

## THE SOCIETY'S BUSINESS

His Majesty the King of the Belgians has been pleased to appoint our President, the Marquess of Willingdon, a member of the Commission of the National Parks of the Belgian Congo.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FAUNA PRESERVATION SOCIETY, held at the Offices of the Zoological Society of London on Monday, 4th April, 1955, at 5 p.m.

The Marquess of Willingdon, President, in the Chair.

About fifty members present.

1. The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read, confirmed, and signed by the Chairman.

2. *Auditor's Report.*—It was proposed by Mr. G. B. Freeman, seconded by Mr. G. St. George Schomberg, and carried unanimously, that the report of the Auditors for the year ending 31st December, 1954, be approved and adopted.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Auditors, which was carried unanimously.

3. *Council's Annual Report.*—It was proposed from the Chair and carried unanimously, that the Report of the Council for the year ending 31st December, 1954, be approved and adopted.

4. *Election of Officers.*—It was proposed by Mr. A. R. Llewellyn-Taylor, seconded by Mr. E. J. Bryce, and carried unanimously that the Marquess of Willingdon be re-elected President of the Society and Mr. I. D. Malcolmson re-elected Honorary Treasurer.

5. *New Members of Council.*—It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Honorary Treasurer, and carried unanimously, that the following elections to Council be confirmed :

Waris Amcer Ali, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Retd.).

S. A. Neave, Esq., C.M.G., O.B.E., M.A., D.Sc., F.R.E.S.

The Lady Tweedsmuir, M.P.

6. *Election of Vice-Presidents.*—It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Honorary Treasurer, and carried unanimously, that Sir Shenton Thomas, G.C.M.G., O.B.E., be elected a vice-president of the Society.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Secretary, and carried unanimously, that Dr. V. Van Straelen, President of the Commission of the National Parks of the Belgian Congo, be elected a Vice-President of the Society.

7. *The President*, in a brief address, first thanked the Society for re-electing him as President. He then thanked Mr. I. D. Malcolmson, the Honorary Treasurer, Lieut.-Col. C. L. Boyle, the Secretary, and Miss Kathleen Clarke, the Assistant Secretary, for their work, and paid a tribute to all members of the Council for the tremendous support they gave to the Society at all times.

The President then referred to the great success of the two meetings, held jointly with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, at the Royal Festival Hall, and mentioned that the Society had booked the Hall for the 29th October, 1955, for a lecture by Mr. Mervyn Cowie, Director of the Kenya National Parks. A lecture tour also was under consideration.

In answer to a question about the reported elephant slaughter in Southern Rhodesia, the President said he thought the reports had been exaggerated. Nevertheless, the Society was in touch with the Governor-General of Southern Rhodesia, who was a great supporter of the Society's objects, and he was sure that everything possible would be done to keep to a minimum the numbers of elephants killed. The Council of the Society had asked Captain Caldwell to go to Southern Rhodesia next winter on the Society's behalf and, if possible, to visit Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland also.

8. *Lecture*.—Immediately after the Annual General Meeting, Mr. E. O. Shebbeare gave a talk on Asiatic elephants, illustrated by his own drawings.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Shebbeare, which was carried with acclamation.

9. *Film*.—The film "The Ring-necked Pheasant" was shown. The meeting ended at 6.25 p.m.

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*Royal Festival Hall Meeting, 2nd April, 1955*.—This, the second showing of Mr. Roger Tory Peterson's film "Wild America", was as successful as the first. Again the hall was packed.

The Society is most grateful to Mr. Peterson who lent his film for both meetings, to Mr. James Fisher for his excellent commentary and the immense trouble that he took. Thanks are also due to Mrs. Rosemary Russell for her excellent organization, to Mr. John Norris Wood for his fine design for the programme cover, and to many other helpers.

These two meetings, held jointly by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and our Society, have resulted in a profit

of £297 18s. 6d. to each society. Co-operation between the two societies could not have been closer or more cordial.

*Christmas Cards, 1955.*—The Society is most grateful to Mr. Maurice Wilson for the gift of his picture of the Alpine ibex, painted specially for our Christmas card.

Order forms for Christmas cards will be found in this number of *Oryx*.

*Oryx, Volume II.*—Bound volumes of *Oryx, Volume II*, are for sale, price £1 each.

*Films and Film Strip.*—The film library consists of the following 16 mm. films and one 35 mm. film strip. The Society is very grateful to the publishers "Common Ground" for the gift of the strip and to its author, Major J. H. Blower, of the Uganda Game Department. All films are 16 mm. and coloured, unless otherwise mentioned. They may be borrowed by members.

#### *Silent Films*

- "The African Elephant." 10 minutes.
- "Wild Life of East Africa." 45 minutes.
- "Wild Animals of the Indian Jungle." 20 minutes.
- "Foxes and Badgers." 11 minutes.
- "Animals of Australia." 10 minutes, black and white.

#### *Sound Films*

- "Animal Kingdom." A tourist film of the Kruger National Park, 25 minutes.
- "Expedition Moose." The protection of the moose in Ontario, Canada, 18 minutes.
- "Ring-necked Pheasant." The life-history in Canada of the introduced ring-necked pheasant, 12 minutes.
- "Heritage of Natal and Zululand." A tourist film of the Natal National Parks. 12 minutes.
- "Wild Life in Uganda." 12 minutes.
- "Stronghold of the Wild." East African Animals and the work of the game departments. 35 minutes, black and white.
- "Down in the Forest." Australia (Kangaroos). 6 minutes.

#### *35 mm. Film Strip*

- "Wild Life in East Africa." Twenty-five coloured pictures of animals, together with written commentary suitable for an hour's talk.