

Tanzania for a generous cash donation; to the Regional Engineer for arranging installation of the water supply; to Mr and Mrs Gaetje for the loan of a pontoon for the transportation of animals, building materials, etc; to East African Railways and Harbours for loading the crated animals on to the pontoon; and to the many residents of Mwanza who have been so generous with support and donations

#### REFERENCES

- BOYLE, C. L. (1963): The trade in wildlife. Licensing systems. *Oryx*, 7: 88-89  
 MCCULLOCH, B. and ACHARD, P. L. (1965): Mortality in the capture of game animals. *Oryx*, 8: 131-142

Received for publication July 1965.

## Further notes on the mixed species exhibit at Boras Zoo

S. BERGGREN

Director, Borasparken, Sweden

Our exhibit for mixed species of African animals has been in existence for four years and the animals are now well established. Since I last reported on the exhibit (Berggren, 1965) the enclosure has been enlarged and the number of animals increased. In 1966 the 'African Veldt' contained the following animals: two male and one female African elephants *Loxodonta africana* about six years old, one female African elephant about two years old, a pair of White rhinoceroses *Diceros simus* about four years old, three male and 11 female Grant's zebras *Equus burchelli boehmi* (ranging from young of the year to 10 years old), one male and two female Reticulated giraffes *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata* (about four to six years old), a pair of White-tailed gnu *Connochaetes gnou* (about four years old), one male and three female blackbuck (to be replaced by African antelope), three full-grown Crowned cranes *Balearica pavonina*, two female Ground hornbills *Bucorvus abyssinicus*, four male and two female ostriches *Struthio camelus* (from two to about eight years old), and 42 guineafowl *Numida meleagris*.

The African Veldt now covers about 25,000 sq. m. The terrain is hilly and there are outcrops of natural rock. There are patches of sand amongst the grass, there is a dry river bed, a mud-hole and a large pool. As the result, the animals' skin and feet keep in good condition. Three large oak tree trunks are used as feeding trees for the elephants and giraffes: twice a day large bunches of grass, hay and branches are placed on the top of the trees for them to eat.

All the animals are housed at night throughout the year in individual stables. This is very important, for not only does it mean that the animals remain accustomed to handling but it also

ensures that each animal is provided with sufficient food and shelter. The buildings are on the edge of the African Veldt and have been positioned so that it is difficult for the public to see them. The stables are connected to the Veldt by two gates leading into yards. The first gate is for the smaller animals and there is a 'bridge' above it preventing the large animals from entering. The second gate also has a 'bridge' that can be adjusted electrically to different heights for the elephants, rhinos and giraffes. Usually the animals go through the gates quietly and in order but sometimes if they are crowded together waiting for the gates to open they become impatient. On one occasion one of the giraffes jumped over a rhino to get in first.

We have had very little difficulty getting the animals accustomed to each other because most of them were tame when they were put into the Veldt. When the rhino and elephants were introduced we were able to follow them, speak to them and caress them until they were reassured. We ascribe our success very largely to the degree of confidence and contact established between the animals and the people who look after them. This contact is specially important in the evening when the animals are sorted out in the yard and directed to their individual stables. The only aid used is the metal hook for the elephants, otherwise all the animals (including the ostriches) are directed into their stables by the voice or the fore-finger.

The only problem is the White-tailed gnu. The male is very aggressive with the rhino and has been tossed several times.

#### REFERENCE

- BERGGREN, S (1965): Keeping African animals in a cold climate *Int. Zoo Yb.*, 5: 137.

# INTERNATIONAL ZOO YEARBOOK 7

