

the other sections of the Survey. The official view of the Museum is that it is generally a place for the gratification of the eye, and the message of the exhibits is therefore permitted to remain sub-conscious. It is essentially an educational institution carefully devised for popular enlightenment. It is also a place of reference. Want of proper care and attention due to attenuated staff, and of periodical additions in a bright and attractive form which naturally implies expenditure of money, must rob this section of the Zoological Survey of its power to instruct the visitors and of its usefulness to research students. In 1933, the Director of Zoological Survey was able through the munificence of Dr. S. C. Law to organise an exhibit of storks in a replica of their natural surroundings, and other groups of animals can be exhibited similarly, provided sufficient funds are placed at the disposal of the authorities. In addition to increased grants from governments, the Museum of the Survey should have a large endowment without which further improvements become difficult. The Museum is a great national institution, the usefulness of which is capable of being extended by organising a series of popular lectures on scientific subjects. The presence of foreign scientists who visit the Zoological Survey may be utilised for supplementing the excellent resources which the institution already possesses for inaugurating the scheme of popular addresses in a manner similar to those organised by the Royal Institution of Science and Technology in South Kensington.

The Zoological Survey is now under the direction of Indian scientists and in spite of the limitations im-

posed by retrenchment, they completed several important pieces of research, and started a large number of interesting investigations during the period under review. It seems to us that in addition to laboratory and field investigations, special branches of research in experimental and economic zoology should be organised when funds become available. No institution in India has such material resources and wealth of experience and knowledge for organising these new departments, as are possessed by the officers of the Survey, and the value of the results of such enquiries for promoting the material prosperity of the country must manifestly be multitudinous. It is true that the work of the Survey is increasing far too rapidly to be handled by the existing staff, and we should be reluctant to make proposals likely to add to their burden. The Zoological Survey is already engaged in important economic problems, but nevertheless the field of investigation is capable of enlargement. Our knowledge of economic ornithology and mammalogy of India is imperfect, and there are gaps in our information regarding economic pisciculture and entomology. From the triennial report of the Director, we understand that he has submitted to the Government of India proposals for the extension of the department and increase of grants, and, in considering these proposals, we have no doubt that the authorities, while Indianising the services, will also provide them with the necessary means of maintaining their high standard of efficiency and traditional reputation.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

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### THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INVERTEBRATE REPRODUCTION

The Fourth International Symposium on Invertebrate Reproduction will be held 1-6 September, 1986 at the University of Lille I, France. Papers, posters and films are invited which relate in a broad sense to the following themes: Gametogenesis and fertilization, regulation of reproductive process (neuroendocrinology, and biorhythmicity and endocrine control); genetic regulation; population dynamics and reproductive strategies; pheromones and inter-organism

chemical communications. The proceedings are to be published as congress abstracts and in the Series **Advances in Invertebrate Reproduction**.

For more information, intending participants may contact immediately: Professors M. Porchet and A. Dhainaut, Laboratoire de Biologie Animale, Universite de Lille I, F.59655 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex France.