

It proved quite possible, in spite of some small disadvantages, to create a programme consisting of talks, discussions, shows, excursions (mainly to nature reserves), and various social entertainments, in which both young and adult members of the seminar-camp took part with deep interest.

The workshop approved resolutions suggesting important principles and concepts, and ways and means for further development of out-of-school environmental education in East European socialist countries. The organizers, who deserve warm acknowledgement for their international work with Young Pioneers, intend to publish a report, including the main documents from the meeting, in Russian. It has also been recommended that such international camps become a 'tradition' to be held every year in the cooperating countries.

JAN ČEŘOVSKÝ
Budečská 27
12000 Praha 2
Czechoslovakia.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY,
LONDON, ENGLAND,
5 JUNE 1974

World Environment Day was marked in London this year by an Environmental Exhibition which was opened by the Minister of State, Department of the Environment. It was mounted in the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street.

The Department's film 'It's All Man-made' had its premier. This film traces the course of the River Trent through Central England from its source in the rural Pennines to the sea of Spurn Head Nature Reserve. Although by no means the longest or largest river in England, the Trent passes many environmental problems—derelict land resulting from mining and mining spoil, large urban areas and sewerage disposal, the heating effects of large power stations, and conservation of both wildlife and historical centres such as Newark. The film identified the problems, and showed how some of the solutions were working out in practice.

After the film the Minister of State gave a short address before opening the Exhibition. One important aspect in political decision-making is public support—the Minister welcomed the 'environmental lobby' which strengthened his hand at a time when there is competition for financial resources. He implied that, with limited financial resources, his priority would be in urban areas and centres of large population. The Exhibition, arranged by the Department of the Environment, showed aspects of environmental amelioration in its widest sense.

MICHAEL B. USHER, *Senior Lecturer*
Department of Biology
University of York
York, England.

REGIONAL MEETING ON THE USE OF ECOLOGICAL
GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT IN TROPICAL FOREST
AREAS OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA, HELD AT BANDUNG,
INDONESIA, 28–31 MAY 1974

The general background of this meeting has been summarized in the report by Dr Gerardo Budowski on the allied meeting held in Caracas, Venezuela, in February 1974, and published in the preceding issue (page 236).

Representatives from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua-New Guinea, the Philippines, and Thailand, took

part in the meeting, which was convened by IUCN in collaboration with the Government of Indonesia and under the sponsorship of UNEP. The meeting was co-sponsored by FAO, UNDP, and UNESCO, and was supported by the Fund of UNEP, the Swedish International Development Authority, and WWF. The Institute of Ecology, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, acted as hosts.

Dr J. B. Sumarlin, Minister of State and Chairman of the State Committee for the Environment of Indonesia, opened and closed the conference, which was attended by Ministers, senior civil servants, and heads of technical departments. A great variety and many shades of opinion were expressed in the course of the lively and constructive discussions. The countries represented have very different population densities, degrees of development, fertility of the soil, and ways of life, but there was astonishing unanimity of viewpoints on the need for guidelines, and the conference had little difficulty in formulating the text of some 70 Guidelines which were approved at the final session. It was agreed as essential that ecological considerations should be taken into account as early as possible in the formulation of policies for land-use and, indeed, in formulating national goals. The proceedings of the meeting will be published in English by IUCN.

Immediately after the regional meeting the Indonesian Planning Agency convened a meeting, which was attended by representatives of various Indonesian Government agencies, to discuss the guidelines evolved by the regional meeting. Recommendations were made for action within Indonesia.

M. E. DUNCAN POORE, *Senior Ecologist*
International Union for
Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
1110 Morges
Switzerland.

SYMPOSIUM ON ENVIRONMENTAL PHYSIOLOGY OF DESERT
ORGANISMS, HELD AT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, TEMPE,
ARIZONA, ON 18–19 JUNE 1974 DURING THE 25TH ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES

This symposium was co-sponsored by the Physiological Ecology Section of the Ecological Society of America, the Division of Ecology of the American Society of Zoologists, the I. B. P. Desert Biome, and the American Institute of Biological Sciences. Organized by Neil F. Hadley, it was divided into four sections, two being held on 18 June and the remaining two on the next day. They may be summarized as follows:

(i) *Desert plants and dry heat* (B. Strain, presiding). After a brief introduction by N. F. Hadley (Arizona State University, Tempe), D. T. Patten (Arizona State University) spoke on energy flux and the thermal regime of desert plants, emphasizing the extraordinary amount of heat reflected by the spines of the Cholla Cactus (*Opuntia bigelovii*) and the importance of leaf orientation to the absorption of radiation. O. L. Lange (Universität Würzburg, West Germany) then described the adaptations of Negev desert lichens to drought and extreme temperature, and explained why high humidity at night enables lichens to become physiologically activated so that photosynthesis can occur during the early hours of the morning. M. M. Caldwell (Utah State University, Logan) gave an account of the dynamics of Great Basin shrubs' root systems, which are extremely diffuse and continually invade used territory year after year. W. Ehrler (U.S. Water