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KEN KAWATA
 Topeka Zoo

The first Gorilla born in Japan

For the first time in the history of Japan, a baby Gorilla has been born at the zoo in Kyoto, the former capital and the most beautiful city in the country. This is also the first successful breeding of the species in the Far East.

Between 2.00 and 2.30 in the afternoon of October 29, 1970, a baby was born in an outdoor yard. BeBe, the mother, was toying with her baby and did not seem to be taking proper care of it, so the zoo officials decided to hand-raise the baby. She had to be anaesthetized, as she would not release the baby. After 4 pm, the baby was taken to an incubator. It was a male and weighed 2,370 gr.

Bottle-feeding was begun next day with human baby formula 5 times daily (8 am, 11 am, 2 pm, 5 pm and 10 pm). The body weight increased to 2,920 gr by November 23. BeBe arrived at the zoo with the male Jim from Cameroon on October 18, 1960. Their estimated age was 2. BeBe weighed 12.2 kg, while Jim weighed 12.45 kg on arrival. Breeding was observed between January 22 and August 28, 1970. The copulation on February 27 was believed to be effective, which makes the gestation period 245 days. Jim, the sire, died of prostration on September 21, caused by decayed teeth and malnutrition.

Plea for the Survival of rare Fur Bearing Mammals

During the recent Second International Congress of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in London, Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands suggested a resolution be adopted on behalf of the women attending the Congress. This resolution calls for women all over the world to co-operate in the protection of animal species endangered with extinction for the sake of fashion. It requests that women renounce the wearing and purchase of skins or other parts of these species. This first 'women's resolution' in the history of nature conservation mentions the Ocelot, Tiger, Jaguar, Cheetah, Leopard and Panther (especially the Snow Leopard), the Vicuña, Otter and all species of Crocodiles, Pythons and Turtles. It is finally the women and the fashion trade who will decide the fate of these species, their survival or their extinction.

PERSONALIA

Mr. B. Goffer, director of the Tel Aviv Zoo, Israel, for over 30 years, retired as of 1st August 1970. The scientific assistant director, Dr. Moshe Abram, will act as deputy director of the zoo.

Mr. J. Wm. Fruchtnicht Sr., superintendent of the Audubon Park Zoo in New Orleans, La., USA has retired. Assuming his position is Mr. Dennis J. Lacey, Jr.

Mr. Peter Scott, British ornithologist and conservationist, has been awarded the Albert Gold Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for 1970, for his outstanding work in conserving wildlife.

Readers will be pleased to hear that Dr. Jean Delacour celebrated his 80th birthday on 26th September, 1970.

Mr. Michael J. Crotty assumed the position of General Curator at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoological Park, Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA, on November 5, 1970. Mr. Crotty was formerly Superintendent of the Children's Zoo, Buffalo Zoological Garden, Buffalo, N.Y., USA.

Dr. Sam Weeks has been appointed manager of the Bird Division of the National Zoo, Washington, D.C., USA. The new manager of the Small Mammal Division is Mr. Harold Egoscue.

On 8th December, 1970, Mr. Carlos Junge, founder, owner and director of the Zoo at Chillan Viejo, Chili, celebrated his 70th birthday. On that occasion a booklet has been issued entitled 'Chercán' — the story of the Zoo and an autobiography.

As of 1st November 1970, Mr. Arne Lindberg has been appointed first Inspector in the animal section of the Kolmardens Zoo, Sweden. Mr. Bertil Gustavsson has been appointed Inspector in the same section.

Mr. B. S. Ward has been appointed Curator of the 'Winged World'. Bird Zoo at Morecambe and Heysham, Lancashire, England.

Zagreb Zoo
 Yugoslavia

BLACK RHINO BORN

On 24th December, 1970, at 23.00 hours a female Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) was born. The mother 'Laura' is taking excellent care of the baby and her behaviour towards the keeper is just as before the birth: she is still fully tame. Father is 'Roy': both animals came from the animal dealer Carr Hartley in Nairobi, Kenya. These Rhinos are the only ones in South-eastern Europe and the Balkans.

Moreover 1.2 Jaguar and 1.2 Lions were born in November. A Cape Hunting Dog bred some pups, but she ate the babies at once.

(K. Klimek)