

## **Notes and News**

### **Conservation Competition**

A competition for post-primary schools has been devised jointly by Irish Shell and BP Limited and the Irish National Committee for European Conservation Year. Teams of not more than seven pupils are invited to select a piece of land in their neighbourhood, suggest ways of improving it and, if possible, carry out the improvement. The entries will take the form of illustrated reports. The competition will be administered by the Department of Lands and will run until June 1971. The Minister for Lands, Mr. Sean Flanagan, T.D., welcoming the announcement of the competition in Dublin on 16th September 1970 pointed out that in a competition such as this there could be no losers. "Even those who might not figure in the final list of awards surely derive intangible but lasting benefits from working in harmony with nature and in dedicated co-operation with their team-mates."

### **Rhododendrons**

A Conservation Limerick has been kindly supplied by Mrs. Ann Quinn, of the Institute of Physical Planning and Research (An Foras Forbartha).

#### **That Glorious Weed**

How glorious a plant the Rhododendron,  
Its spread you can surely depend on,  
But we must save the west  
From that greedy pest,  
Or be devoured by a weedy dendron.

### **Eating Sawdust**

An item in *Chemistry and Industry* (29th August, 1970) mentions an experiment on the analyses of flavours in La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia, and quotes Professor J. B. Morrison, of that university, on the increasing importance of synthetic flavours, since it was "likely that everyone would be eating processed sawdust by the year 2000."