

tina's third largest port, on June 24 and arrived in Cape Town, South Africa, on September 17 after a three-months' scientific cruise. Her arrival at the South African port completed the first half of the Winter Weddell Sea Project coordinated by the Alfred Wegener Institute of Bremerhaven, West Germany. The Weddell Sea is a three million square miles (7,770,000 sq. km) embayment of the coast of Antarctica lying south-east of the tip of South America.

In addition to 14 American research workers aboard the ship, there were 36 other oceanographers, ice physicists, meteorologists, and marine biologists, from West Germany, Great Britain, Austria, Switzerland, and Argentina. Although the distance from the ice-edge to the coast of the

continent is about 800 miles (1,280 km), the ship had travelled 3,400 miles (5,400 km) on a zigzagging course to collect samples and make oceanographic measurements.

The Expedition is now on its second phase, focusing on bottom-water formation and research into biological development on the coastal shelf of the eastern Weddell Sea in early spring.

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Slovak Union for Nature and Landscape Protection

This association, with the acronym SZOPK (Slovenský zväz ochrancov prírody a krajiny), was founded in 1969 as a voluntary, special-interest organization. It is an association of individuals, organizations, and institutions, of the Slovak Socialist Republic, concerned with Nature and landscape protection.

The main aims of the Slovak Union for Nature and Landscape Protection are:

- to participate effectively in the protection of natural resources and landscape and in the preservation of the quality of the environment,
- to introduce Nature and landscape and the regularities of their development to the widest possible masses of human population and their education towards cultivated relationship to Nature,
- to bring its members to understand Nature and landscape, to educate them specially and win them for creative activity in the care of Nature and landscape,
- to promote the natural beauty and natural resources of the Slovak Socialist Republic,
- to help to keep the legal precepts regulating Man's intervention in Nature and landscape, and
- to develop initiative for intensifying Nature protection and landscape creation.

The activity of the Slovak Union for Nature and Landscape Protection is directed by the central committee and district committees, the executive bodies being basic organizations and hobby-groups; special and consultational services are provided by sections and commissions. The development of the Union falls within the competence of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Socialist Republic, which directs the activity of the Union professionally and methodically.

In the year 1985 the Slovak Union for Nature and Landscape Protection had 14,000 individual members in 260 basic organizations and 438 collective members with over 313,000 employees, 11 special commissions, and 612 hob-

by-groups of young protectors of Nature with almost 11,000 children up to the age of 15 years.

For its members the Union provides:

- Publication of an illustrated journal, *Poznai a chrán* ('Learn and Protect'), of 204 printed pages in extent annually;
- Publication of methodological handbooks, materials from conferences and seminars, posters, leaflets, and propagational materials;
- Organization of interdepartmental sessions and press conferences;
- Organization of summer camps (TOP), excursions, courses of instruction, and training for members and functionaries;
- Realization of expositions, competitive-amusing and instructive-educational undertakings for the public in cooperation with cultural and educational bodies and social organizations—especially with the Socialist Union of Youth and mass-media;
- In cooperation with the state protection of Nature's protection and regulational interventions, information and guarding service, inventorization and documentation of protected and other significant parts of Nature, cultural-historical and technical monuments and their background;
- Design, arrangement, and operation, of instructive paths and instructive localities; and
- Development of cooperation and exchange of information with partner organizations in Czechoslovakia, socialist, and other countries.

Many instructive-educational and propagational undertakings are also organized by the Union for the wider public.

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Declaration: Ecoforum For Peace

We, research workers who share ecological concern and who meet to participate in the International Conference on Protection of the Environment and the Defence of World Peace, held in Varna, Bulgaria, during 25–28 August 1986*:

—*Considering* that a nuclear war would bring devastation to the ecological systems of the planet;

—*Recognizing* that, even without war, the development, testing, production, and deployment, of nuclear weapons,

and of other weapons of mass destruction, is accelerating ecological disasters for Humankind;

—*Believing* that, because of their global dimensions, our ecological problems demand new dimensions of cooperation among all peoples and states, and that this free collaboration is not compatible with military preparations;

—*Realizing* that human intrusions into the environment through various aspects of modern technology pose grave threats if not undertaken from an ecological perspective; and

—*Aware* that true international security depends upon the achievement of harmony between Humankind and Nature;

* See the account by Carol E. Westing published on pages 373–4 of this issue. —Ed.

Hereby proclaim the establishment of a world

ECOFORUM FOR PEACE.

This international movement shall have the following objectives:

A) To rally the efforts of the global scientific community and all committed towards assuring the co-development or co-evolution of Humankind and Nature as a necessary condition for life and social progress;

B) To encourage the world ecological and related communities in their efforts to mobilize the peoples and oblige the governments of all nations—North, South, East, and West—to achieve and safeguard peace in the world and to promote appropriate development on a sound ecological basis; and

C) To mobilize our fellow research workers throughout the world to help create the trust among nations that is necessary to achieve these aims.

In this, the United Nations International Year of Peace, we cordially extend a hand to all to work with us for a peaceful, sustainable, and just, world society. For further information please contact the *Ecoforum for Peace* Secretariat, in care of:

VESSELIN NEYKOV (Mr), *Editor-in-Chief*
Protection of Nature Magazine
18 Vitosha Boulevard
BG-1000 Sofia
Bulgaria.

Saudi Arabian National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development

The National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was established in May 1986 with the following aims and objectives:

1. To develop a comprehensive overview of the existing knowledge on the wildlife and natural environment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
2. To develop and implement plans and projects for the preservation of the wildlife of the Kingdom.
3. To establish priorities for wildlife protection in terms of species and sites, including the marine and terrestrial environments.
4. To devise an overall plan of possible protected areas suitable for both the immediate protection and the future reintroduction of wildlife species.
5. To devise management and regulatory proposals for those areas.
6. To conduct research and field surveys on wildlife in Saudi Arabia.

We hope that in the coming years the Commission will be able to make some significant contributions to the conservation of internationally endangered species of wildlife. It has already established a captive breeding centre for Oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), gazelles (*Gazella* spp.), and Houbara Bustards (*Chlamydotis undulata*) for reintroduction programmes, and has adopted proposals for the establishment of wildlife sanctuaries.

The Commission is building a reference library, and is actively gathering published materials on scientific work *re* wildlife conservation and development, for which copies of reports, papers, etc., would be welcome and, likewise, inclusion in mailing lists for future publications.

SAUD AL-FAISAL, *Managing Director*
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Canadian Heritage Rivers System

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is a cooperative programme that was established in 1984 by the federal government and, to date, six provinces (Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan) and Yukon and Northwest Territories. The objectives of the CHRS are to give national recognition to the important rivers of Canada and to ensure long-term management which will conserve their natural, historical, and recreational, values for the benefit of Canadians now and in the future.

The following two tables summarize the eleven rivers, or sections of rivers, included in the System since its inception. The location of these rivers or sections of them is shown in Fig. 1. For more detailed information on the process of nominating/designating rivers or sections of rivers to the System, see *The Canadian Heritage Rivers System: Objectives, Principles, and Procedures* (Parks Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 24 pp. English + 27 pp. French, January 1984).

The Canadian Heritage Rivers Board has been set up to review nominations and recommend to the federal Environment Minister, and to the provincial or territorial minister of the nominating government, whether or not the nominated rivers meet selection guidelines for the System, and thus should be designated as Canadian Heritage Rivers. The Board consists of one representative each of Environment Canada Parks, Indian and Northern Affairs Ca-



FIG. 1. Sketch-map of Canada showing rivers designated or nominated to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System as of September 1986.