

MFR: Its Readers and Staff

Recently I went through the distribution list of *Marine Fisheries Review* card by card to find out who is receiving the periodical. It seemed at first an astonishingly heterogeneous list. There were fishermen, M.D.'s, bankers, librarians, writers, lawyers; indeed there are few jobs and professions that are not represented among the readership. Yet when I got to thinking about it, a certain pattern did seem to appear. All of these people seem to be persons who earn their livelihood in some way from knowledge of the marine sciences or the sea and they are seeking specific information that will help them do their jobs better and do better in their jobs. Such an audience essentially establishes the editorial policy of the periodical. *Marine Fisheries Review*, I think, should attempt to bring factual material about the fisheries to the attention of people who can use such material profitably in their work. A tall order: certainly no one in the audience can be expected to read the periodical cover to cover. Only the editor, the typesetters, and proofreaders will do that. On the other hand, each member of the audience should find something in each issue that is useful to him. We hope that most of you will do so.

At the time of writing, four persons on the NMFS Scientific Publications Staff work on *Marine Fisheries Review*. They are, alphabetically, Mary Ellen Engett, myself, Harold L. Spiess, and Lee C. Thorson. Ms. Engett is a graduate of the University of Washington, with a B.A. in English; more recently she has earned an M.A.T. from Seattle University in



Engett

English. Since joining the Scientific Publications Staff in June 1972, she and her co-worker, Lee C. Thorson, have prepared indexes to NMFS fishery publications for the years 1965 through 1970, and for the year 1972, and these are being printed in our NOAA Technical Report NMFS CIRC series. In addition, she helps keep our authors honest: with Mr. Thorson, she checks literature citations and other material in the hundreds of papers published by the



Manar

Scientific Publications Staff. My own history is immensely longer. I spent about 15 years at the University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the later University of California, San Diego. I joined NMFS in 1965 and worked at the laboratory in Honolulu until 1970, when I became Chief, Scientific Publications Staff and moved to Seattle. Harold L. Spiess, a Visual Communication Specialist, received his training at the well-known Art Center School in Los Angeles. He joined the Scientific Publications Staff in 1971. Lee C. Thorson is a graduate of the University of Washington, where he took a degree in fisheries, and is a veteran of four years in the Air Force. Because of his background, he is the office expert on fisheries and mathematics. None of us, by the way, has worked full time on *Marine Fisheries Review*, for we all have other responsibilities. We are the ones to blame if things go wrong: if



Spiess

words are misspelled or sentences don't come out quite right, Mary Ellen and Lee will have to take the brunt of it; if a photograph of a flatfish is printed reversed (this has not happened only, I suspect, because we have as yet had no photographs of flatfishes—the error is the classical one in fishery publications) Hal will have to take the responsibility. If we print nonsense, the fault will be mine. All these catastrophes are endemic in publication: editors and their staffs must grow thick skins. I promise that we will do our best to avoid such editorial mishaps, however, and, when we are wrong, we will publicly—if reluctantly—admit it.



Thorson

A note to potential authors: The columns of this publication are open to any author who has fresh material on marine fisheries to present (or a fresh viewpoint on older material). Manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced, and two copies should be submitted. The author is expected to have had his paper reviewed by competent authorities, but the editor reserves the right to ask for further review and to suggest alterations. Photographs and drawings should accompany the manuscript. Except in unusual instances, there should be no more than one illustration for every four double-spaced pages of text. Literature citations should have been verified by the author. The manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor, *Marine Fisheries Review*, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Room 450, 1107 N.E. 45th St., Seattle, WA 98105. Receipt of manuscripts will be acknowledged and the author will be notified within a few weeks whether his paper has been accepted. Authors who are members of NMFS should send a properly executed Manuscript Transmittal Form along with the manuscript.

T.A.M.