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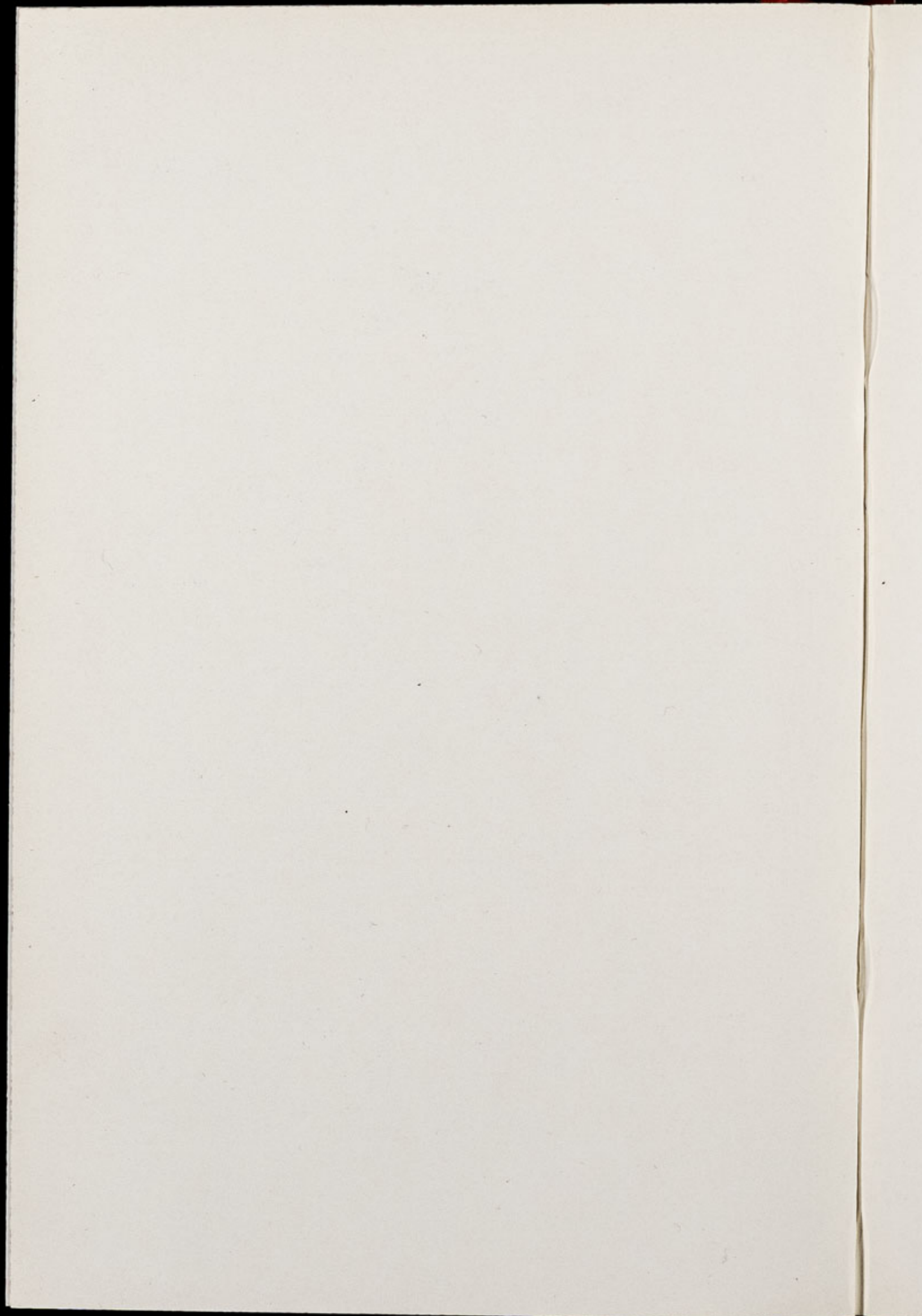
Chester Zoo News

AND GUIDE

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, UPTON - BY - CHESTER

October 1969

Price 1/-



The North of England Zoological Society

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, UPTON-BY-CHESTER

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COVER: *American White Pelican.*

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NEW ARRIVALS

There have been several births, purchases and presentations during the past month. Births are less frequent at this time of year but two Common Zebra foals and a Fallow Deer fawn have been born. An Agouti was born in the Mammal House which is progressing extremely well and a Talapoin Monkey was born in the Mammal House.

A pair of Rosy Pelicans have joined the White Pelicans already living on the island. Rosy Pelicans are a sub-species of the European White; these birds make beautiful exhibits. This month's cover shows our American White Pelican.

Fifteen Chilean Flamingos also arrived and were taken to the Bird Hospital for a thorough examination before they were allowed to join our other Flamingos.

An African Grey Parrot which was presented has joined the other Grey Parrots in the Parrot House. Two Cattle Egrets were purchased and are on view in the Temperate Bird House; more of these attractive birds will be acquired for the new bird flight when it is completed.

Other presentations include a Boa Constrictor, an Indian Rat Snake, a Plated Lizard and a Flap-necked Chameleon, all of which are housed in the Reptile House. In addition a Blood Python and two Daudin's Vipers were acquired by exchange.

A White-nosed Monkey (*Cercopithecus nictitans martini*) was presented and eventually will be introduced to its mate in the Monkey House. A Grison has been presented which has now settled

down in the Mammal House. Perhaps the most notable presentation however was a young Jaguar, a fine specimen which is now undergoing a six months quarantine period at the Zoo.

Two male Marmosets were presented last month which have been housed in the Mammal House. They are most attractive animals having long, soft yellowish-grey fur on their backs with light and dark cross bands which continue to the tip of the tail. Around the ears are broad tufts of hair which spread fanwise.

Marmosets are frequently kept as pets and in the wild state are found in the equatorial forests of South America, leading an aboreal life in groups of six or seven.

When watching Marmosets it is interesting to note that they urinate whilst running up and down the branches of their enclosure. This is instinctive, as in their natural habitat they do this to mark the territory which is 'owned' by their particular groups. Naturally when living in the tops of trees it is extremely difficult for Marmosets to communicate with one another and so they have developed shrill bird-like calls which carry for long distances.

At the Zoo the Marmosets have a diet consisting of insects, various fruits, plus multiple vitamin drops.

NEW OSTRICHES

One of the most interesting arrivals this month is that of five Ostriches. It is the first time for several years that Chester Zoo has had any of these birds in the collection and they are already proving to be fascinating exhibits. They are about three months old and as yet their sexes have not been determined; identification comes later when the feathers begin to colour from the usual brown of the young.

At present the five Ostriches are in an enclosure behind the Monkey House but inevitably they will grow so quickly that this paddock will become too small and they will have to be moved to larger quarters.

Their diet is varied and consists of lettuces, cabbages, bread, maize, carrots, chopped grass, clover and occasionally meat, mice and insects.

Ostriches need a good supply of grit to aid their digestion. Another point which has to be taken into consideration with Ostriches is their curiosity which leads them to swallow any unusual object which the public may hand to them. Sometimes they will even take pens from keepers pockets and occasionally have been known to swallow implements such as pliers and padlocks!

PROGRESS REPORTS

Sarson, the six year old male Arabian Gazelle has been housed with Jeannie, a female born during 1968 and it is hoped that they will breed next year.

Originally Sarson came from an R.A.F. station in Lybia. He arrived in this country on 19th August, 1966 and was taken to the Quarantine Station at Birkenhead where he undertook a years quarantine period before being brought to the Zoo. At present the total number of Arabian Gazelles at Chester Zoo is ten; many have been presented by servicemen in Aden who kept these animals as pets and wanted to find good homes for them when they returned to this country.



OSTRICH

K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.

The time has arrived for the Gazelles to be moved to their winter quarters, for although they are fairly hardy, they cannot exist in the extreme cold of winter. In consequence they are usually housed either at the rear of the Giraffe House or at the Zoo Farm where their accommodation is more sheltered.

Freddie, the two year old Chimpanzee who arrived at the Zoo on 20th August, 1969, from Sierra Leone is now sharing an enclosure in the Monkey House with Rajang, the young Orang-utan who was hand reared by the Curator and his wife. Originally Freddie and Rajang shared accommodation in the Nursery but as they seemed compatible it was decided to keep them together when they moved to the Monkey House.

Although Rajang is growing rapidly it will be a long time before he reaches the size and weight of Paul our adult Orang-utan. Seeing him play so gently with his keeper it is difficult to envisage a time when Rajang will probably be nearly fifteen stone and far too powerful for the keepers to approach.

One can understand this however when one realises that Martha, the young five year old Orang-utan at present in the New Ape House is already capable of lifting a man of eleven stone six pounds off the ground whilst hanging by her hands. This was proved recently when Martha was swinging from her climbing platform; her keeper, Michael Colbourne, walked beneath her and immediately she caught both his hands and lifted him about a foot off the ground before releasing him.

Despite the fact that Orang-utans are so much larger than Chimpanzees, it is also possible to teach them tricks such as riding bicycles, sitting at table and using cutlery. In fact the first Orang-



ARABIAN GAZELLE

K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.

GUIDE TO ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS

ANIMAL FEEDING TIMES

LIONS—3 p.m. except Fridays

SEA LIONS—2-40, 3-40, 4-40 p.m.

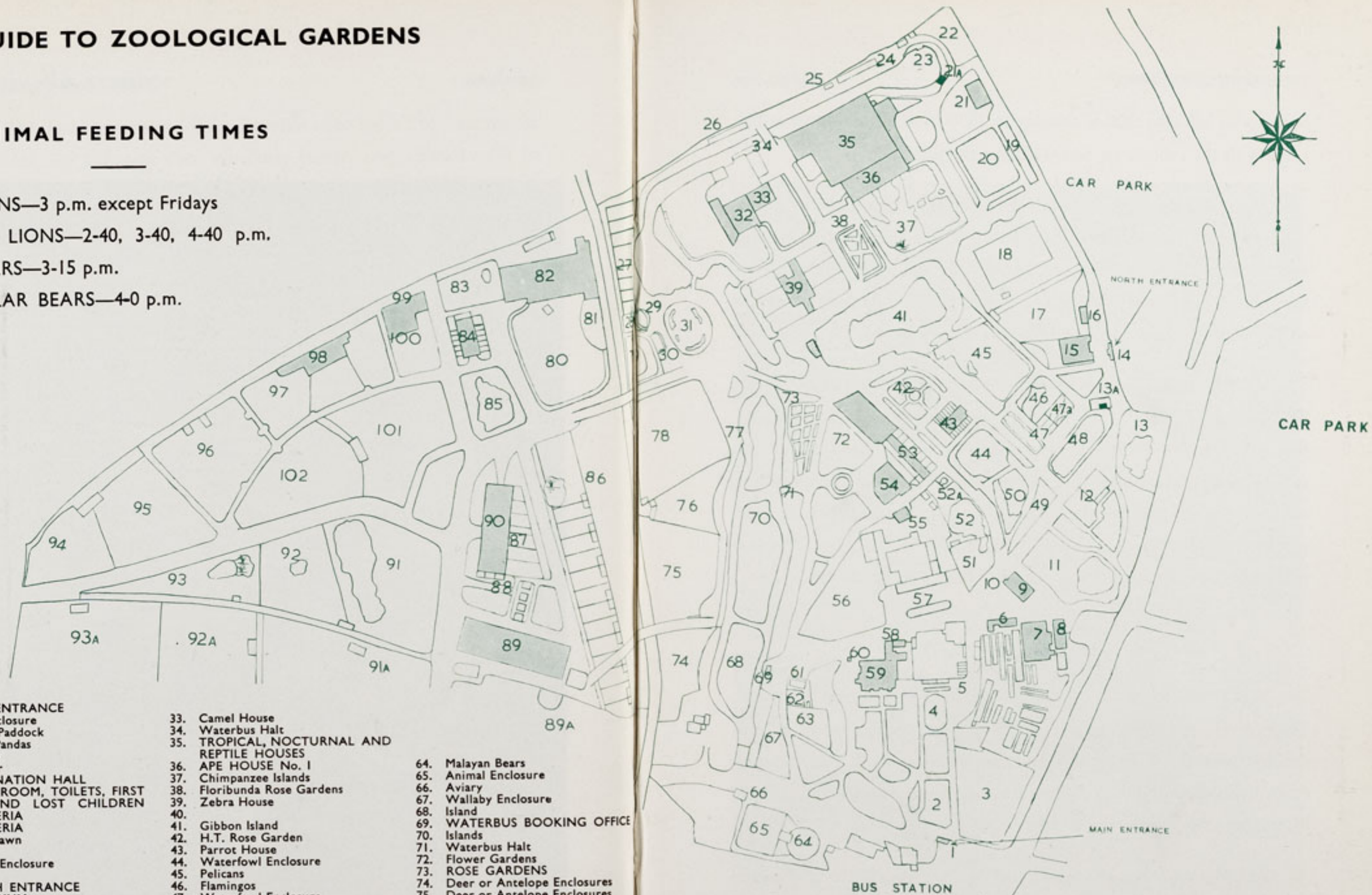
BEARS—3-15 p.m.

POLAR BEARS—4-0 p.m.

1. MAIN ENTRANCE
2. Bird Enclosure
3. Wapiti Paddock
4. Lesser Pandas
5. Aviaries
6. Milk Bar
7. CORONATION HALL
8. CLOAKROOM, TOILETS, FIRST AID AND LOST CHILDREN
9. CAFETERIA
10. CAFETERIA
11. Picnic Lawn
12. Bears
13. Animal Enclosure
- 13a. Kiosk
14. NORTH ENTRANCE
15. AQUARIUM
16. Push Chairs and Wheel Chairs
17. Parrot House
18. APE HOUSE No. 2
19. RAINBOW CAFE AND SHOP
20. Aviaries and Picnic Lawn
21. TOILETS
- 21a. Tuatara House
22. Peccaries
23. Waterbus Halt
24. Birds of Prey Aviary
25. Birds of Prey Aviary
26. Owls
27. Jackal and Hyena Enclosures
28. Wolverines
29. Porcupines and Raccoons
30. Coypus
31. Beavers
32. Giraffe House

33. Camel House
34. Waterbus Halt
35. TROPICAL, NOCTURNAL AND REPTILE HOUSES
36. APE HOUSE No. 1
37. Chimpanzee Islands
38. Floribunda Rose Gardens
39. Zebra House
- 40.
41. Gibbon Island
42. H.T. Rose Garden
43. Parrot House
44. Waterfowl Enclosure
45. Pelicans
46. Flamingos
47. Waterfowl Enclosure
- 47a. Penguins and Otters
48. Sea Lion Pool
49. Rock Garden
50. Polar Bears
51. Tigers
52. Anteaters
- 52a. Penguin Pool
53. BIRD HOUSE
54. FOUNTAIN RESTAURANT
55. TOILETS
56. Lions
57. NEW ZOO SHOP
58. TOILETS
59. OAKFIELD RESTAURANT
60. G.P.O. Telephone Kiosk
61. Animal Enclosure
62. Animal Enclosure
63. Cheetahs

64. Malayan Bears
65. Animal Enclosure
66. Aviary
67. Wallaby Enclosure
68. Island
69. WATERBUS BOOKING OFFICE
70. Islands
71. Waterbus Halt
72. Flower Gardens
73. ROSE GARDENS
74. Deer or Antelope Enclosures
75. Deer or Antelope Enclosures
76. Deer or Antelope Enclosures
77. Waterbus Halt
78. Zebra and Deer Enclosure
79. Kamchatka Bears
80. Elephant Paddock
81. Hippo Paddock
82. PACHYDERM HOUSE
83. Tapir Enclosure
84. Small Mammal House
85. Waterfowl Enclosure
86. Antelope and Cattle
87. Stork Enclosures
88. Monkey Enclosures
89. Cat House
- 89a. Jaguars
90. MONKEY HOUSE
91. Cranes and Waterfowl
- 91a. Highland Cattle



92. Waterfowl and Wallabies
- 92a. Llamas and Alpacas
93. Cranes and Waterfowl
- 93a. Cattle
94. Bison Paddock
95. Deer Paddock
96. Eland and Marmots
97. Rhino Paddocks
98. RHINO HOUSE
99. TOILETS
100. Mpila Snack-Bar
101. Antelope Enclosure
102. Antelope Enclosure

Animals may be moved from time to time

†--Under construction.

utan to be brought to this country in 1830 took all his meals at the table with the officers on board during the journey!

Naturally one always hopes that animals such as Rajang will develop into well known 'characters'. It is unlikely that Rajang will become famous for walking upright like Jimmy the male Orangutan which died earlier this year; however he certainly shows promise of developing into one of the favourite Zoo animals.

Bimbo, the Hippopotamus born to Myra and Generino at the Pachyderm House last month, is progressing extremely well. At first Myra tended to be domineering with Generino if she thought that he was showing too much interest in the young Hippopotamus but recently she has become a little more docile towards him. One interesting point however is that if Myra and her baby go into the pool first, Generino will back in rather than go in head-first.

ENCLOSURE CHANGES

The Great Black Woodpecker has been transferred from the Tropical House aviaries to the rear of the Parrot House. It was decided that this bird would be more content if he had a larger enclosure and although at present he is sharing accommodation with Pheasants they appear to be compatible.

This Woodpecker was mentioned in a previous issue of '*Chester Zoo News*', for he is a recent acquisition, joining the collection in May 1969. He has settled down extremely well, having adapted readily to his new enclosure.

It was mentioned in August's '*Chester Zoo News*' that the Coatis now occupying the Raccoon pit at the far side of the Cat



ORANG-UTAN RAJANG

R. Broster, Liverpool Daily Post

House had built several nests in the hawthorn hedge which is in the middle of their enclosure. As yet there is no sign of breeding but it is still hoped that there is a significance in the nest building.

The Toco Toucans which were housed in the Temperate Bird House have been moved to an enclosure in the Tropical House and the Black Capped Lory which originally occupied this cage has been transferred to the Bird House.

Several Wallabies have been born during the year in the enclosure opposite the Blesbok. It is difficult to estimate the number, as some of the young have not yet emerged from their mothers' pouches.

Later this year however they will be captured, sexed and marked so that this year's youngsters will be recognised easily without having to handle them too much; if they become extremely nervous and agitated they are liable to develop a mouth infection.

Eventually the Wallabies will be split into two groups and this will have two basic effects. Firstly, it will ensure that the Zoo has a reserve stock should any infection spread through one of the groups and secondly will aid breeding.

NEW LION ENCLOSURE

The New Lion Enclosure at present under construction near the Cat House will provide new accommodation for Kim, the young male Lion which arrived at Chester, on 24th October, 1968. Kim has grown so much during the time he has been at the Zoo that more space and freedom of movement will soon prove essential. Building

will continue throughout the quieter months and it is hoped that Kim will be safely established in his new home before the busy season begins next year.

THE END OF THE SEASON

Despite the fact that Chester Zoo is open to the public throughout the year, it is inevitable that one finds the winter season extremely quiet in comparison with the hectic summer. Children are now back at school after their holidays and have little time to wander around the Zoo unless on a specific school outing and so with this slowing of pace, the gradual closing of some of the catering establishments is begun and the staff which during the summer has built up to over four hundred is reduced.

For the maintenance staff however this is probably one of their busiest times for they have to begin decorating and completing the New Houses at present under construction so that everything will be ready for the next season.

KINKAJOUS

Kinkajou is the native name for animals also known as Honey Bears, which inhabit the forests of Central and South America.

They are often found as household pets as they are easy to care for and able to live well on a mainly vegetarian diet, although at the Zoo they are given a more varied and comprehensive food, which consists of small mammals, eggs, insects, plants and fruits. As the name implies they have a very sweet tooth and derive great pleasure from piercing the centre of fruit with their long tongues and eating the soft pulp inside.

Chester Zoo's Kinkajous are housed in the Nocturnal House and are really amusing to watch as they play and roll around in their enclosure.

In their natural habitat they spend most of the day lying in hollows of trees and at night climb among the branches searching for fruits. Their prehensile tails are extremely useful in this occupation as they are able to hang by their tails and use both fore-feet to gather their food.

Kinkajous are appealing animals in most respects as they are basically good natured and attractive, having a thick yellow-grey coat which is soft to the touch.

ANGLIA TELEVISION

The Anglia Television Company has made their second visit to Chester Zoo. Five children from Fane Street Secondary School in Belfast and five from the Hamilton Academy, Lanarkshire, arrived for luncheon at the Zoo's Oakfield Restaurant, together with two teachers, Mr. Philip Wayre, the compère of the programme and Mr. Ron Downing, producer.

After luncheon the children were escorted around the Zoo to enable them to study the animals of North America which will be the subject of one of the coming quiz programmes, 'The Survival Game'. Among the animals which they saw were Raccoons, Pumas, Gila Monsters and Texas Long-nosed Snakes, as these are the mammals and reptiles on which they will be questioned when the programme is actually filmed in the Norwich studios.

Naturally, as the children had travelled such long distances to the Zoo, it was essential for them to stay overnight in the area, the children from Belfast staying in Liverpool and the children from Lanarkshire staying in Manchester.



KINKAJOU

E. Kirkland, F.R.P.S.

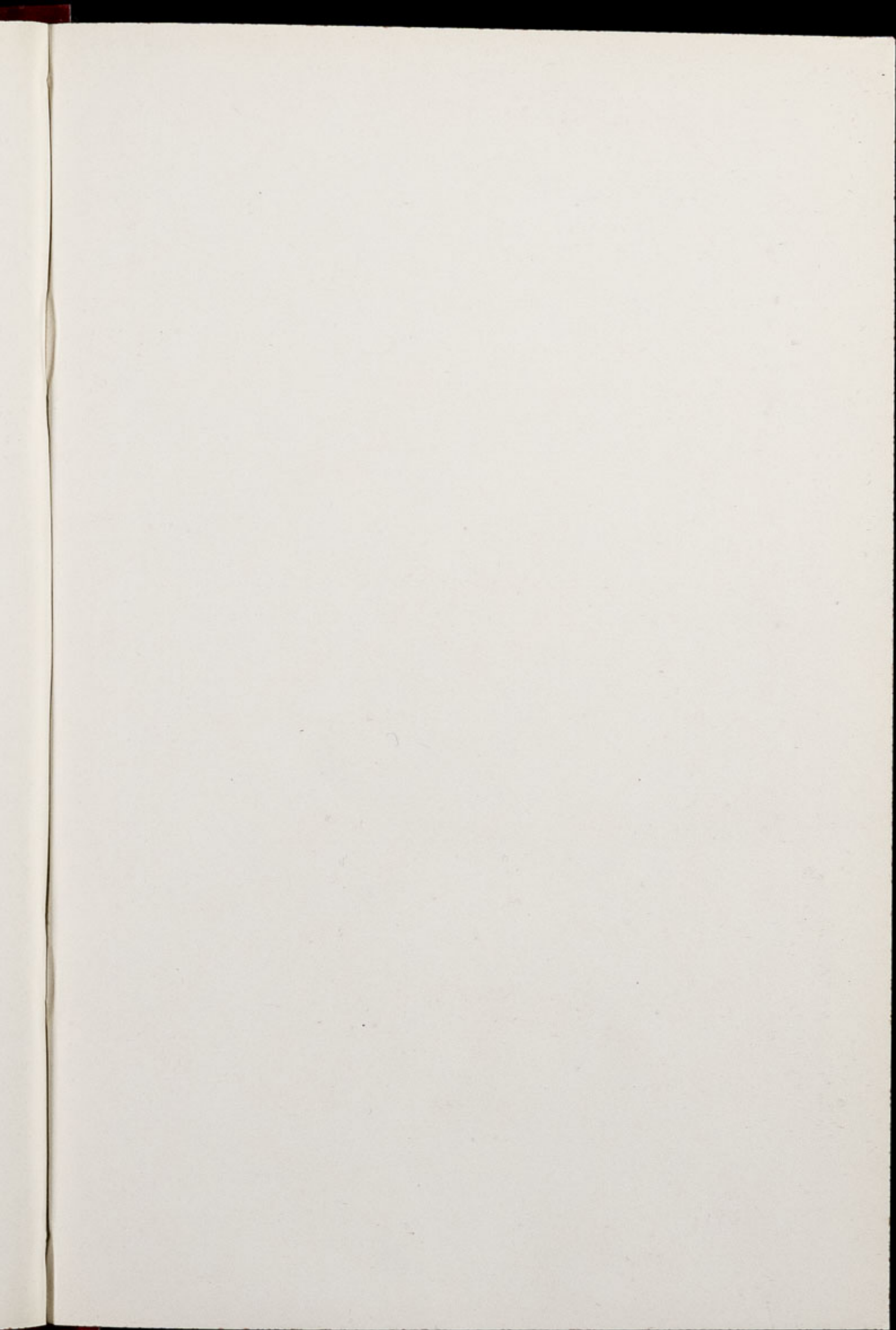
APOLOGIES

We regret the lateness of this issue, which is due to a series of events beyond our control.

ZOOLOGICAL TIES

Following numerous requests, the North of England Zoological Society is to produce its own tie. The motif will be our Beaver (without the wording) in gold and brown and the ties will be made of dark blue Terylene. It will be several weeks before delivery can be completed and the ties will retail at approximately 30s. each.





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