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Published Monthly by

Finch & McCullough
ESTABLISHED 1903
Printers, Publishers

84 So. LaSalle Street, Aurora, Illinois
U. S. A.

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Rhino Bridegroom Arrives at Zoo

Despite floods, riots, and the dockworker's strike, a rare Indian Rhinoceros, Kanakbala, the Golden Boy, has just arrived at the Philadelphia Zoo. He is a mate for Kanaklota (Golden Girl) already in residence at America's first zoo. Both animals came from the Kaziranga Sanctuary in northeastern India where the surviving remnants of the once numerous Rhino are afforded protection. Fewer than 300 of them remain alive today.

Both of the ponderous pachyderms were trapped and brought to the United States by Peter Ryhiner, Swiss animal collector. His trip this time was fraught with difficulty, including floods along the Brahmaputra River, riots in far eastern cities, and arrival at Wilmington, North Carolina, during the recent strike that tied up all East Coast shipping. The stevedores agreed, however, to unload the Rhino and many other animals destined for other zoos. Golden Boy and several snakes, some venomous and some harmless, traveled from Wilmington to Philadelphia by truck.

The Indian Rhino has only one horn, and its thick, leathery hide is arranged in large plates. Bumps on the skin look like rivet heads. The total effect is that of an armor-plated animal from out of the antediluvian past. The Philadelphia Zoo is one of two zoos in America with a pair of these extremely rare beasts. A fine pair of African Black (two-horned) Rhinos are also on exhibition.

Fred Ulmer, Curator of Mammals, says that the nuptials will have to wait a while, at least until the newcomer has time to settle down and get acquainted with his new quarters. Both animals are young. Kanakbala is three or four years old, and Kanaklota is two years older.

Dallas:

The Dallas Zoological Society was recently formed, with Dallas News publisher Ted Dealy as its first president. Purpose of the society is to improve and beautify Marsalis Park Zoo, solicit donations for new animals, and aid generally in the enlargement of the exhibits.

Main project at the beginning will be the addition of a pair of rhinoceroses, and a modern reptile house, according to zoo director Pierre A. Fontaine.

Fort Worth:

Two new birds of prey have been placed on exhibit at the Fort Worth Zoo. These are the African Bateleur Eagle and the spectacular South American Harpy Eagle. These two birds give Fort Worth a very fine collection of birds of prey, which includes the Golden, Bald, and White-Bellied Sea Eagles, Swainson's Sparrow, and Red-Tailed Hawks. Also on exhibit are the Andean Condor, King Vultures, and Black Vulture, as well as an interesting assortment of native owls.

Experimental Use of Brightly Colored Trash Receptacles in Picnic Areas

For picnic area use the standard practice of the Dallas Park and Recreation Department has been to utilize salvaged 55 gallon steel oil drums for refuse with tops removed, bottoms perforated and painted inconspicuous greyish green to blend as nearly as possible with surroundings. Users of picnic areas cooperate to a surprising degree in placing refuse in these containers but never, of course, to the extent of 100% of all refuse. Current industrial trends involving the use of bright colors to accent specific conditions and improve operations led to the question whether bright colors on garbage containers might result in greater accumulation of refuse.

A test was conducted on one of the more popular picnic areas during the months of June, July and August 1955 under the supervision of Park Superintendent, W. G. Scheibe, and District Supervisor, Jack Black. Fifteen containers were painted bright yellow and placed within the area selected for the test with an equal number of standard greyish green containers. At the time of the collection the regularly assigned personnel estimated the volume content of each can be expressed in percent of total container volume. At intervals the location of each yellow container was alternated with the location of a green container to equalize inequalities which might be created by proximity to tables, restrooms, parking areas, play apparatus or other facilities.

A summary at the end of a three month period revealed that the refuse received by the yellow containers was only 10% in excess of that received by the standard grey-green container. The small difference led to the conclusion that the brightly colored container cannot be justified on the basis of receiving more refuse.

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Purdue University developed a curriculum leading to a Master of Science degree in Conservation beginning with the 1954-55 school year.

Correction to Buyer's Guide Section

We are publishing this column to give companies, which were inadvertently omitted from the regular Buyer's Guide Section of the November, 1955 Issue, the full benefit of their sales efforts.

C.

CHEMICALS

(Weed, Fungus, Insect and Pest)

Elm Spray; Dormant Spray Oil No. 1 (Dendrol); Malathion Spray; 25% DDT Concentrate; 2, 4-D Weed Killer No. 2. Standard Oil Company, (Indiana) 910 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 80, Illinois.

Insecticides; fungicides; weed killers and fertilizers. California Spray-Chemical Corporation, Richmond, California.

P.

PICNIC TABLES

Wood, heavy-duty picnic tables of mortise and bolt construction. Brill Manufacturing Company, Ludington, Michigan.

Tubular Metal base construction picnic tables. Brill Manufacturing Company, Ludington, Michigan.