

Assisting with the preparation of a comprehensive flora of the Americas, a long-term IBP program involving a compilation of the identifications, descriptions, distributions, and ecology of all American plants. This is a cooperative IBP program with botanists from countries throughout the Americas. (planning).

Preparation, in cooperation with scientists involved in national IBP programs from many African countries, of a handbook of African mammals. (continuing).

Ecological studies in the Middle East involving wildlife, history of land use, and historical ecology and the impact of human activities (planning).

It should be noted that although some of these above programs or projects have been initiated, almost none are completely funded, and the continuation and development of them will depend upon provision of adequate finances.

Some of "service" facilities for the biological community which will be instituted when funding is available will be a rodent identification center to provide rapid and accurate identification of rodents, important as part of the environment as well as to medicine; a national primate center to provide information and training in non-human primate studies of great importance in terms of health and adaptability of human primates; increased activities and functions of the Oceanographic Sorting Center which assists in the international oceanographic effort by processing biological and geological specimens for scientists throughout the world and through its activities marine collections that otherwise might go unnoticed are made available to systematists everywhere. Thus, collections made under the marine portion of the IBP could be sorted into groups for which there are specialists in various parts of the world, so that they may receive adequate scientific attention. It is also conceivable that a similar service-facility for sorting, and perhaps identification, of terrestrial organisms might be organized, if funding becomes available.

It has been recognized repeatedly within the IBP, both in the National Committee and elsewhere, that all too few ecologists and systematists are available for the studies anticipated by the US/IBP. Extensive training programs at many academic institutions will be required to furnish the necessary manpower, and the Office of Ecology's Chesapeake Bay Center has been proposed as a site for advanced field training of ecologists who have received their academic training elsewhere. However, this will require additional funding to accomplish.

Although the localities in which IBP research will be carried out are not limited, the Smithsonian has proposed to develop a series of standard sites in the tropics around the world. In such sites, teams of biologists, geologists, and meteorologists would collaborate to develop descriptive handbooks of the flora, fauna, the soil, meteorology, and local facilities for research. Such investigations and the resulting handbooks would be carried out with the close cooperation and collaboration of scientists in the countries in which the sites were located. The existence of such sites, it is felt, with so much background data available, would incline productivity biologists to center their studies in these localities. The development of such information, however, is beyond the resources presently anticipated for the Smithsonian.

It should be emphasized that Smithsonian Institution biologists, like those of other institutions over the U.S., will unquestionably evolve projects of critical importance to the mission of IBP when funds specifically designated for IBP research are available. Such funds must also be made available for the training of biologists in much larger numbers than are presently produced by our educational system. The Smithsonian Institution is not willing, but uniquely capable of joining in educational activities which will result in the very large cadre of systematic biologists required for the US/IBP.

Mr. DADDARIO. If I might be able to go out of order here and ask Dr. Blair to be our next witness, because he is from out of town and we do want to take advantage of him while he is here.

Dr. W. Frank Blair is professor of zoology at the University of Texas, and comes here to appear before us as a member of the Ecological Study Committee of the Ecological Society of America.

Dr. Blair, we are very happy to have you with us.

Dr. BLAIR. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a prepared statement which I would like to submit for the record.

Mr. DADDARIO. You may, sir.

(The prepared statement of Dr. Blair is as follows:)