

which had offered to hold the Games in its famous national park, where it was prepared to fell several acres of 200-year-old forest trees. Conservationists protested against the bad example that Canada would set to the rest of the world by alienating a national park for a short-term interest.

Correction

The white rhino in Uganda, which has given birth to a calf (see *ORYX*, April 1966, page 220), is in the Murchison Falls National Park, and is one of those brought in 1961 in the operation partly financed by Anglia Television and described in *ORYX*, September 1961, page 184.

Elephant Gourmet

A bull elephant climbed over the fence (without flattening it) into the Senior Warden's vegetable garden in the Murchison Falls National Park, in Uganda, and ate all the sweet corn together with a few melons, beet and egg plants. On his next visit he finished off the egg plants, and tackled the sweet peppers. Not to his taste apparently were tomatoes, lettuce, carrots or passion fruit.

National Parks of the World

THE detailed catalogue of the national parks and equivalent reserves of the world, on which Professor Jean-Paul Harroy has been working for the last four years, revising and adding to the initial, much smaller list published by IUCN in 1961, is now complete, and will be published in French this year for the United Nations. It is a remarkable achievement. Some 1200 areas are included which satisfy the strict definition of a "national park or equivalent area": that it must be over 500 hectares (1235 acres) in a settled country or 2000 hectares (4942 acres) in an under-developed one, in which the natural resources, including the wildlife may not be destroyed, degraded or transferred in any way by human exploitation or occupation, and in which adequate steps are taken to prevent such exploitation. Seventy-four British nature reserves qualify under this definition, but no national park. The list excludes China and other non-members of the United Nations, and also the few countries which did not reply to the 134 questionnaires sent out; nevertheless it is an invaluable tool for all conservationists.

At a meeting of the Terrestrial Conservation section of the International Biological Programme at Brunnen in Switzerland in July, presided over by its convener Mr E. M. Nicholson, there were discussions on the value of this catalogue as a basis for the Section's main task, which is to produce an inventory of the natural habitats or ecological systems of the world—savanna grassland, deserts, coastal marshes, and so on—so that adequate samples of each can be conserved for science before it is too late. Using this list, and in collaboration with IUCN, detailed ecological information about such habitats will now be collected, processed on computer tape, and later, it is hoped, published in loose-leaf form similar to the Red Books on endangered mammals and birds just published by the Survival Service Commission of IUCN.