

## FPS Annual General Meeting

THE Zoo meeting rooms were full to overflowing for the annual general meeting of the Society on June 11th. The President, Lord Willingdon, took the chair, and thanked the staff for a most successful year's work as shown in the Hon Secretary's report and the accounts, published in the May ORYX. The Council's recommendations for the re-election of the Society's Officers were passed, and also the appointment of four new Council members: Mr G. T. Corley Smith, CMG, Lord Craigton, CBE, Mr Tam Dalyell, MP and the Hon Ivor Montagu. The three Council members who retire in rotation, Mr James Fisher, Sir Dudley Forwood Bt and Dr W. H. Thorpe, were warmly thanked for their services. The President also offered a warm vote of thanks to the Zoological Society who generously provide us with office accommodation and allow the use of their rooms for Society meetings.

The President pointed out that the general rise in costs, especially in the printing of ORYX, had made it essential for Council to recommend the raising of all subscriptions to the Society, and the proposed amendment to Rule 5 was put to the meeting and passed. This sets the new subscription rates as follows: ordinary members, £3 a year; benefactors, £10 a year; life members: under 41, £200; 41-60, £150; 61 and over £75.

Following the business meeting members were able to see Dr Eugen Schuhmacher's outstanding film *The Last of the Wild*, one of the finest wild-life films ever made. The Society is deeply indebted to Dr Schuhmacher for lending this superlative film. A wine and cheese supper was served.

### Philippines Special Project

THE tamarau project of the newly formed Philippines Wildlife Conservation Association is making progress since its official launching in May by Charles Lindbergh, with President Marcos. General Lindbergh also made an extensive - and very successful - tour of the island to arouse interest in conservation. As reported in the May ORYX, three mountain sanctuary areas on Mindoro have been agreed, and two Filipino scientists, a botanist and a zoologist, are at work at the provisional research station in one of them, doing essential studies for the conservation of the tamarau. The FPS has voted the sum of £658 from the FPS/WWF Revolving Fund to provide urgently needed equipment for the station. The monkey-eating eagle situation, on the other hand, is 'very alarming but not yet hopeless', in the words of Tom Harrison, following an initial report from Professor Rodrigo Gonzales who has just finished an exhaustive survey.

### Cousin Island Reserve

OVER £15,000 has been raised by ICBP (International Council for Bird Preservation) for the purchase of Cousin Island in the Seychelles, described in ORYX in December 1967; this almost covers the purchase price. The Council's appeal is for £50,000 to provide a maintenance fund and the building of a research station. In the meantime they have stopped visitors without permits, stopped the cropping of the wedge-tailed shearwater chicks, and plan to remove all the pigs and control the free-running hens. Contributions for the Cousin appeal may be sent to the FPS to be forwarded.