

No. 4 / december 2007

# **zoo**report

the magazine for friends of the Brno Zoo

## **BRNO**



special supplement

**ZOO REPORT PROFI**

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## Zooreport

the magazine for friends of the Brno Zoo  
december 2007; No. 4/07, volume IX

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### Distribution:

500 pcs in the English version  
1,500 pcs in the Czech version

### Photos by:

Eduard Stuchlík

### First page:

Pygmy marmosets

UNSALEABLE

## Zoos Belong to Today's World

**It was an honour to me to host the 24<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria. However, I saw this brilliant mission as an important appreciation of the Warsaw Zoo.**

When I think of the Warsaw Zoo's good reputation, I realize the crucial importance of the first investments that were on the beginning of a long road to a prosperous institution, which is engaged in breeding of threatened species and education in nature preservation. After twenty five years of being director of the zoo, I hope I may responsibly say that the zoo persuaded the city council that the importance of zoos – protectionist, educational and scientific centres – constantly increases. The authorities cautiously accepted the necessity of financial injections. And I am glad that I can deliver some of our experience to the Zooreport readers.

The zoo was in deep recession and it was even threatened with closing at the time of my entrance. Three main tasks had to be carried out for its saving: unkept breeding facilities and technical equipment had to be reconstructed, species composition had to be changed and special emphasis had to be laid on education. Building of new operation centre was the first investment that we managed to realize. It included food preparing room, food and technical stores, service station, filling station, garage and



**Jan Maciej Rembiszewski**

glass house. Only after finishing this building, we started to work on new expositions.

Towards the close of the eighties, our zoo has built a quarantine station for animals imported mostly from Africa in cooperation with the Warsaw Botanical Garden; new veterinary clinic later followed the quarantine. A numerous group of gardeners joined our working team and helped to change our zoo into a wonderful well-kept park; among others, there are about 2000 conifers, usually tens of years old.

Almost all the buildings have been renovated and many new expositions have gradually been built: antelopes' pavilion, reptiles' pavilion, avi-

ary with a hall with freely flying birds, elephants' exhibit, which is considered to be the greenest in Europe, Indian rhinos' pavilion, invertebrates, fairytale children's zoo and many open expositions with water-drains including an exposition of Australian fauna and many ungulates' exhibits. We are going to finish gorillas' and chimpanzees' exhibits and started building hippopotamuses' pavilion in August 2007.

We put stress on educational activities at our zoo. We organize workshops, lectures and lessons for all age groups, from children from nursery schools and students to pensioners, same as for ill and disabled people. We organize popular-science exhibitions and workshops; one of the most important and also the most successful was an exhibition called "Farewell to Africa – Four Million Years of Human Evolution". The Warsaw Zoo participates in prestigious scientific festival of the Academy of Sciences of Poland. The Panda Foundation, which I have founded, helps the zoo both financially and with propagation.

Dr. Jan Maciej Rembiszewski,  
Warsaw Zoo director

### **Dr. Jan Maciej Rembiszewski**

*was born in 1938 in Warsaw. Ten years later, he already worked in the Warsaw Zoo – as a member of young biologists' group, he cared for lamas and young bears. At that time, his desire for being director of the zoo was born. After his studies of biology at the Warsaw University, Dr. Rembiszewski had worked as an ichthyologist at the Academy of Sciences of Poland. He published more than 100 scientific and popular-scientific articles and took part in four expeditions to the Antarctic, where he spent altogether 3,5 years, 15 months of which as a leader of a team that spent the winter on the King George Island. In 1982, when he came to know about the open competition for the post of the Warsaw Zoo director, his old dreams and interests in exotic animals came to life again. He entered the competition and he won it...*

*Dr. Rembiszewski is a member of the Zoological committee of Academy of Sciences of Poland, as well as other committees (botanical gardens, polar research, and sea research). He sits in the State Conservation Council, Local Conservation Council and in Polish Science and Executive Board of the CITES treaty. He is chairman of the Polish Collegium of Zoological Gardens and Aquaria and a representative in the EAZA Council. He also is a laureate of many awards. For example, he obtained the Order of Polonia Restituta and the Golden Ensign for credit of Warsaw; he is the Warsaw Citizen of 1997.*



Overview into the right part of the loghouse interior



A ritual mask (its practical usage in the back)



Girdles that protect legs against snow



A ritual mask

### Small Museum in Indian Loghouse

We managed to complete equipment in a loghouse replica of the Canadian Indian tribe Haida Gwaii chieftain during this year. This significantly original building was built at our zoo in 2003, at the same time as the neighbouring Canadian beavers' exhibit. The one-room object has a ground plan of 8 x 13 meters and a fireplace in its middle, but for safety reasons, we never start fire there. Although we tried to build the loghouse exactly like original, we had to make a concession: one wall is glazed, so that it offers view into the Arctic wolves' exhibit. On the other three walls, there is information about the Haida life style, the nature of their homeland – Queen Charlotte Islands – and about the area of both the American and Asian coasts of the Bering Strait.



A spoon

The new equipment (three-dimensional artefacts) – replicas of Haida clothes, tools and other utility and ritual items – now enlarge the collection of present text and picture information. The exhibits are placed in six showcases, which are 2–2,5 meters high and are hollowed out from pine trunks with 50–90 centimetres in diameter. The glass doors are on two opposite sides, so the visitors can see the exhibits perfectly. Mr. Jan Brlica, a woodcarver, made the showcases after draft of designer Josef Hajný. Brlica also made two replicas of totems that have been decorating the loghouse since 2003. About six meters long kayak chiselled from pine and rich with carving, and armchairs made of one piece of wood also belong to the new mobiliary; these things were also made by Mr. Brlica.

Exhibits displayed in the showcases were made by four people. Students of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Jaromír Juřica and Ondřej Staněk, carved and decorated wooden ritual masks, darter, ceremonial eagle figure, headband decoration, oil bin and a spice bowl. Radek Vičar, a member of the Hau Kola group that is engaged in Indian folklore, made two bracelets made of leather, wood, bones and shells and sewed a painted leather shirt and leather girdles that protect legs against snow. Brlica carved out two bigger and one smaller wooden lockers, ladles, spoons and two ritual items – a killer whale and a double-headed bird – and also a reminder of present Haida art: a sculpture called Raven and the First People, made after work of present Haida artist, Bill Reid.

Interior of the loghouse at the Brno Zoo has served as one of the information centres so far, but now it acquired a character of a small museum that is popular not only among the visitors, but also among participants of educational programmes.

*Eduard Stuchlik*

## Nikolaev Zoopark Thinks of its Future and Doesn't Forget the Past

Zoo in Nikolaev, Ukraine, was founded by the city mayor, Mr. Nikolay Leontovich, in 1901. At that time, it was called the National Aquarium; it was equipped with top technologies and kept more than 1000 specimens of about 50 species of fish and amphibians. A zoological section was opened in 1925 and the name was changed into Aquarium-Zoopark. The zoo didn't have to be evacuated during the World War II and it stayed open during the whole time of occupation. It has been called the Nikolaev Zoopark since 1948. In 1978, it was moved to another place (about 20 ha large), where it has been situated up to this day. The zoopark belongs to the city of Nikolaev, which supports it from its budget. Among continuous reconstructions, building of new exhibits and aviaries takes place every year.

The Nikolaev Zoopark became a popular resting place for citizens and visitors of the city. There is about 3850 animals of 387 species kept, e.g.



Photo by Vladimir Topchy

### Sloth bears

Amur tigers, Sloth bears or White-naped cranes, and also Maned wolves, Chimpanzees, Mandrills, White-handed gibbons, Siberian ibexes, Markhors, White-tailed eagles and other species are reproduced. Also a yard with domestic animals made in folklore style attracts children as well as adults. The visitors may "communicate" with its inhabitants and feed them. The zoo also breeds 18 species within international rescue programmes.



Photo by Ekaterina Baikova

### Female Amur tiger

Nikolaev Zoopark was admitted to EAZA as first of all the Ukrainian zoos and it is the only Ukrainian zoo in WAZA. It is also member of EAZA and Ukrainian AZA.

Although Nikolaev is situated in area of dry South Ukrainian savannahs, the zoopark stands out with a plenty of green areas. In recent years, gardeners add young plantings of exotic kinds to the current collection of plants.

A group of young biologists works within the Section of Science and Education - this interest group celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Children learn about the wild nature there. The section has been organizing zootherapeutic exercises both in the zoopark and in the children's rehabilitation centre since 2005.

The incumbent director, Mr. Vladimir Topchy, has initiated birth of a museum to preserve important moments of quite a long history of the zoopark for next generations already in 1988. Ceremonial re-opening of the museum took place after its extensive reconstruction in 2006.

There has been a magnificent sculpture "Maugli and Bagira" in front of the entrance for already 29 years. It has become not only a symbol of the zoopark, but also of connection

of man and wild nature. The zoopark has its motto: "Only with united power we can preserve the world of wild animals".

*Yurii Kirichenko,*  
zoologist



Photo by Vladimir Topchy

### Female White-Naped crane



Heiko on roof of a cottage in allotments

### **Gelada Heiko Went on a Trip**

Gelada male Heiko, who went on a trip behind the gate of the Brno Zoo to explore the surrounding forests and slopes, kept the zoo workers, journalists and policemen occupied for three September days. Random passers-by and tourists also helped to search, when they spotted the runaway and informed the zoo. Such closely watched stories with happy endings do not happen every day, therefore we mention it once again.

Heiko belongs to a species called Gelada. It comes under the Cercopithecidae family and it sometimes (within this family) is ranked among the Baboons. Geladas live in high mountain steppes and rocks of Ethiopian Highlands. They

are, same as the Baboons, the best adapted to life on ground of all the Cercopithecidae. As vegetarians, they eat mostly grass and seeds. Males are bigger than females, they weigh about 20 kg and may be up to 70 cm tall (they don't reach human height at any rate, like some newspaper wrote). They differ from females especially by longer fur on the front part of their body, which makes a mane that looks like a raincoat.

Till his escape, Heiko belonged to inhabitants of a common exhibit of Barbary sheep and Geladas together with another male called Helge. Both of them have been living in Brno since 2005 and they both come from the Rheine Zoo, Germany,

where Heiko was born in 2000 and Helge in 1999. As it turned out, the usual nickname "ground apes" didn't quite catch our males' characters: they were skilful as other kinds of apes while moving on trunks and branches of high trees that are almost all around our zoo. Someone, who can climb a rock, can also move in bushes and treetops. That's why the exhibit and trees that could help to escape are provided with an electric fence.

However, on 19<sup>th</sup> September Heiko found out that the usual barrier disappeared (electric voltage decreased) and escaped towards evening. Night came on and the searching was useless, but we knew that Heiko was in the zoo premises. We had to hope that he would return to his mate and to a table full of delicacies.

The next day, Heiko found out that he can revel also in other exhibit. He visited several of them while the zoo staff was trying to catch him in vain. Then he overcame fencing of the zoo and set out towards the sports airport in Medlánky district. There was everything in the nearby allotments: fruits, vegetables, grapes and hay in small sheds. Nevertheless, he went to a field that looked like plains of his homeland and ate grass. Skirmish line made of zoo workers, policemen and journalists turned him back to the allotments, where he climbed onto a roof of one of the cottages. Our vet prepared anaesthetic rifle and it seemed that the anabasis comes to end. Unfortunately, TV news cameraman came too close, Heiko got



Loading the sleeping monkey



Transport of the sleeping monkey in a sheet

Photo by David Baumann

Photo by David Baumann

Photo by David Baumann



Heiko in his original exhibit (year 2005) ▲ ►



frightened and disappeared in forest. Despite considerable efforts, no-one of the pursuers could spot him there.

On Friday September 21<sup>st</sup>, some people walking in forest near Jinačovice called that they saw a monkey. Under a tree where Heiko nestled, the director of the zoo was patrolling. They both were calm, time passed by and it was quiet all around. Suddenly, the ape jumped down and ran away. Only after a while, a group of shooters with anaesthetic rifles appeared; there was the zoo vet among them, whose voice the ape caught miles off. The searching was cancelled for that day.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> September in the morning, a recreational jogger informed us about Heiko on the Baba hill near Medlánky. Two snipers with anaesthetic rifles – the zoo vet and a policeman – joined the searching group, again headed by the director. However, they searched the hill without success. Then a biker called that he had seen Heiko at a plain near Jinačovice after the noon. When we arrived, we couldn't believe our eyes. Heiko was sitting on the grass and a local was feeding him with crackers. When he ran out of crackers, he gave him pieces of dumpling. As we came closer, Heiko moved to surrounding fields, but he still was a good target. The first policeman's shot glanced aside from Heiko's heavy fur and he moved towards the Jinačovice golf course. Our vet tactically came closer, hidden behind a biker, and fired another shot. But it was probably deflected by some thicker stem and it didn't hit the target.

Heiko contentedly set out across the golf course and towards the Baba hill again. The biker had followed him and continuously informed us, but he lost him in the end.

In the late afternoon, when the pursuers were already tired, another report came from the golf course and everything started again. We isolated the animal with help of golf trolleys on a lone tree and at 5 p.m., our vet safely hit the target with an anaesthetic shot. The golfers were applauding, when we caught the ape into a sheet, after he fell off the tree, and brought him to a car and drove back to the zoo.

We placed the runaway into an exhibit in the Monkey Pavilion. His health condition was perfect, which was demonstrated by length of the route

he went through during his adventure. Heiko's mate Helge joined him after three days. In the near future, they will not return into the common exhibit with Barbary sheep of safety reasons.

*MVDr. Petr Číhal, CSc.,  
Breeding Section foreman*



Heiko after his return to the zoo



Heiko (right) and Helge in the Monkey Pavilion



Polárka, a foal of the Shetland pony ▲ ▼



### Little Polárka Will Join the Ranks of Ponies

Shetland pony is an inherent part of the Brno Zoo fauna today. Development of breeding of domesticated animals in zoos became a worldwide trend, which reflects the reality that the zoos, besides keeping exotic and threatened species, increasingly engage in education and innovate their service for visitors.

We number the Shetland pony among a group of Nordic breed of horse (*Equus caballus*);

the oldest occurrence of this breed was documented on the Shetland Islands – local harsh climate influenced and formed physical and psychical characteristics of these ponies: the best specimens come from the northernmost Unst Island. The first horse-breeding farms were settled by lord Londonderry in 1870 on the Bressay Island and the Noss Island, where a male called Jack had deep influence on the breed forming and he became a legend then. On average, these tough and unassuming ponies grow up to 80–100 cm at the shoulder. Head is small and short, neck is short and wide. Older stallions have a fat crest. Back is wide and strong and croup is muscular. Trunk is very deep and withers tame. Legs are short with medium tufts of hair. Winter hair has a long and heavy underfur. Basic hair colour is black and there also appear bay, pepper-and-salt and dappled ponies, rarely sorrel ones and specimens with other colour shades.

Shetland pony belongs to the strongest horse breed – in view of the body mass. Its strength and small body measurements predestined it to be a work animal. Ponies worked hard in mines, where they pulled mining trucks with coal, and they also were useful in vegetable and flower farms and hop-gardens in the last

century. They are mostly used as riding horses for children nowadays.

The Brno Zoo had bred the Shetland pony firstly just as one of many displayed species, later it was included in the promotional and educational activities. Members of the “Domestication” group of the Station of Young Natural Scientists work with them; they are used in zootherapy and promotional and educational actions of the zoo. Little patients of the Children’s Oncology and also mentally disturbed and physically disabled children come to visit them; the ponies also warm the hearts of adults during the meeting of adoptive parents. No-one can imagine e.g. the Children’s Day celebration without riding the ponies today. Visitors like to take part in the commercial riding from spring to autumn.

We have built a high-quality “ponydrome” at the Children’s Zoo. It is paved with special rubber tiles, so that the ride is as comfortable as possible for both the children and the ponies. There is a “Magical Yard” with sculptures of fairytale characters nearby the ponydrome. It’s a place where children may stroke the ponies and then, when they swing up into the saddle, they become princesses and knights. Ponies called Rozárka (also called Zrzka), Pajda, and Alex alias Felix take them to fairytale lands. The mare Pajda became the most popular and a real children’s favourite for her look and lovable character. She is light brown, which is quite rare with the Shetland ponies. Pajda recently gave birth to a young one (first Felix’s descendant) – also a light brown mare. Children of the “Domestication” group named her Polárka.

We plan to enlarge the breeding – we are going to finish new stables for twelve ponies this year (more about the new building on page 11). We also want to divide the herd into two groups: there will be the best three or four mares and the breeding stallion Felix in the breeding group and 6–7 mares and geldings in the working group. We wish Polárka and all the other Shetland ponies at the Brno Zoo future full of love and appreciation of their hard work.

Ing. Šárka Tkadlečková,  
Children’s Zoo Section foreman

## Arnold Replaced Homer, Who Is Finally in USA

Grevy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*) stallion called Homer finally left Brno for South American St. Louis. We drove him to Luxembourg on 30<sup>th</sup> October, from where he flew over the ocean. He had been in quarantine near the St. Louis airport and then he moved to local zoo for good. He brought new blood to USA. On their way back from Luxembourg, the Brno zoologists made a stop at the Prague Zoo, where our second stallion was temporarily placed. Arnold was born at the Berlin Zoo in 1999 and as an unrelated specimen, he became a new leader of the Brno herd. Homer comes from Dvůr Králové breeding; he came to Brno as one-year-old foal in 1998. Coordinator of the European Endangered Species Programme didn't recommend his further reproduction in Europe, so we placed him in the Vyškov Zoo for the last period, where he lived with no females. He fathered four descendants in Brno, the last one, filly Janinka, was born last year. There is her mother Šaráda, born in Dvůr Králové in 1997, and another female Miša, born in the Poznań Zoo in 2001, with Janinka in the group. (red)

## Breeding White Cockatoo

We managed to breed a young White cockatoo (*Cacatua alba*) in the Exotic Birds Pavilion this year. Firstly we heard chirping of the young parrot, which hatched out from one of the two laid eggs, on 27<sup>th</sup> July. During a visual control, the young bird seemed strong, well developed and the mother fed it. But already on 21<sup>st</sup> August, his voice sounded sadly. This



White cockatoo



Stallion Arnold takes up with his females

was a signal that the parental care slackened. Ten days after, at the moment when the mother wasn't in the nesting box, we took the young one away. It showed signs of insufficient feeding. The nestling got 8 ml of so-called "starting mash" by a syringe right into its throat. Then we returned it into the box. We fattened the young one several times up, but on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, when its mother left the nest for good, we brought it to an incubator. It scaled 119 g. During following days and weeks, it ingested liquid food and started to taste fruits in the middle of October. It scaled 540 g and was fully feathered three months after its birth. It left the incubator on 7th November and it was coming back to this intimately familiar place only for nights. (red)



Barn owl

## Shipwrecks of the Red Sea

A display of photos of Ing. Michal Piškula called Shipwrecks of the Red Sea will be enabled in the cellars of the Permanent Aquaristic Exhibition from 15<sup>th</sup> December till the end of January. The themes of about sixty pictures are wrecks of ships that have sunk in the Red Sea, where the submarine fauna and flora gradually absorbs them. Some of them have been on the bottom since half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century; the youngest wreck is from 1995. The photos were taken during last five years at depths up to 50 m. (red)

## Also Barn Owls Reproduced

Little Barn owl (*Tyto alba*) was born on 18<sup>th</sup> May in one of the aviaries in so-called „Birds' Alley“, which is devoted to the Czech birds of prey and owls. The parents brought their child well up and now it differs from them only by a bit lighter colouring. This owl, once quite plentiful in our country, is highly threatened nowadays, same as other kinds of owls. Besides the present pair, the Brno Zoo plans to establish another Barn owls' family and their young ones then include in reintroduction programmes that already proceed in our zoo. (red)



Pygmy marmoset family



Young one on the back of one of its parents

### Two Young Ones of the Smallest Monkeys of the World

Visitors of the Brno Zoo can see young Pygmy marmosets (*Callithrix pygmaea*), the smallest monkeys of the world, on two places nowadays: in one of the expositions of the Tropical Kingdom pavilion and also in the neighbouring building of vivaria with saddle roof called "the A house", where we placed another breeding pair.

The first young one was born at the Tropical Kingdom on 18<sup>th</sup> September. It started to

explore the inner exposition already at the end of October, but it liked to return soon to the back of its parents, who took turns caring about it. The second little monkey was born on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Pygmy marmosets belong to so-called "clawed monkeys", which have claws on their fingers unlike other monkeys; an exception is their big toes, where they have nails. The Brno Zoo has kept them since the opening of the Tropical Kingdom in 1998. However, we had problems to reproduce them for quite a long time. We noticed only several births of dead youngs; a birth in July 2004 seemed to be the most hopeful, unfortunately, we found the young one dead on the floor after a week.

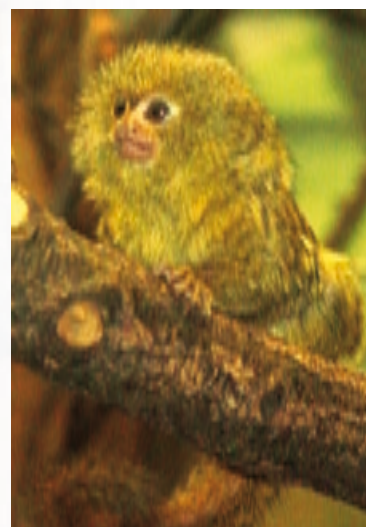
The setbacks had various reasons: some of the specimens were older and they were only a short time at our zoo, others were influenced by stress factors. Also generally low knowledge about the life requirements of clawed monkeys affected negatively. There's no need to hide that our knowledge and experience also gradually developed: from sometimes hardly acquired information – often even opposing – to current well-proven procedures and recipes related chiefly to correct nutrition.

As already mentioned, the Pygmy marmosets are the smallest monkeys of the world – length of their body is maximally 30 cm, almost 20 cm of

which is the tail. The weight ranges between 100 and 150 g. They are the second smallest living primates, after the Grey Mouse lemurs (*Microcebus murinus*) from Madagascar. In wild, they occur in Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Columbia, in the primeval forest area around the upper reach of the Amazon River and its affluents. They inhabit the low-land flood forests, field edges, secondary forests and bamboo bushes. They create relatively monogamous pairs that hang around with their young ones. They eat fruits, vegetable juice, nectar and insects as well. Females usually whelp two young ones and nurse them up to three months. They reach the sexual maturity at the age of one year and they live up to ten or even a few more years. They were thought to be young Common marmosets for a long time after they have been found near the Peru's border with Brazil and Columbia in 1823. Pygmy marmosets are very active animals and despite their small growth, they need almost the same living space as other kinds of clawed monkeys in captivity.

Our zoo acquired another kind of clawed monkeys – the Yellow-handed tamarins (*Saguinus midas*) in 2002, according to our breeding conception; this conception counts with integration of the Tropical Kingdom to a complex exposition called Caribbean, including fauna of the Caribbean area in the broad sense (Central America, North of South America, Sonora Desert, Florida, Bahamas, Antilles). We firstly managed to reproduce these tamarins in 2004.

Michal Balcar,  
Tropical Kingdom foreman



Separate ground survey

## Stables and Education under One Roof

Stables at the Children's Zoo gained a completely new look after they have changed into one large building site during the past season. The reconstruction didn't disturb the usual run of the children's area; it only worked under difficult circumstances: keepers brought the animals (rabbits, guinea pigs, goats, sheep, lamas) from alternate farther dormitories in the morning and took them back in the afternoon. The most distinctive functional change was the removal of the pony riding place. Pony riding took place at an alternate ponydrome near the Bison exhibit, where the ponies also found a provisory home.

Reconstruction of the stables building, where a background for the breeders was as well, will be finished towards the end of the year. Dormitories will take larger area and the breeders will gain dressing rooms and other spaces with higher comfort as well. In addition to that, the object that was situated outside the public area so far will also serve the visitors who would be interested in further information offered in new education room.

Structural designers decided that only bottom of the ground floor building from the 1960s will be preserved. New building in fairytale style with a loft was built, so that it would be in tune with the neighbouring farmyard. These two buildings will also be joined by the thatched roofing. It wasn't possible to thatch the roof, because this year's rye straws were shorter than the required 120 cm.

The new building has four operative parts: there are twelve boxes for ponies (more about ponies' herd on page 8) and boxes for other domestic animals on the ground floor; there is a mow, background for breeders and an education room in the loft. The room will become a new centre of environmental education. It will be furnished with cases and boxes of peasant style, where we would not find one-time dishes and clothes, but elements of environmental education.

In a topic called "Welcome and Unwelcome Neighbours" placed in a double-wing case, visitors can learn about various animals that used to live, and on many places, they still live, in houses with people. On a sectional view of the house from



New building of stables ▲ ▼

the roof to the cellar, there will be animals drawn in places where man can meet them. Some of them are helpful for us, but from our point of view, most of them are intruders. These are bats, swifts, culvers, rats, mice, cockroaches, spiders, silverfish and miniature mites, whose presence we don't even realize.

A glazed case with drawers will offer a topic called "Fauna and Flora of our Cities". There is a plenty of plants that are able to cope with unfavourable conditions of houses built for human comfort. E.g. the European elder lives on dust-holes, thistle on borders of suburbs and exotic species, such as the Tree of heaven from China, prosper in the polluted air where inland species die. Animals of various origins inhabit the urban environment. Some live in permanent contact with man, such as bedbugs; there are wild domestic animals (Domestic cat), planted or imported species (Pharaoh ant), animals from wild adapted to new conditions (Great Spotted woodpecker), species that appear only for short terms (Grey heron) and specimens of exotic origin that escaped from captivity (Monk parakeet).



We should shortly mention also the three remaining topics: "Tree Full of Occupants" is about birds that reproduce and find shelter in tree hollows or live in gardens and orchards. Samples of bird boxes, bird tables and watering-places will be placed in chests of drawers. Education files "Devastated Landscape" and "Recovered Landscape", which show the negative influences over environment and methods of recultivation of areas affected by industry, will be placed in other chests.

The stables at the Children's Zoo as a whole clearly demonstrate the mission of present-day zoos, who are, besides the breeding, also engaged in education.

*Eduard Stuchlík*



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