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Bronx Zoological Park Opened 25 Years Ago, on November 8th

November 8, 1924, will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the day on which the gates of The Bronx Zoological Park, Bronx Park, now considered the largest and finest zoological park in the world, were first thrown open to the public. No visit to New York today is considered complete unless it has included "The Bronx Zoo." Nearly 40,000,000 people have passed through its gates in the twenty-five year period.

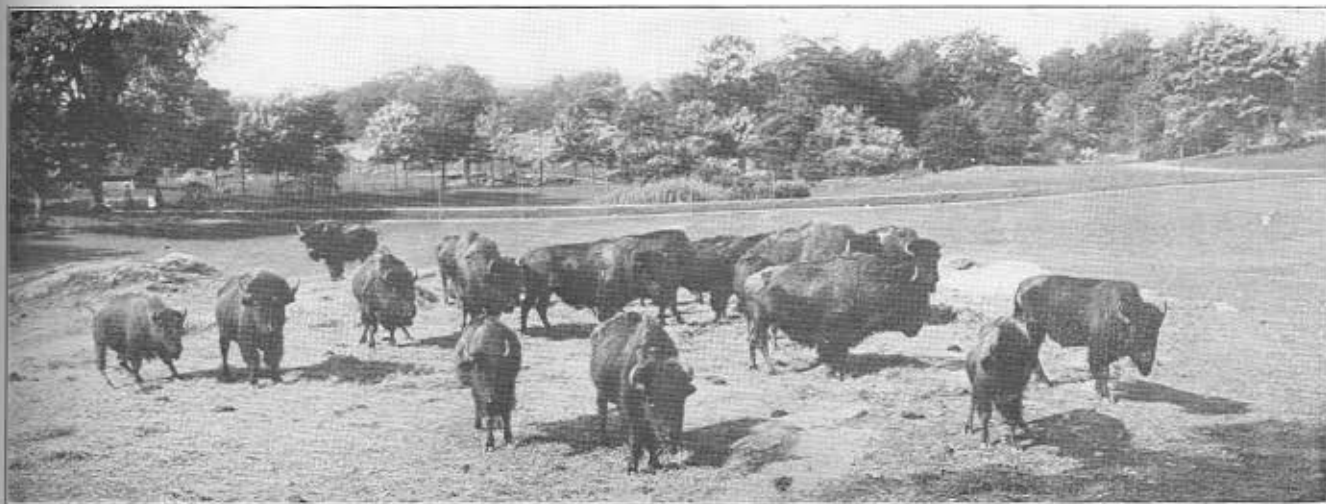
In 1894, New York had no center of zoological education. The only park of a zoological nature was the inadequate menagerie in Central Park, and the Aquarium.

The plans for the Zoological Park as it now exists were conceived in the Boone and Crockett Club in the autumn of 1894. A few months later, Theodore Roosevelt, then President of the Club, appointed a committee consisting of Elihu Root, C. Grant La Farge, and Madison Grant, Chairman, who persisted in the State Legislature until a charter was secured on April 26th, 1895, for the New York Zoological Society.

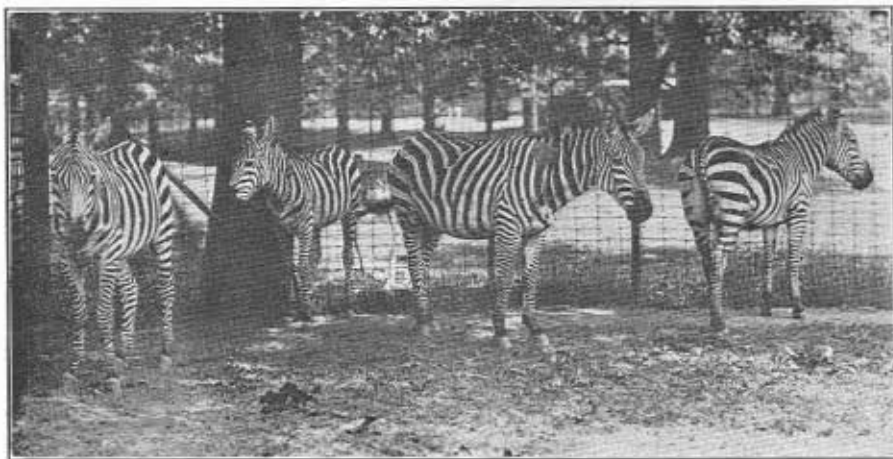
The plans were of world-wide scope, providing for the establishment of a zoological park which would parallel in its own field the Natural History and Art Museums, the Public Library and the Botanical Gardens. The pioneers in the movement declared there was no other zoology park in the City worthy of the name, whereas in twenty-two cities of Europe and Asia, a zoological garden formed a chief center of attraction, education and recreation.

Their charter expressed the initial objects of "maintaining in New York a zoological garden for the purpose of encouraging and advancing the study of zoology, original researches in the same and kindred subjects, and of furnishing instruction and recreation to the people."

The act to incorporate the New York Zoological Society and to provide for a zoological garden in New York became a law on April 26th, 1895. Among the forty incorporators, the four names most outstanding are those of Andrew H. Green, "father of Greater



American Bison Safe from Hide Hunters on Their Range in The Bronx Zoological Park



*A Family of Zebras
Receiving Visitors
in the Shade*

New York"; Charles E. Whitehead, Madison Grant and C. Grant La Farge.

The executives of the Society, after a lengthy survey of our park system, finally decided that Bronx Park met the requirements for an ideal zoological garden.

In accordance with the charter's terms, in May, 1896, the City, through the Sinking Fund Commission, was asked to turn over to the Society a tract of some 263 acres for development in accordance with its projected plans.

Before much work could be done, however, the Society had to meet the demands of the City that \$250,000 be contributed towards buildings and development. An appeal to public spirited New Yorkers resulted in a fund of \$253,235.

In accordance with the original agreement, the Society has constructed 12 buildings and 14 animal enclosures, costing a total of \$402,002. The work was begun in August, 1897.

The park now incloses the Heads and Horns Museum, the Reptile House, the Aquatic Bird House, the Bird Research Laboratory, the Original Small Mammal House, the Rockefeller Fountain, the Shelter House for Park Vehicles, the Buffalo House, the Musk Ox House, the Elk House, the Red Deer House, the Wild Horse House, the Asiatic Deer House, the Bear Dens, the Wolf Dens, the Flying Cage, the Burrowing Rodents Quarters, the Mountain Sheep Hill, the Beaver Pond, the Otter Pools, the Sea Lion Pool, the Seal Pool, the Goose Aviary, the Prairie Dog Village and the Cranes' Paddock.

Unlike most of the zoological gardens of Europe, the New York Zoological Park is free to the public on five days of the each week. The pay days are Mondays and Thursdays, except that on legal holidays admission is free.

The park contains thirty-five acres of water, and its land consists of heavy forest, open forest and meadow glades in about equal proportions. The extreme length of the Park is 330 feet less than a mile, and its extreme width is about three fifths of a mile.

The most valuable and important collections in the Park are the elephants, hippopotami and rhinos, the lions, tigers and leopards; the tropical hoofed animals, the deer of the world, the bears, the bison herd of twenty-two animals and the great collection of apes, baboons and monkeys. The collection of Asiatic deer

is important, and the Park surroundings of its various herds are beautiful. The most interesting animals in the whole collection are the chimpanzees and orangutans in the Primate House, and the Pigmy Hippopotami. The collections of mammals are certainly equal to the largest and finest of their kinds to be found elsewhere, and the collection of reptiles is also unsurpassed.

The collection of living birds is now the richest in species that it ever has been. It contains a great number of rare tropical species, including Birds of Paradise, Cock-of-the-Rock, a great number of Toucans, many species of Pigeons and Doves, large collections of Parrots, Macaws and Cockatoos, of Eagles and Vultures, of Cranes and Pelicans, Swans and other Water-fowl, Ostrich, Cassowaries and Emus. Of species that are threatened with extinction, the Park contains Trumpeter Swans, Whooping Cranes and one Imperial Amazon Parrot.

BOARD TO DISCUSS TRANSIT LINES AT OCTOBER MEETING

The regular meeting of The Bronx Board of Trade on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 15th, at four o'clock, will be given over principally to the discussion of the transit situation in The Bronx.

All members of the Board interested in this matter should be at this meeting, so that whatever result may come from the discussion may be taken as the view point of the leaders in Bronx business activities.

BE SURE TO BE PRESENT

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BRONX POST OFFICE TO BE NAMED

In order that The Bronx may give as much impetus as possible to the requested appropriation of \$1,500,000 to build a Federal Building for The Bronx, to house The Bronx Central Post Office, when it is introduced at the next Session of Congress, President John M. Haffen will, in the near future, appoint a Committee of not less than twenty-five leading members of The Bronx Board of Trade, who will meet and formulate plans to go to Washington to further the project in every manner possible.