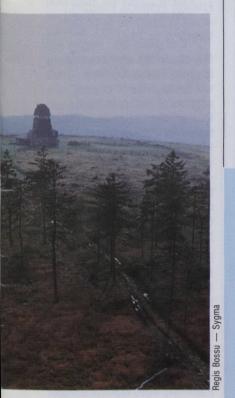
lost each year, and fertility has been reduced on cropland twice the area of Canada.

## State of Life on Earth

As nations push back the wild areas, they destroy habitat for other species and change the conditions under which life has evolved.

Biologists know of 1.7 million forms of life, including plants, insects, fish, reptiles, animals and birds, and estimate that there are 10-30 million more. But the rapid loss of wilderness, particularly in the tropics, eliminates



an estimated 1 000 species a year. It is the greatest extinction of life since the dinosaurs vanished.

Life is also threatened by chemical pollution. There are an estimated 100 000 commercial chemicals in the world and the number grows by 1 000 to 2 000 per year. Most have not been tested in any depth for their effects on living things.



The world is having serious environmental problems now, with the demands of just over 5 billion people. By the year 2000 there will be more than 6 billion; 20 years later there will be 8 billion; and by the middle of the century the population could reach 10 billion.

The Brundtland Report predicts that a 5-to-10-fold increase in manufacturing output will be needed just to raise developing-world consumption of manufactured goods to industrialized-world levels by the time population growth rates level off next century.

Environment and political experts agree that while the world must continue to develop an economy that will support a growing population, future development must be more environmentally sound. The alternative, they say, is further damage to the biosphere and this will lead to poorer and less healthy societies.

"Environmental degradation affects all nations of the world and respects no boundaries. Whether we like it or not, the world is at a turning point. The environment cannot be allowed to deteriorate. We need global solutions," said Monique Landry, Canada's Minister for External Relations and International Development.

## GLOBE 90 — Environment-Industry Trade Fair and Conference

n March 1990, Vancouver will hold North America's first international environmentindustry trade fair and conference.

GLOBE 90 will be a showplace for products, services and technologies that allow business to operate more cleanly and efficiently. At the same time there will be an international conference on ''sustainable development'' — the concept of doing business without destroying the environment.

Environment and economic development, once thought to be competing solitudes, now are recognized as being inseparably linked.

Forms of development that take into account impact on the environment are seen as

the most viable approach to long-term business profitability and a healthy economy.

The event will be supported by private business in cooperation with the Canadian and British Columbia governments. Organizers expect that 2 000 delegates from 40 countries will hear over 400 papers at the conference. In addition, there will be more than 500 exhibits at the trade fair that will deal with air, land and wastewater management, information systems and consulting, solid waste, and hazardous waste.

The marketplace of ideas and hardware will draw people from developed and developing countries, international lending institutions, user industries, municipalities, and environment-industry suppliers. Environment experts, business executives, consultants, financiers, government officials, engineers, technicians and scientists will be at the meetings to share ideas and come up with business-oriented solutions. A number of countries are expected to present 5-to-10-year resourcedevelopment plans for discussion by international experts.

The five-day meeting will show technologies from Canada and from around the world, with a special focus on the Asia-Pacific region.

For more information contact: Globe 90, Suite 250, 1130 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6E 4A4. Telephone: (604) 681-6126. Fax: (604) 681-6825. Telex: 04-51586.