, with text by E. BYRNE, B.Sc.

The object of the booklet is to increase a knowledge of the unique fauna, and to prevent unnecessary loss of the rarer species. An admirable publication.