

News in Brief

New FPS Council Members

The Council of the FPS have co-opted three new members: Mr. Aubrey Buxton, Vice-president of the Council for Nature and well known for his Survival series on wildlife for Anglia Television; Sir Dudley Forwood, Vice-chairman of the British Deer Society; and Major Bruce Kinloch, M.C., until recently Chief Game Warden in Tanganyika.

Increase in Wild White Cattle

The Chillingham herd of wild white cattle has now increased to thirty-two animals, the first time numbers have topped thirty since the devastating winter of 1947. Six calves were born during the past year, five of them heifers, of which one bull and one heifer, born during the cold stormy conditions at the end of March, died on the day of birth. The herd now consists of fifteen bulls and seventeen cows and heifers.

Badgers Should be Protected

The Cornwall Naturalists' Trust Council has passed a resolution, proposed by Mr. Rennie Bere, recommending that legislation be introduced to protect the badger and make killing of badgers illegal except under licence, and urging other Trusts to make similar recommendations.

Uganda National Parks Director

Colonel C. D. Trimmer, who has been director of the Uganda National Parks since 1960, retired in May and has returned to England. His period of office was one of considerable expansion and development in the parks, covering the establishment of the Nuffield Unit of Tropical Animal Ecology at Mweya, the movement of the headquarters from Mweya to Kampala and the declaration of Uganda's third park, the Kidepo Valley National Park, which it is hoped will soon be open to the public. Colonel Trimmer is succeeded by Mr. F. X. Katete.

Rescue in South America

The FPS has sent £25 to a fund for rescuing wildlife trapped in the rising waters of the Brokopondo lake in Surinam (Dutch Guiana), which is filling up as a result of the closing of the Afobaka dam last February. As at Kariba, many animals are retreating to the islands that are being left in the lake, which by the end of the 1965 rainy season is expected to cover approximately 1,350 square kilometres. The area is one of dense rain forest which enables some tree-living species, such as monkeys, to escape, but makes rescue operations for others difficult.

Sanctuary for the Cereopsis

Goose Island, at the eastern end of the Bass Strait, between Australia and Tasmania, has been declared a sanctuary. This is one of the two main breeding sites of the Cape Barren goose, or cereopsis, which is on the danger list of the Survival Service Commission of IUCN. Dr. E. R. Guiler, chairman of the Animals and Birds Protection Board of Tasmania, which recommended the sanctuary, writes that in addition to the geese there are other important breeding colonies of birds on the island which have yet to be fully investigated.