

# CINCINNATI ZOO

## *Guide*

ALL INFORMATION ON ANIMALS AND BIRDS  
CONTAINED IN THIS BOOK COMPILED BY

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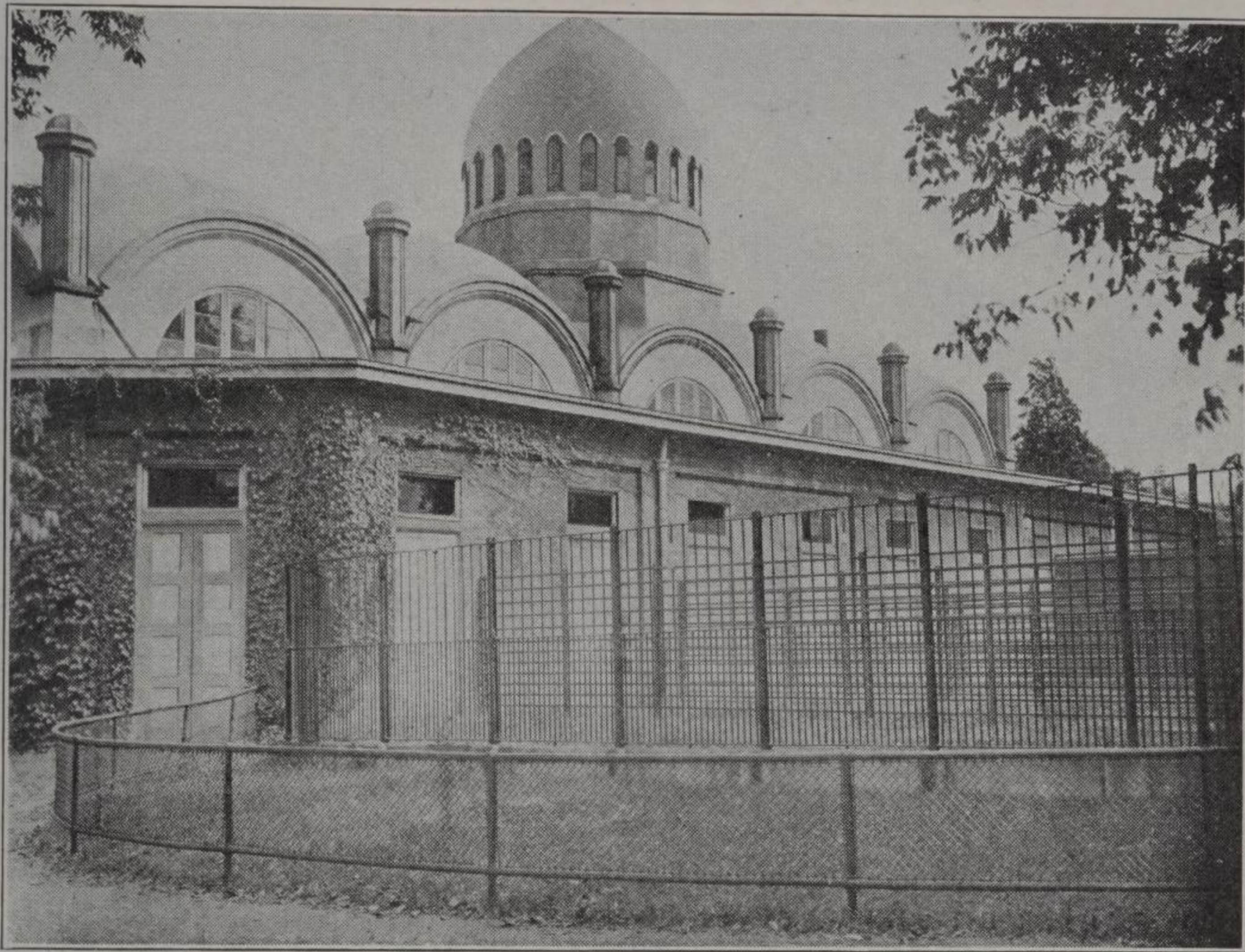
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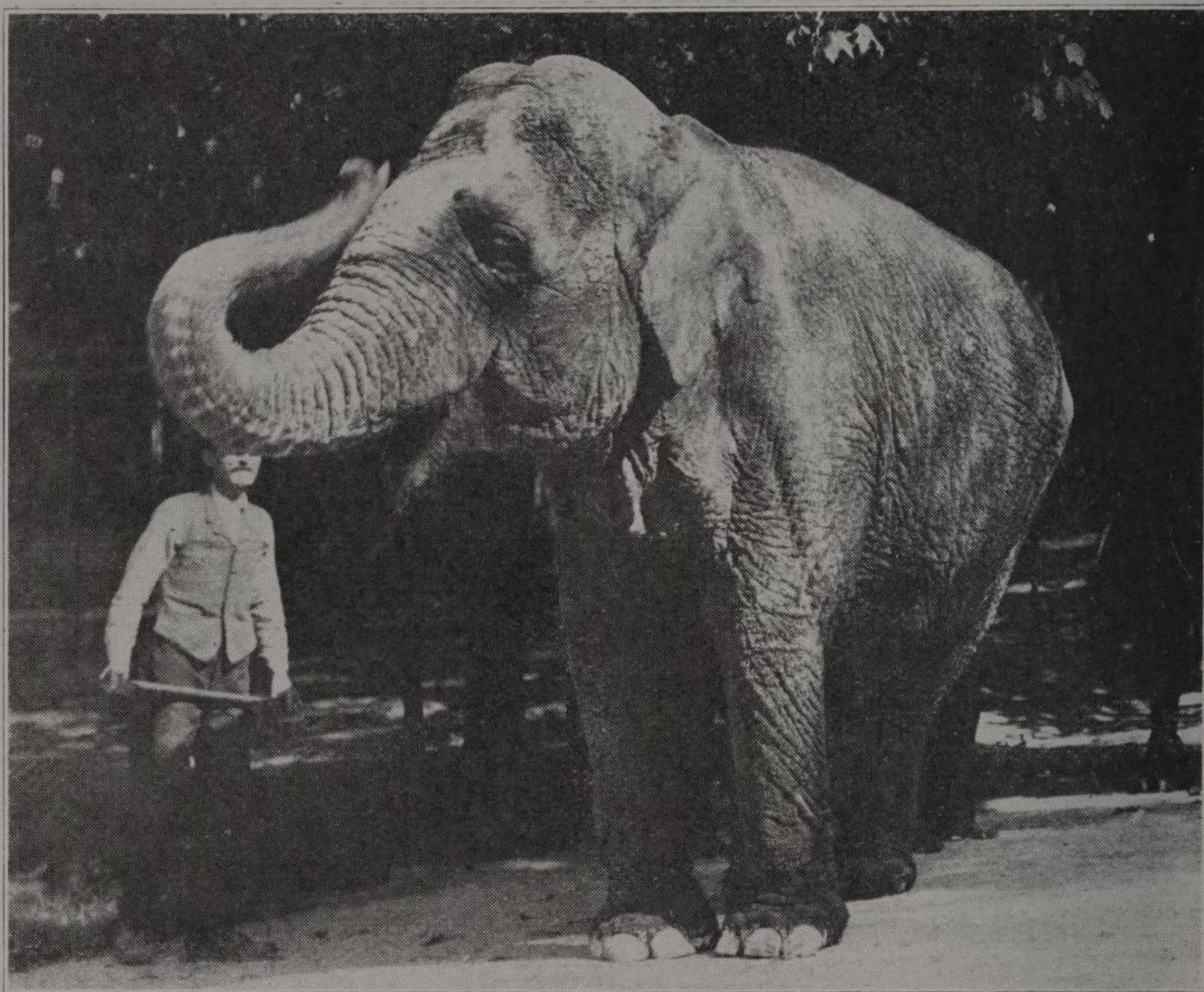
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*Herbivora Building*

African species both the male and female have tusks, those of the male being larger and heavier than those of the female. Unlike the Asiatic elephant, the African has three toes on its hind feet instead of four. It is also larger in size than the Asiatic species. Elephants can not stand cold, and suffer equally from excessive heat. In their native element they avoid the burning rays of the sun by penetrating into the thickest forest. All elephants are fond of bathing, their large body being of great advantage to them in swimming. When they swim in deep water they erect their trunk through which they breathe, and by doing so they have no fear of being drowned. The Asiatic elephants are generally supposed to be more intelligent and docile, also much superior in strength to those in Africa. The average height of the Indian elephant is about eight and one-half feet. At the age of thirty years the elephant reaches maturity. The period of gestation is twenty-two months. The female brings forth only one young at a time. Some authors have claimed that the young elephant nurses with its trunk,





*Elephant*

but it has since been ascertained from reliable authority that the young elephant nurses with its mouth, like other animals. The young grasps the nipple with the side of its mouth. When in danger the mother takes her calf between her fore legs and holds it close to her with her trunk.

With good care, the elephant lives a long time while in captivity. Some authors claim they live one hundred and twenty-five and even one hundred and fifty years, but it is supposed that seventy-five to one hundred years is about the life of the elephant.

The principal food for elephants in captivity is hay, oats, bran, carrots, and potatoes.

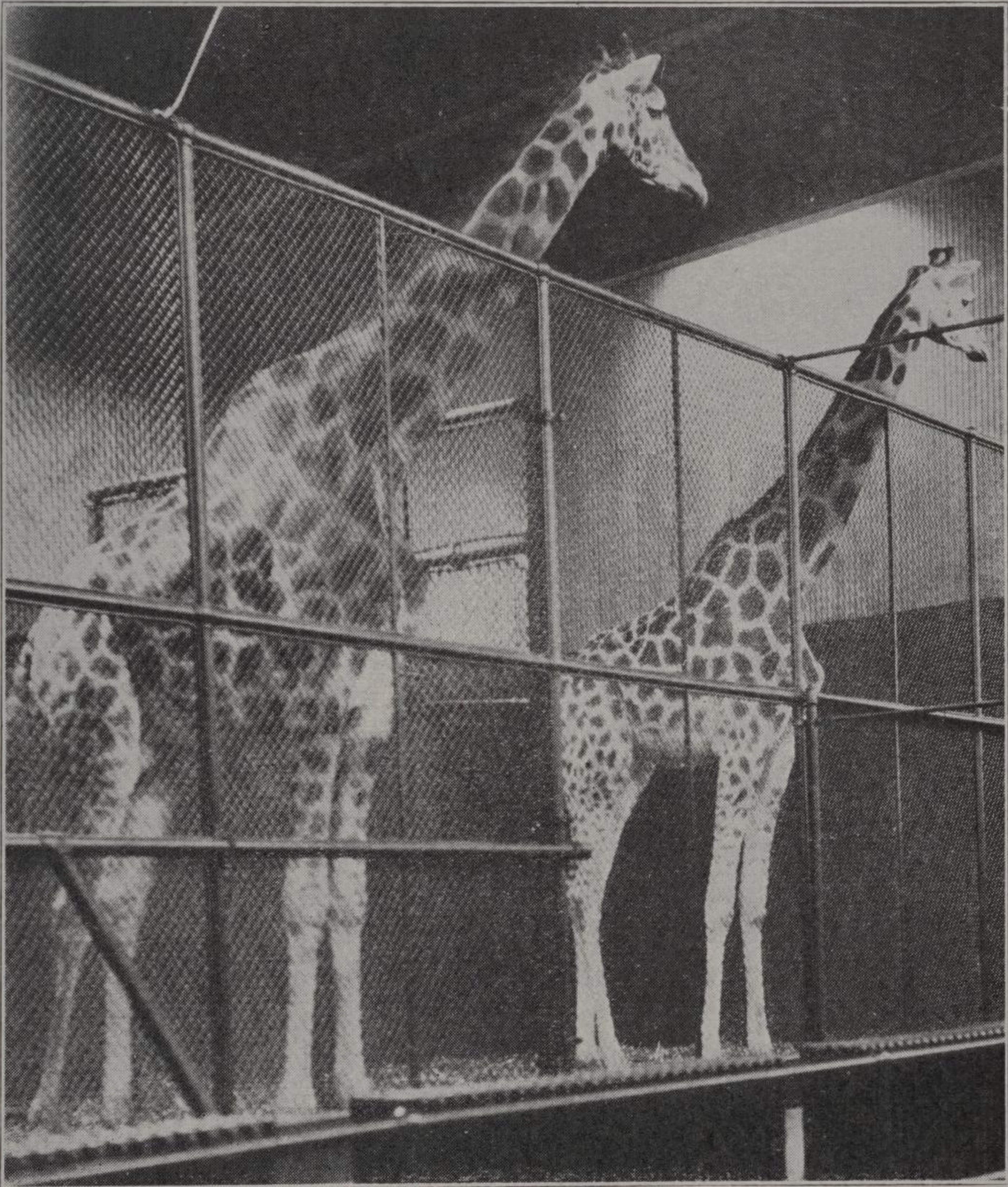
LIL. This good-natured old elephant, is now supposed to be eighty years old. She was imported to this country in 1892, and was purchased by the Zoo in 1913. Previous to that time she had been owned by five different shows. She stands eight feet six



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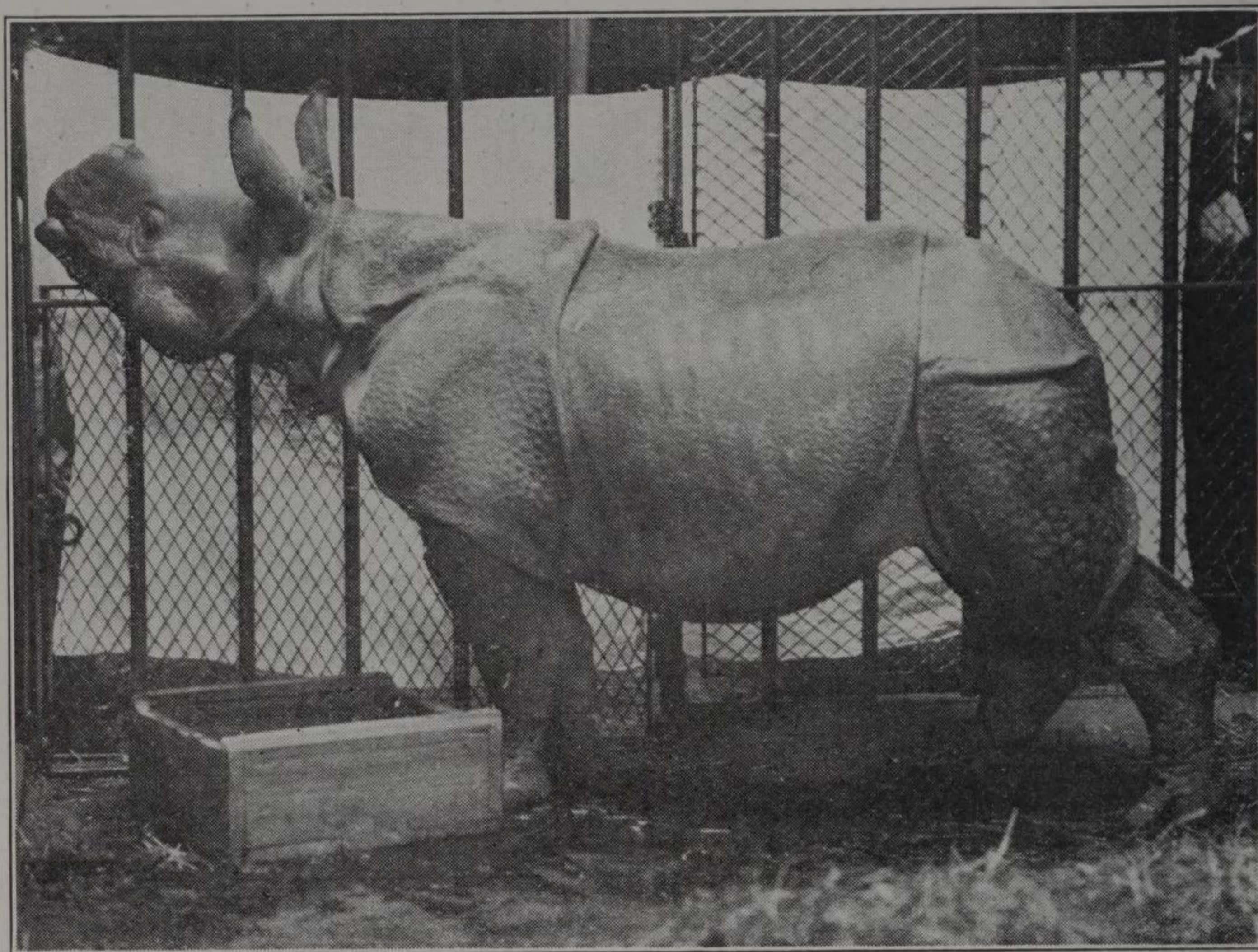
inches in height and weighs seventy-eight hundred pounds. As stated elsewhere, there are two different kinds of elephants: One of these is called the African elephant, which lives in the dense forests of Africa. The other, which is found in India, is known as the Indian elephant. Lil belongs to the latter specie.

NUBIAN GIRAFFE (*Giraffa camelopardalis*). Are the most valuable animals in the collection. The large male arrived in the



*Giraffes*





*India Rhinoceros*

Garden in 1904, and was about two years old at that time. He stands sixteen feet in height, and can reach seventeen and one-half feet. There were three giraffes born in the Garden. The first one lived six days, the second one lived two hours, and the third one born grew up to be a fine specimen. This third was a female and is twelve years old now, and stands thirteen feet in height. When she was eight months old the mother died from fright. Whenever there was a thunder storm, the poor animal would stand in one place and tremble all over. The giraffe is the tallest of all animals. Its enormous stature is due to the extraordinary long neck and legs. It chews its cud as all horned animals do. In its wild state it eats the leaves of the Mimosa; its food in captivity consists of carrots, onions, bread, oats, bran and hay. When walking it has a stately and dignified appearance, but when it trots it looks very ridiculous. Its mode of defense, like that of the horse, consists in kicking with its heels; thus it may defend itself against the lion. Its hind legs are very light and their movements so rapid that the eye can not follow



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them. In early youth the hide of the giraffe is a light red, but it deepens as the animal advances in age until it becomes a yellowish brown in the male and in the female a brown bordering on black. Giraffes never make any vocal noise whatever. They are natives of northern Africa.

With the discovery of the okapi in the Congo forest a few years ago, naturalists have now decided that the okapi is closely allied to the giraffe.

INDIA RHINOCEROS (*Rhinoceros unicornis*). Inhabits the plains of north-eastern India. It lives amongst jungles and dense growth of reeds and grass, which attain a height of fifteen feet. Owing to the nature of the country, the India rhinoceros is hunted with the aid of elephants. This specie is now greatly reduced in number. This is the first specimen to arrive in this country in fourteen years. When full grown this specie will stand from five and a half to six feet at the shoulder, and will weigh two tons. When purchased from the Hagenbeck Brothers, April 9th, 1923, this animal was about two and a half years old, and cost \$10,000.00.

THE KANGAROOS stand at the head of the pouched animals, and are natives of Australia. There are many varieties, ranging in size from that of a full-grown man to that of a rabbit. The forelimbs are very short and the hind ones very long. The long and powerful tail is used as a means of support when sitting erect. When it walks, it rests its fore feet on the ground, bringing its long hind legs outside of them. When pursued it travels rapidly in a series of jumps, sometimes clearing fifteen feet at a bound. The kangaroo is esteemed for its flesh and for its skin, which is better than calfskin. Kangaroos are usually found in small companies conducted under the chaperonage of an old venerable individual. Their food is strictly vegetable. The female produces only one young at a time, which she carries in her pouch — the object of her constant solicitude.

These animals derive their name from the Greek word *Marsupium*, meaning a purse. A pouch is situated on the lower part of the abdomen in the female. The young animal being born, so to speak, prematurely, is in an undeveloped condition, and is