

The Fauna Preservation Society

DECEMBER 1962

EDITORIAL NOTES

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The attention of all members is invited to pages 345–348 where appear the new rules of the Society, approved at a General Meeting on 18th October, 1962, and the changes of rates of subscription which they involve. Will members please take action as follows:

1. *Ordinary Members*. From 1st January, 1963, the minimum annual subscription is increased to £2, payable on 1st January yearly.
2. *Ordinary Members* who pay by banker's order will be sent a new banker's order form. Please complete and return to the Secretary.
3. *Ordinary Members* who have given a deed of covenant will not be required to increase their subscriptions during the course of their present covenants.
4. *Life Members* elected before 19th October, 1962, will not be required to make a further payment.

Will members willing to make deeds of covenant or to pay their subscriptions by banker's order please write to the Secretary for the appropriate forms. Both covenant and the use of banker's orders help the Society greatly.

MEDITERRANEAN MONK SEAL

Dr. M. F. Mörzer Bruijns, Head of the Netherlands State Institute for Nature Conservation Research, has written to say that Dr. A. Van Wijngaarden, author of the report on *Monachus monachus*, summarized in the last *Oryx*, has now received further information, as follows :—

Mr. M. Blanchet, of Geneva, has reported that Corsican fishermen do not regard the monk seal as rare. Besides the Grotte des Veaux Nains near Calvi, many other caves exist along the shoreline, some with entrances below the surface of the sea. Mr. Blanchet said also that, in 1958, seals, including young ones, were seen in the Grotta del Beu Marino, Sardinia. According to B. Aafjes (1962) some seals are killed in Sardinia every year by fishermen from Sicily.

M. Th. Monod has drawn attention to the publication by J. A. Valverde in 1957 of *Aves des Sahara Espanol*, containing information about the monk seal in Rio de Oro. The population in the caves of Las Cuevecillas has increased due to effective protection.