

Other speakers at the opening session included Dr. Lujo Toncic-Sorini, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, who presented a detailed review of environmental conditions; Mr. H. J. Coolidge, President of IUCN, and representatives of WWF national appeals. Gold medals for services to conservation were presented to Dr. Jacques Verschuren, Dr. Bernhard Grzimek, and Sir Julian Huxley.

The opening afternoon session was devoted to communications, with Mr. Hedly Donovan, Editor of Time magazine, and Peter Scott leading discussions. Later in the day, the thorny problems of "Industrial Technology VS. Conservation" were tackled, with Dr. Gerardo Budowski chairing a panel comprised of H.R.H. Prince William of Gloucester; Dr. G. H. Beeby, President of the Society of Chemical Industry (U.K.); and Mr. N. A. Iliff, Deputy Chairman of Shell Chemicals (U.K.). Both Dr. Beeby and Mr. Iliff presented papers.

The final day brought a review of European Conservation given by Dr. Luc Hoffmann, Vice President of WWF, and an address by Mr. Peter Walker, Britain's Secretary of State for the Environment. Mr. Walker stressed that the government of Great Britain was determined to wage an "all-out battle in the front of pollution in general" and to mount a positive programme to eliminate derelict lands.

Other speakers included Mr. R. E. Boote (U.K.), Mr. Neil Armstrong (U.S.A.), Mr. Thor Heyerdahl (Norway), Dr. Jacques Piccard (Switzerland), Sir Frank Fraser Darling (U.K.) and Mr. Amirali Fancy (Pakistan).

Symposium: Schutz unseres Lebensraumes

Zürich, 10-12 November 1970.

The Federal Polytechnic College in Zürich held a Symposium 10-12 November, 1970, under the title of "Schutz unseres Lebensraumes" (Protection of our environment), and a measure of its success can be seen from the fact that 3000 people attended.

Seminars dealt with such basic themes as reasons for environmental changes, effects of technical development, nutrition, air hygiene and water protection. Many interesting ideas emerged, including results of a consumer poll which revealed that 91 per cent of the people are ready to pay 5 to 10 per cent more for first quality foods that are free of pesticide residues.

In summary, Switzerland appears to be facing many of the same kinds of environmental problems of other advanced countries, and needs to do a great deal more if these problems are to be corrected.

Conference papers can be obtained from the "Institut für Waldbau," Universitätsstr. 2, 8006 Zürich.

Symposium on man-made lakes

An international symposium on man-made lakes, their problems and environmental effects will be held at Knoxville, Tennessee, U.S.A., 3-7 May 1971. The conference should be of interest to a broad range of scientists, engineers, and project managers.

The conference is being organized by the Scientific Committee on Water Research (COWAR) on behalf of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). Numerous Unions and Committees of ICSU are co-operating, and agencies of the United Nations are providing support. Arrangements in the United States are by the National Academy of Sciences, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), and the University of Tennessee.

Meeting details and registration information may be obtained from:

Dr. William C. Ackermann, President, Scientific Committee on Water Research, Illinois State Water Survey, Box 232, Urbana, Illinois, 61801, U.S.A.

California brown pelicans fail to produce young in 1970

Recent evidence of reproductive failures of the brown pelican in California prompted a study of the Anacapa Island population in 1970. From February to August reproductive success and breeding biology were studied by Franklin Gress, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California. He reported that there were 552 nesting attempts in two colonies established on Anacapa in 1970, with but one young produced. Reproductive failure was attributed to thin eggshells which collapsed during incubation. Aberrant behaviour associated with reproduction was also observed. In a survey of all traditional breeding sites in California, no other nesting was reported. Thus, in the State of California, only one young pelican was hatched in 1970.

Double-crested cormorants nesting on Anacapa suffered the same fate as the pelicans. In at least 50 nesting attempts, only one nest producing three young cormorants was successful.

End sought on rhino captures in Nepal

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The Nepal Government has been requested by IUCN to ensure that no further capture of rhino takes place in Nepal. There are now not more than about eighty rhino left in Nepal, all of which are confined to the Chitawan area in the Terai. In 1959, the number was estimated at 300 (Gee).

This alarming decline in numbers during recent years has been due partly to poaching but mainly to habitat destruction through heavy overgrazing by domestic animals. Approval of Government has recently been given for the establishment of a National Park in Chitawan which will include most of the remaining rhino range. Agreement has also been obtained to prohibit grazing within the Park area. If this can be effectively enforced, recovery of the habitat and a gradual build up of the rhino population over the next few years may be expected.

The Survival Service Commission and the SSC Zoo Group have requested the firm co-operation of the world's zoos in refraining from buying or accepting any rhino originating in Nepal until such time as the population has recovered.

The Zoo Group serves as a liaison body between IUCN and the zoos and aquariums of the world, acting as a medium for the exchange of advice and ideas and for diffusing recommendations such as the above. The Group numbers 52 members, representing 38 countries.

Red Data Book, Angiospermae, now available

Data on rare and endangered flowering plants has been issued as Volume 5 of the Red Data Book. Compiled by Dr. Ronald Melville, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (U.K.), a member of the Union's Survival Service Commission, the new loose-leaf book, *Angiospermae*, represents the first attempt to provide data on the status of rare and endangered flowering plants of the world. This has proved to be no easy task for there are large areas of threatened taxa is very large, perhaps as many of 20,000 presently in danger of extinction. Consequently, Volume 5 will be enlarged and modified as new studies are undertaken and new data accumulated. New sections for the book, and additional regional supplements, will be available for purchase periodically.

Financial assistance in publishing the flowering plants volume was provided by the World Wildlife Fund and the Royal Society, London.

The new volume may be ordered from the Director-General, IUCN, 1110 Morges, Switzerland. It is priced at US \$7.00, Swiss Francs 30.—, or £3.0.0., postage prepaid.

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