

cent. of the total U.S. population of cougars. Florida and South Dakota give it complete protection, and bounty laws have recently been repealed in British Columbia, California, Oregon and Washington.

Russian Tigers Increase

The number of Ussuri or Manchurian tigers in the Maritime Territory of the Soviet Far East has doubled from 40 to 80 as a result of the ban on hunting imposed 10 years ago.

Taking a Tortoise's Temperature

During the Galapagos International Scientific Project early in 1964 Dr Stuart Mackay recorded the body temperatures of tortoises at Academy Bay, on Santa Cruz, by feeding them with minute (and harmless) transmitters buried in chunks of banana. These recorded the tortoises' body temperatures, which were transmitted by means of signals picked up by an ordinary transistor radio.

Reports and Journals

Annual Report of the International Council for Bird Preservation, British Section, 1964. British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7, 3s.

Reports on several conferences are given in this useful summary of a year's work and progress in bird protection: the 8th conference of the European Continental section at Newcastle, Co. Down, in June; the conference on birds of prey at Caen in April; the general assembly of the Conseil International de la Chasse in the Hague in April, and an international symposium on migratory game birds in Florence in October. There are also reports from the International Wildfowl Research Bureau and the Advisory Committee on Oil Pollution of the Sea, under its new chairman Lord Shackleton. The former chairman and founder, Mr. James Callaghan, resigned due to pressure of work. A report on the effects of toxic chemicals on birds discusses developments, and particularly the Government's ban on aldrin, dieldrin and heptachlor.

Project MAR: The Conservation and Management of Temperate Marshes, Bogs and other Wetlands. Volume 1 (IUCN Publication No. 3), Proceedings of the MAR Conference organised by IUCN, ICBP and IWRB at Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, November 12-16 1962. Volume 2 (IUCN Publication No. 5), List of European and North African Wetlands of International Importance. (Vol. 1, 35s, Vol. 2, 17s 6d, from IUCN, 19, Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1).

These two volumes, one stout, the other slim, are the monumental results of a notable enterprise, the conference arranged in the Camargue in November 1962 by the organising genius of Luc Hoffmann to make a start on the long process of conserving the world's wetlands, with their invaluable natural resources of wildfowl, fish and vegetation. Some 90 delegates came from 16 countries to listen to and discuss papers, and to launch a conservation scheme, of which the first fruits is contained in Volume 2. Here for the first time we have an internationally prepared scientific list of the wetlands that need to be conserved in one comparatively small quarter of the globe, Europe and North Africa. Sixteen areas are listed for Great Britain, eight in each of the two categories of importance. The first eight are Loch Leven in Kinross-shire, the Norfolk Broads, the coastal broads and marshes of Suffolk and Essex, the North Norfolk marshes, Abberton Reservoir in Essex, the Solway Firth, the Northumberland coast and the Wash with the East Anglian Fens.