



SILNEWS

23

30 June 1997

Newsletter of the

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THEORETICAL AND APPLIED LIMNOLOGY

General Secretary – Treasurer, Prof. R.G. Wetzel,
Department of Biological Sciences, The University of
Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0206, USA.

CONTENTS

Wetlands - your comments	2-4
New Editor wanted	4
Workshop on Periphyton	5
Limnology in Ireland	5-6
Limnology Down Under	7
What Happened to Lake Sevan?	7-10
Books	10-12
Forthcoming meetings	12

Material for the next issue must reach the Editor,
**Dr M.J. Burgis, West Mains, London Road, Ascot,
Berks. SL5 7DG, U.K. by 10 October 1997.**

Contributions on a PC formatted disk (large or small),
in WP, any standard word processor, or DOS text
(ASCII) will assist the Editor who can also now be
contacted on e-mail at p.morris@rhbnc.ac.uk.

WHAT HAPPENED TO LAKE SEVAN?

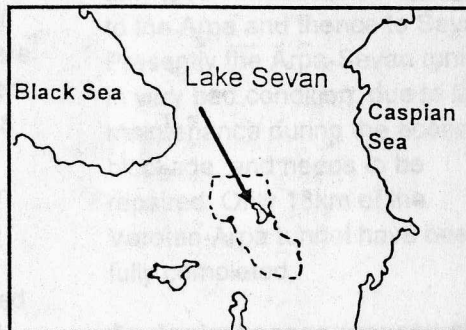
M. Meybeck (1), M. Akopian (1),
& V. Andréassian (2)

(1) Laboratoire de Géologie Appliquée,
Université de Paris VI, Paris, France

(2) Cemagref (Antony, France)

Lake Sevan (40.33°N 44.56°E), in Little Caucasus, is one of the world's few ancient lakes but its characteristics and fate are still poorly known to western scientists and environmentalists. L. Sevan (1416 km², 58.4km³) is rarely mentioned in classical western limnology text books, except for its endemic fishes, including *Salmo ischchan* and two cyprinidae. Very few papers have been published in western journals on the Sevan issue. Four reference banks specialising in aquatic sciences produced only a dozen references in English, all others being in Armenian and Russian.

Lake Sevan has been continuously studied since 1923 when a limnological station, now known as the Sevan Institute of Hydroecology and Ichthyology, was created.



In 1993 a major scientific conference was held on Lake Sevan (Oganessian, 1993) but was attended only by scientists from Armenia and other former USSR republics. Another conference in October 1996, organised by the newly created Armenian Ministry of Nature and Environmental Protection, the UN Development Programme, and the French Embassy, allowed exchange of information with a few foreign experts and with some NGOs from Armenia and from the Armenian