

wall water intake several times, the percentage of larva that would be drawn into the plant and destroyed by abrasion and turbulence would be vastly greater than if that segment of flow had been subject to only a single withdrawal. Moreover, the Cornwall plant's destructive potential was held to be the greater by virtue of its location toward the lower end of the 80-mile reach of the river in which the bass spawn.

The credibility and influence of the foregoing argument was strengthened last December after the Environmental Sciences Division of the AEC's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) issued a preliminary report estimating that the cumulative effect of the Cornwall plant's withdrawals would be such

that 25 to 75 percent of the annual striped bass hatch might be destroyed. The division arrived at this result through a reanalysis of the data in the earlier fisheries study, which had put the annual loss at only a few percent of the total hatch.

Although the Cornwall hydroelectric facility was beyond the AEC's regulatory scope, the ORNL's involvement (at the request of Senator Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut) was appropriate because of its previous analysis of fishery problems at Indian Point. Its report was issued with a covering letter by Dixy Lee Ray, AEC chairman, who urged that it be received cautiously. A more complete and up-to-date report would, she said, require more data as

to the percentage of striped bass that spawn upstream from Storm King, the residence time of eggs and larva near the plant intake, the degree of tidal movement, and the direction and volume of net water flow past the plant.

Subsequently, in deferring the deadline for installation of a cooling tower at Indian Point, the AEC appeal board rejected as wholly unproved a conclusion by ORNL scientists that the Hudson contributed most of the striped bass to the mid-Atlantic fishery. It also rejected the mathematical model used at the ORNL to estimate the impact of entrainment (the drawing of larval and other organisms through the Indian Point plant) on the Hudson fishery. Con Ed has since seized upon these ap-

Scientists Plan Protest during Nixon Summit in Moscow

American organizers of an officially unauthorized scientific meeting planned for early July in Moscow say they will use the coincidental timing of the summit meeting between President Nixon and Soviet party leader Leonid Brezhnev as the occasion for a major protest if the Soviet authorities deny visas to foreign scientists planning to attend the meeting.

Scientists from the United States, the United Kingdom, several countries of Europe, and Israel have applied for visas to attend the meeting, which will be hosted by Russian scientists, most of whom are Jews whose professional scientific activities have been curtailed since they made known their desires to emigrate to Israel.

The meeting is scheduled to take place at the home of the noted Soviet physicist Alexander Voronel from 1 to 5 July, and more than 100 papers are to be presented. However, in recent weeks, Voronel has been arrested and other Soviet organizers have been harassed, although they plan to go ahead with the meeting.

If visiting scientists' visas are denied by the Soviets, says the principal American organizer, Edward Stern of the Physics Department at the University of Washington, "then we will contact the State Department and make a big uproar. If that happens there will be protest among the entire scientific community and we will even try to get to Kissinger and Nixon at the summit." The summit begins on 27 June or 4 days before the Voronel meeting.

"We feel this is a very important part of détente," Stern says. "If the Soviets want scientific and technical cooperation they have to be consistent and not choose what's to their advantage and censor the rest. We would like to make the point that when Kissinger and Nixon sign scientific and technical agreements they will work only if the scientists themselves are able to participate."

Stern is one of three international secretaries of the meeting, which is on "Applications of Physics to Other Fields of Science." The meeting is sponsored by an

international board of sponsors which includes eight Nobel prizewinners in cooperation with Tel Aviv University. The meeting, Stern says, is purely scientific in nature and is aimed at closer contact between scientists of these countries. However, its organizers have not sought help from the U.S. government and it is not being held under any of the official exchanges that resulted from the scientific accords signed by Nixon during a previous Moscow summit in 1972.

The Soviet government has given no indication as to what it will do about the visa applications. But it has acted against the Soviet organizers of the seminar. On 8 June, the principal organizer, Voronel, was arrested while in a food store in Moscow. He was taken by plainclothes police who are believed by Western sources to have been the KGB. Before being released, Voronel was read a warning which included the fact that under Soviet law "propaganda or agitation for the purpose of arousing hostility or dissension among races or nationalities" is punishable by imprisonment up to 3 years or exile. In a subsequent statement received in the West, Voronel stressed that the meeting was being held, in his view, for scientific purposes, and that he could not be responsible if other people have a different opinion.

At approximately the same time, it has been learned in the West, at least four of the other seminar organizers, Victor Brailovsky, Dmitry Ram, Grigory Rosenstein, and Michael Mikulinsky, were summoned to report to the army recruiting office on specified dates. However, instead of complying with the summonses, these four have fled to the countryside and are being hunted by the KGB. They have since sent messages to the West urging the meeting organizers to press ahead with plans and state that they intend to appear when the seminar begins on 1 July. Western sources believe that if they come to Voronel's house that day, they are likely to be arrested.—DEBORAH SHAPLEY