

News in Brief

Death of Ionides

C. J. P. Ionides, universally known as one of the greatest authorities on snakes, especially in East Africa, where he spent the last 43 years of his life, was a naturalist very much *sui generis*. In earlier days he was a big game hunter. He died in Nairobi on September 22nd. He had been a member of the FPS since 1932.

ORYX Wanted

Copies of ORYX for April 1967 and May 1968 are in very short supply. The Society would be most grateful if any members who have copies that they do not want would send them to Miss Giles, Fauna Preservation Society.

Full House

The Zoo meeting room was full to overflowing for the very successful FPS meeting on October 24th for the showing of the Anglia TV film about the Galapagos Islands, *The Enchanted Isles*, by Alan Root, followed by a wine and cheese supper. The Society is immensely grateful to Anglia and Mr Aubrey Buxton for making this splendid film available.

Cayapas National Reserve

The President of Ecuador last August signed the decree declaring a huge area of forest, some 3000–4000 square kilometres in the basin of the Cayapas river valley, a national reserve, later to become a national park. This park was recommended by the WWF mission of M Paul Schauenberg in 1967 and also by the FAO mission of Dr Richard Warner in 1968.

Collision Course

A new society called Canadian Wolf Defenders has been founded 'to promote conservation of and develop appreciation for one of Canada's most unusual and magnificent wild animals'; another new society in Canada, the Canadian Association for the Control of Wolves, has been founded to hunt wolves in Ontario, and is offering bounties of \$500 for ten males and \$300 for ten females.

Measures to Help the Plains Turkey

The Australian bustard or plains turkey *Eupodotis australis* has decreased so markedly that the Victoria Fisheries and Wildlife Department has started a continent-wide status and distribution survey. It has also initiated a captive breeding programme at the Serendip Wildlife Research Station with 24 birds that were captured in an expedition to the Northern Territory in 1966 and 1967. The chief cause of the decline is believed to be direct killing for the pot.

Wilderness for the Condor

The first wilderness area to be set aside in the USA under the new Wilderness Act is the San Rafael Wilderness Area in California, the only habitat of the rare and endangered California condor.

Deer Conservation Meeting

The East Anglian branch of the British Deer Society is holding a residential study week-end on the Conservation of the Deer of the World from March 7th–9th, 1969, at Pendley Manor, Tring. Speakers will include Sir Hugh Elliott and John Willett. Applications to the Secretary, Pendley Manor, Tring, Herts.