

Reports & Journals

One gets indigestion reading the 1972–73 Report of Monks Wood Experimental Station, its swansong as an integral part of the Nature Conservancy, because so much important research is going on, all reported here in 103 pages. Otters, badgers and bats have been among its special concerns; the most frequent cause of death among badgers is found to be the motor car. Lengths of elastic thread, apparently of German origin, have been killing many puffins, which it is thought swallow them in mistake for fish. More milk parsley is to be planted at Wicken Fen, to restore the swallow-tail butterfly's food supply prior to another attempt at reintroduction. Vital research is being done on pesticide residues in the natural environment and on the management of semi-natural grassland and woodland.

The *Proceedings* of the Second World Conference on National Parks, held in September 1972 at Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, edited by Sir Hugh Elliott, is now obtainable from IUCN, 1110 Morges, Switzerland (US \$10, post paid), in English, French or Spanish.

Preserving a Heritage is the report of the National Parks Centennial Commission on their activities in commemoration of the Yellowstone Park centenary, and includes their recommendations for the future of America's national parks.

Animal Mortality – 1973/74 Kajiado District, by R. L. Casebeer and H. T. M. Mbai, covers the mortality among larger mammals during the serious drought between March 1973 and March 1974 when rainfall was less than half the long term average. The estimated loss for the Nairobi National Park and Kitengala was 9880 animals of which 89 per cent were wildebeest, Coke's hartebeest and zebra. (Kenya Game Department and UNDP/FAO Wildlife Management Project, Nairobi.)

The first issue of the new quarterly *Journal of Biogeography*, edited by David Watts (Blackwell £3; \$9.50; annual £10; \$34), includes a main article on the Pleistocene changes, and vegetation and climate in tropical South America, by T. van der Hammen, and a short article on the distribution of salt pans on tidal marshes.

The WWF Yearbook 1972/73, edited by Peter Jackson and issued by the International Office in Switzerland (1110 Morges) comprises over 300 pages packed with facts about endangered species world-wide and accounts of what was being done in 1972 to save them, written mainly by the scientists and others involved.

The Primate Society of Great Britain has published a list of current and recently completed field studies in *Primate Eye* and a Supplement. Obtainable from Dr David Chivers, Sub-Department of Veterinary Anatomy, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

<p>VANISHING BIRDS FREE WALL CHART</p> <p>The Japanese are as concerned about pollution and the subsequent destruction of wild birds as we are, and have shown their awareness of the situation arising in our country by mounting a campaign to stimulate concern and interest by their production of a full colour wall chart measuring 28 in. x 22½ in.</p> <p>Send this coupon to the Japan Light Machinery Information Centre, 19-25 Baker Street, London W1M 1AE to receive your FREE copy of the Wall Chart depicting 24 different British Birds which are in danger of disappearing from Britain.</p> <p>The Wall Chart also supplies useful information about the selection of binoculars suited to the demands of bird-watchers.</p>	<p>I enclose an 8p stamp to cover mailing of the FREE Vanishing Birds Wall Chart. Please send my chart to:</p> <p>NAME.....</p> <p>ADDRESS</p> <p>.....</p> <p>To: Japan Light Machinery Information Centre, 19-25 Baker Street, London W1M 1AE.</p>
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