

● 1969 at the Zurich Zoo, Switzerland

Die Rappart-Zey.

In the year of the report the Zurich Zoo celebrated its 40th Anniversary. On this occasion a publication „40 Years of the Zurich Zoo“ with sketches by the famous animal painter Fritz Hug, a new Guide to the Zoo and a special Anniversary poster were issued.

The climax was the Zoo festival which took place on April 26 and 27 in specially erected tents in the centre of the City and with the enthusiastic participation of the population. At the same time the Zoo had the pleasure of welcoming 37 Directors of American Zoos who visited Zurich on their European tour.

The Zoo festival was also a financial success which culminated in a great number of gifts from private donors and commercial firms. The City and Canton of Zurich have contributed with an Anniversary gift of 5 m Francs.

During 1969 572,000 persons visited the Zoo, i.e. about 30 % more than Zurich has inhabitants. The entry fees amounted Frs. 1,095,776.25 which is an absolute record. The number of animals has risen to 1927 individuals in 420 species.

Among the breeding successes there is one which merits emphasis here: the natural hatching of an African Ostrich under very bad weather conditions (temperatures to only 40° F). The complete breeding behavior was filmed. In the Ape House, the 9th Gibbon was born.

● 1969 at the Bristol Zoo, England (1969 Annual Report).

It is satisfactory to report that in spite of some decrease in the number of visitors, the finances of the Society remain in a healthy condition.

During 1969 ten small outside cages of the Monkey House were replaced by two large ones in which groups of monkeys are now exhibited instead of odd specimens or pairs as formerly. Our collection of monkeys is probably better than we have ever had before.

Plans are already in hand for replacing the old iron cages adjoining the Aquarium with a new enclosure for Wolves, covering the old bear pit to provide accommodation for small mammals, and replacing the old deer house with a sectional timber building and improved outside enclosures.

Breedings results in 1969 have again been quite satisfactory and included a male and female Okapi, a female Beisa Oryx, a female Giraffe, two female Llamas, and two male Leopards.

● Safari Park in Czechoslovakia

The Zoological Gardens at Dvùr Králové, Czechoslovakia, exhibits at the moment in a temporary park a number of African animals, which will later be moved to a large Safari Park, to be opened in 1973.

On exhibit now are:

44 Rothschild's Giraffes, 8 Ostriches, 15 Böh'm's Zebras³ (of which some are maneless; one foal has been born here already), 15 Chapman Zebras³, 10 Damara Zebras, 9 Sable Antelopes (*Hippotragus niger*), 16 Roan Antelopes (*Hippotragus equinus*; 5 babies born here already), 1.3 White Rhinos, 2.2 Cheetahs, 6 young African Elephants, 6 White-bearded Gnu, (*Connochaetes taurinus albus*), ³*C. c. rothschildi*, ³*E. quagga boehmi*, ³*E. burchelli* and *quagga* (Dr. Vladimir Still) ³*E. burchelli*

● Unusual Hatching

In early May three Crimson-rumped Toucans were hatched in the Los Angeles Zoo, California, USA, Zoo.

As far as can be determined, this is the first time these tropical birds have been successfully hatched in captivity in the New World.

● Another Bongo

At the quarantine station of the Naples Zoo at Lake Fusaro, Italy, a male Bongo (*Tauratragus euryceros*) is being quarantined, destined for the Milwaukee Zoo, U.S.A.

This means that Bongos will soon be exhibited in four zoos: Basel, Cleveland, Frankfurt and Milwaukee.

(P. L. Florio)

● 30 years old Camel Bred

A female Bactrian Camel (*Camelus bactrianus*) is living for more than 26 years in the Zoo of Barcelona, Spain. The present age of this Camel is approximately 30 years. In the past she has bred regularly.

About 3½ years ago this female suffered a rheumatism at one of the legs; since this happened she is crippled. This infirmity caused no problems by producing young, however.

The last copulation took place on 22nd February 1969; during the pregnancy the old female was extremely 'lazy' and she did only move scarcely. Nevertheless on 1st April 1970 a healthy baby was born.

It is believed to be rather rare that a female Camel of this high age is successfully breeding.

(Dr. Antonio Jonch)