

904

Animals

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 22

June 1963

PATRONS

Sir Julian Huxley

Sir Solly Zuckerman

ADVISORY EDITORS

The Duke of Bedford

Gerald Durrell

Dr Bernhard Grzimek

Nicholas Guppy

Gavin Maxwell

Alan Moorehead

Peter Scott

Dr Niko Tinbergen



animal in danger

The great Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) is one of the several endangered species of rhinoceros. As its name implies, it differs from all (except the Java rhino) in having only one horn. It is remarkable, too, for its 'armour-plated' skin, which lies in folds on its body. It inhabits parts of northern India and Nepal, where it lives beside rivers and feeds on the long grass that grows there. Its survival is threatened in two ways. First, it is highly prized for its horn, which, like that of all rhinos, is popularly supposed to have aphrodisiac properties. Secondly, its natural habitat, the long grass, is being gradually cleared for agriculture, leaving the rhino with nowhere to live. There are at present about 400 great Indian rhinoceroses in reserves in India itself, and a further 300 over the border in Nepal.

cover picture

Not a smile on the face of the tiger but an angry snarl. In fact, though they kill to eat, tigers are by nature retiring creatures, and they generally avoid man. They originated in Siberia, where they are still found, but they have also spread over much of Asia as far as Afghanistan in the west and Java in the south-east. Owing to their northern origins tigers are very sensitive to heat, and the ones that live in warmer climates bathe a great deal. They have a poor sense of smell, and not very good eyesight; and practically all their hunting is done by ear. Except in emergencies, they do not usually climb trees.



THEN THERE WERE NONE 4

Christopher Falkus

Many animal species have vanished for ever; many more will do so unless the conservation movement receives greater support

FISHING IN OUR BATH 8

Jane Burton

Fortunately Jane Burton's house has two bathrooms—for one of them has been taken over by a Slavonian grebe

A WHALE OF A FISH 10

Frank W. Lane

The whale shark is the biggest fish in the world—but one was netted on the very doorstep of New York City

MAGNIFICENT KUDU 18

C. A. W. Guggisberg

An account of a special expedition into the Northern Province of Kenya to photograph the elusive greater kudu

THE WORLD OF THE SOLDIER 22

CRAB Michael Tweedie

There is a crab that builds a new home every time the tide goes out

LIZARD IN DANGER 24

Alfred Leutscher

There are only six reptile species in Britain, and one of them, the sand lizard, is facing a grave threat

SAFARI FOR BIRDS 27

John Williams

The Tana River in Kenya is a paradise of wild life. John Williams saw a bewildering variety of birds on a recent expedition