



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Immediate Release

F.W.S. GIVES BISON TO LONDON ZOO, CALIFORNIA LADY PAYS SHIPPING COSTS

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service today told the story of a British-born woman in California who wanted to get a mate for the lonely bison bull in the London Zoo.

The woman, Mrs. Ethel Devereaux of Ocean Beach, Calif., asked the Zoological Society of San Diego to act as her agent, and offered to pay all transportation, feeding and handling costs.

When the London Zoo officially acknowledged Mrs. Devereaux's offer, in March, the Fish and Wildlife Service announced that it would ship a two-year old bison heifer to New York City from its Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Oklahoma, for trans-shipment to the London Zoo. Lee S. Crandall, general curator of the New York Zoological Society, was asked by the London Zoo to arrange transportation from New York City to England.

Last week, the Fish and Wildlife Service corralled a 600-lb. bison heifer, loaded her into a 1,000-lb. crate with built-in water and feeding troughs, and shipped her by rail from Cache, Okla. to New York.

This week, the heifer — one of 1,300 bison on the Service's wildlife refuges — will be put aboard a vessel bound for London, where Mrs. Devereaux is now anxiously waiting to conclude her mission as match-maker for the lonely bison bull in the London Zoo.

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