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JOURNAL OF MARINE RESEARCH

The *Journal of Marine Research*, one of the oldest journals in American marine science, published important peer-reviewed original research on a broad array of topics in physical, biological, and chemical oceanography vital to the academic oceanographic community in the long and rich tradition of the Sears Foundation for Marine Research at Yale University.

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AN APPRECIATION

With this issue, Volume XXXII, number 1, of the *Journal of Marine Research*, we have a new Editor, George Veronis, Professor of Geophysics and Applied Science. At this time, when we bid him warm welcome and assure him full support, it seems appropriate also to ponder a little on the past and to pay respect to those who have gone before:

“Remembrance and reflection how allied!
What thin partitions sense from thought divide!”

Pope, Essay on Man, 1733.

Much sense and thought went into the founding of the *Journal*, made possible through the philanthropy of one Harry Sears, a young consociate with Albert Eide Parr at Yale in the mid-1930's. Look at Parr's Preface to Volume I, number 1, 1937: “. . . this new journal has particularly been intended to provide a badly needed, uniform, common outlet and free forum for the *discussion of new contributions to the interpretation and understanding* [italics mine] of the sea in all its internal and external relationships . . .”. The words are wholly in character. While much of Parr's earlier work is descriptive and factual, he has always been given to probing discussion which often plunged him into vociferous argumentation and quite as often led to innovational concepts. Such words as “problems of”, “probable relationship between”, “possible causes of”, “on the validity of”, etc. are commonplace in the titles of his published works in this later period. And look at the galaxy of contributors to that first issue: Sverdrup, Rossby, Spilhaus, Phifer and Thompson, Riley (then a graduate student at Yale), and Burkenroad (then Assistant Curator of the Bingham Oceanographic Collection). That the quality and standards originally set for the *J.M.R.* have been maintained during the past three dozen years is

a tribute *ab initio* to Parr, then for essentially three decades to Yngve Henning Olsen, and generally throughout their terms to a series of Editorial Boards made notable by the critical advice and attention of their members.

Born in Bergen, Norway, on August 15, 1900, Albert Parr received his formal education at the Lillehammer Gymnasium and the Royal University, Oslo (Cand. Mag. 1925). As *The New Yorker* put it so succinctly some years later, "In 1926 he came to this country to find wider opportunities. These opened up dimly at the [New York] Aquarium, where he got a job at \$ 110 a month cleaning spittoons, feeding fish, and washing windows . . . later Harry Payne Bingham put him in charge of the collection [most notably deep-sea fishes which he, Bingham, had taken on private expeditions and gave to Yale in 1930] at New Haven." From this curatorial post he rose through the ranks to a Professorship in Oceanography and became Director of the Peabody Museum in 1938. In 1942 he left Yale to become Director of the American Museum of Natural History in New York where he served for 17 years. Parr retained the managing editorship of the *Journal* through Volume V, 1944.

Yngve Olsen was born in New Haven, Connecticut, on February 28, 1905, and graduated in 1931 from Oberlin College, Ohio, which, incidentally, was the first coeducational college in the United States (1841). After working for a year as an apprentice taxidermist without pay in the Peabody Museum, he was taken on by Parr as an Assistant and his name first appears under that title in Volume III, article 6, 1933, of the *Bulletin of the Bingham Oceanographic Collection*. He became Managing Editor of the *Bulletin* in 1946, and did full duty in that capacity for 16 years while also contributing directly to the scientific output of the Bingham Laboratory. The *Memoir Series* of the Sears Foundation for Marine Research, originally conceived at New Haven, published Part One of "Fishes of the Western North Atlantic" in 1948, Part Two in 1953; Parr was the titular Editor, Olsen the Assistant Editor. Olsen was Editor for Parts Three, Four, and Five. In the whole of this endeavor over 3,000 printed pages of highly detailed material passed through his meticulous hands, for which the ichthyological community at large should be eternally in his debt.

Oley's role with the *Journal of Marine Research* is perhaps the most remarkable. His formal association dates from Volume IV, 1941. He became Managing Editor in 1946 and was Editor at the time of his official retirement on June 30, 1973. In the intervening span 26 volumes involving some 650 articles and notes have been published under his aegis. The tomes dedicated to Harald Ulrik Sverdrup (1948, 686 pp.) and Thomas Gordon Thompson (1958, 583 pp.), though onerous in the doing, were particular sources of pride to Oley. And rightly so. Unpretentious himself, he delighted in honoring the worthies. He had no formal training in the marine sciences; he learned by association, and he knew his own limitations. Thus, he leaned with good effect on the more staunch members of his Editorial Boards. In general, editors are

not likely to win popularity contests; more often than not they are unappreciated; on occasion they are maligned. Inescapably Oley's files run the gamut, but on balance any editor would be more than proud to have received the host of letters of appreciation which bear testimony to his special skills and his dedication to the job. If he had a fault it was his obdurate attention to detail and form, sometimes so persnickety as to incur an author's umbrage. But most of us, I think, on sober reflection were minded of the old Indian prayer: "Great Spirit, grant that I may not criticize my neighbor until I have walked a mile in his moccasins."

This is an appreciation, Oley—sincere and whole—hearted. It is also an expression of great good gratitude for your 41 years of devoted service to Yale University and to marine science on an international scale. We take as a happy augury for the future that the distinguished tenor of the editorship of the *Journal of Marine Research* carries on—from Parr to Olsen to Veronis.

September 17, 1973

Daniel Merriman.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Thirty five years ago the *Journal of Marine Research* was created for the purpose of publishing shorter contributions in the marine sciences. Since that time many oceanographic journals have appeared, most of which publish shorter articles specializing in one of the subdisciplines of oceanography. Hence, there is less of a need for a broad-gauged journal with the original *raison d'etre* of JMR.

Ironically, even though the field of oceanography has developed both in breadth and in depth, the individual researcher has fewer outlets for publishing articles of greater scope. The publish-or-perish syndrome, so common to all fields of research nowadays, has put pressure on both individuals and journals for rapid publication of shorter papers. Nevertheless, the need for more comprehensive articles has never been so great as it is today. This need includes thoughtful review articles as well as more technical treatises of greater scope in the different areas of oceanography.

Any journal would give serious consideration to a well-written manuscript of significant content even though the article may be longer than is customarily published in that journal. However, since most journals are oriented toward shorter contributions, a longer article normally requires special consideration. Hence, it seems to me that it would be desirable to have a periodical which has a policy of encouraging contributions of greater scope than normal. It is in this direction that I would like to see the *Journal of Marine Research* develop. In the meantime we shall continue to publish shorter

manuscripts in the different subdisciplines of oceanography. The main criterion for publication will be the quality of the reported research.

I have attempted to solicit review articles from experts in certain areas of oceanography. It is more difficult to obtain comprehensive manuscripts of a more technical nature. Hence, I would like to encourage readers to offer suggestions of topics and likely authors and even to comment on the more general issue of publishing more comprehensive articles.

George Veronis,
Editor.