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International Union for the Protection of Nature

THE International Union for the Protection of Nature was founded in 1948 at Fontainebleau at an international conference that was held at the invitation of the French Government and with the assistance of UNESCO. The United States was represented by an official delegation under the chairmanship of Ira N. Gabrielson. Since that time the Union has played an increasingly active part in furthering nature protection, which they define as "the conservation and wise use of the entire world biotic community, or man's natural environment, which includes the earth's renewable natural resources of which it is composed, and on which rests the foundation of human civilization."

The Union will hold its Fourth General Assembly at Copenhagen from Aug. 25 to Sept. 3 at the invitation of the Danish Government. Previous assemblies have been held in Fontainebleau (1948), Brussels (1950), and Caracas (1952). The program will include technical meetings dealing with the protection of arctic fauna; the effects of modern insecticides on mammals, birds, and insects; and various methods and means of publicity for nature protection. There will also be special meetings to discuss plans for the Union's policy regarding the population problem and the relationship of ecological research to nature protection.

In addition to the statutory meetings, the organizing committee has made arrangements for a number of special excursions. These will include a visit to

southern Sealand, the Island of Lolland, and Jutland.

Invitations have been addressed to governments and associations that are members of the Union requesting them to send delegates or observers. Since the United States Government does not belong to the Union, anyone wishing to attend the Copenhagen assembly should communicate without delay with the Secretariat of the Union at 42 Rue Montoyer, Brussels, Belgium, or with one of the following member organizations: American Committee for International Wild Life Protection, American Geographical Society, American Museum of Natural History, American Nature Association, American Ornithologists' Union, American Shore and Beach Preservation Association, Boone & Crockett Club, Conservation Foundation, Iowa State Conservation Commission, National Audubon Society, National Parks Association, National Research Council, National Wildlife Federation, Nature Conservancy, New York Zoological Society, North American Wildlife Foundation, Occidental College, Wilderness Society, Wildlife Management Institute, and Wildlife Society.

The organizing of the assembly in Copenhagen is being handled by the internationally known Naturfredningsraadet, the address of which is Sortedam Dossering 23, Copenhagen N.

HAROLD J. COOLIDGE

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