

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

THE annual report of the Zoological Society of London was recently issued. According to a summary printed in the *London Times* the assets amount to £178,202, an increase of £6,630 on the amount of last year, and the liabilities decreased by £1,064. Owing to the nature of the tenure of the ground occupied in Regent's Park the value of the buildings there can not be included in the assets, but, as the new estate of the society at Whipsnade is freehold, it is beginning to be a substantial asset. The income from fellows' subscriptions exceeded that of last year by about £1,000 and from gate-money also by over £1,000.

The report states that the experiment of opening the gardens on Thursday evenings, from June to September inclusive, begun last year, is to be continued this year, but a charge of 6d. is to be made for the aquarium, which was usually inconveniently crowded last year. Over 60,000 visitors entered the gardens on Thursday evenings after the usual time for closing the day admissions, and the council believe that the evening openings allowed many persons occupied during the day to visit the collection. As a strictly financial enterprise, however, the evening openings do little more than pay their way.

The pathologist reported that there were no serious epidemics among the animals, and that there had been a reduction in the mortality among mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. The following mammals were bred and reared: One pig-tailed monkey, one lemur, four galago lemurs, three lion-cubs, two pampas cats, one wolf, one sea-lion, two pygmy hippopotamuses, one Grévy's zebra, one kiang and one Mongolian wild horse, a water buck, two nyalghae antelopes, three black buck, one gazelle, one Wapiti deer, two Pudu deer, one reindeer, one Hangul deer, two American bison, two anoas, one yak, one Cape buffalo, one ibex, one Grecian wild goat, three Caucasian wild goats, nine Barbary sheep, nine moufflon, four thars, a Canadian beaver, a prairie marmot, three agoutis, a fruit-bat, two wallabies and two opossums.

The report announces that Whipsnade Zoological Park, although there will be many years before it is complete, will be opened to the public on Friday, May 22. On that day there is to be a "private view" for fellows and official guests, and from the following Saturday onwards it is to be open daily, including Sundays, to the general public from 10 a. m. until "lighting-up time." There are fully licensed premises for meals in the park and a car-park has been made ready opposite the only entrance yet available, about a quarter of a mile from the village of Whipsnade. Charabanc services are being arranged from

the railway stations at Luton, St. Albans and Tring, as well as from London and centers in the Midlands.

The retiring members of council are Lord Alastair Innes-Ker, Professor J. P. Hill, Lord Onslow, Major Pam and Lord Rothschild. Those recommended to fill the vacancies are Sir John Bland-Sutton, Mr. H. G. Maurice, Sir Henry McMahon and Mr. E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, who have served on former occasions, and Sir Peter Clutterbuck, a Fellow who has not served before.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

THE annual meeting of the American Association of Museums will be held at Pittsburgh on May 21, 22 and 23, according to *Museum News*. General and group sessions are designed for delegates from museums of all kinds throughout the country. A general session each morning will be devoted to a topic of equal interest to museums of art, science, history and industry. Each afternoon session will be given over to a single paper introductory to inspection of one of the host museums or of some other branch of the Carnegie Institute. On two evenings six groups will hold separate sessions. At these group sessions more specialized topics will be considered, but in the aggregate a wide variety of subject matter will be covered. The groups are the technical section, the scientific section, the superintendents' section, the art group, the educational group, and the public relations group.

Important features of the meeting will be the twenty-fifth anniversary dinner on the third evening, and the exhibit of the technical section. The exhibit will be open for inspection throughout the meeting.

The delegates will be entertained at luncheon each noon and at tea each afternoon. Also a trip has been arranged for Sunday morning to the Allegheny Country Club, with luncheon on the lawn of the club.

The general session of the first morning will take up branch museums with papers on the different kinds of branches already to be found and general treatment of the needs and future. The second morning session will be on international outlooks with presentations from the European and the American standpoint and a critical comparison of views. The third general session, on the last morning, will take up outdoor education from the standpoints of science, history and art museums. At this session also there will be a single paper and discussion on a particular field—that of industrial museum exhibits.

Proposals for participation in the technical section exhibit are being received by Remi M. Santens, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, vice-chairman of the sec-