

Some ABC's of Editing

• The appearance of "Some ABC's of Fo'c'sle Living" in this month's number of *Marine Fisheries Review* is the outcome of cooperation among several institutions and individuals.

Co-author A. K. Larssen was commissioned by the University of Alaska's Marine Advisory Program to write the manuscript with the editorship of Sig Jaeger, then with the Sea Grant Advisory Program at the University of Washington, Seattle. Thanks are due John P. Doyle, Head, Marine Advisory Program, and Assistant Professor, Fisheries Extension, University of Alaska, Fairbanks; Robert E. Harris, Manager, Marine Advisory Programs, Division of Marine Resources, University of Washington; and Patricia Peyton, Editor, Washington Sea Grant Program, University of Washington, for their assistance with the manuscript.

The Washington Sea Grant Program, the Pacific Halibut Commission, Seattle, and the authors provided photographic assistance for illustrative purposes.

• In our own shop, Willis L. Hobart, Managing Editor of *Marine Fisheries Review*, and Harold L. Spiess, Visual Information Specialist, prepared the manuscript for publication.

• I first read "Some ABC's of Fo'c'sle Living" about 18 months ago and could hardly restrain my editorial greed. A lifetime of reading has led me to the conclusion that about the only universal hallmark of an interesting manuscript is that it is a manuscript written by an interesting man, or men. Subject matter and skill of treatment (although they are both plus factors) seem not to be of overriding importance. It was obvious from the manuscript that A. K. and Sig were interesting men, writing with candor and good humor about a way of life active, hard, and, they found, rewarding.

- A. K. Larssen has had wide experience in commercial fishing with various types of gear. From 1920 to 1935 he fished his native Norwegian waters for cod, haddock, saithe, and herring. From 1938 to 1964 he fished the



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western U.S. coast for halibut, salmon, albacore, soupfin shark, rockfishes, and sablefish. His gear experience includes longlines, handlines, gill nets (drift/bottom), purse seine, otter trawl, and jig lines. He has also participated in salmon tagging on the high seas with the Fisheries Research Institute, Seattle, Washington, and acted as supervisor of fishing operation on the R/V *Anton Bruun* in the Bay of Bengal and off the coast of South America for the National Science Foundation. On board the R/V *Hero*, he served in the same capacity off the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula. Now retired, he was a Fishery Methods and Equipment Specialist with the U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries (now the National Marine Fisheries Service) from April 1965 to June 1971. He is currently associate editor, *The Fishermen's News*, Seattle, and a contributor to *Fiskaren*, Bergen, Norway, *ME'A*, Trondheim, Norway, and *Western Viking*, Seattle.

- Sig Jaeger was also born in Norway, but was raised and educated in the United States, receiving his B.A. from the University of Washington in English. He completed two years of graduate work, in comparative literature and creative writing. He was a fisherman from 1947 through 1956, a fishing vessel owner and operator, 1957 through 1971. He has used sardine purse seine gear, longline gear for halibut and black cod, trolling gear



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for albacore, dredging gear for scallops, and engaged in longline pot-fishing gear for black cod in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service. Presently, he is serving as a consultant to the University of Alaska's and University of Washington's Marine Advisory Programs. He is the author of several papers on fishing methods.

• "Some ABC's of Fo'c'sle Living" first came to my attention in my capacity as a member of the PASGAP Publications (now Communications) Committee. PASGAP (Pacific Sea Grant Advisory Program) is a coalition of the University of Alaska, University of California, University of Southern California, University of Hawaii, Oregon State University, Humboldt State College, and the University of Washington, all of which are involved in Sea Grant projects and programs, and he University of British Columbia and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Under PASGAP these institutions share their talents and ideas in attacking marine advisory problems in the Pacific area. The advantages of such sharing, in more effective programs and in the saving of money, are self-evident.

• Like A. K. and Sig, I have spent most of my life at a specialized trade. On balance, I have found it as rewarding as it is frustrating, probably more the former than the latter. Some aspects of it, particularly the technology, have changed almost beyond belief, and a good deal of what I labored over so in college is now about as relevant as knowing how best to build a pyramid. But the essentials are unchanged. They might be expressed as: Keep awake, know what you're doing, keep your nose clean. Those seem to be the precepts A. K. and Sig stress in their delightful manuscript: they are probably applicable to every craft. For all the unfamiliarity of its subject matter, "Some ABC's of Fo'c'sle Living" would tell the fledgling journalist a good deal of what he needs to know to get by in his trade. T.A.M.