

Part I

REPORTS, REVIEW, AND PUBLICATIONS

REPORT OF THE CALCOFI COMMITTEE

With deep regret the CalCOFI Committee reports the loss of long-time friend and colleague Martin W. Johnson of Scripps Institution of Oceanography. A memorial by John McGowan and Ed Brinton appears on the preceding pages.

Despite shrinking budgets and increasing pressures CalCOFI reached several important milestones during the year. We take great pride in the publication of the book *Ontogeny and Systematics of Fishes*, sponsored by the Southwest Fisheries Center, a member of CalCOFI, with H. Geoffrey Moser as chief editor. This volume is a memorial to Dr. Elbert H. Ahlstrom, former member of the CalCOFI Committee.

In November, CalCOFI was host to representatives from coastal South American nations to initiate proposals for a worldwide study on recruitment of sardines and anchovies (SARP: Sardine/Anchovy Recruitment Project). The meeting was convened by Reuben Lasker and jointly sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

Studies initiated by CalCOFI during the 1982-83 El Niño event continued during the year with cruises headed by John McGowan and Thomas Hayward. The annual anchovy biomass estimate was completed in July 1984. The status of the sardine remained of great interest. In April-May 1985, a joint National Marine Fisheries Service/Scripps Institution of Oceanography cruise was made aboard R/V *David Starr Jordan*. Part of the mission of this cruise was the assessment of sardine spawning success.

The 1984 CalCOFI Conference was held in October in Idyllwild, California. This annual meeting continues to grow, with over two hundred scientists in attendance from eight countries, representing twenty-three research institutions and industries. Andrew Bakun convened the symposium entitled "Comparative Studies of Eastern Ocean Boundary Systems." Be-

sides the eight symposium papers, of which seven are reprinted in this volume, sixty-two additional papers and fifteen posters were presented. Herbert Frey of the California Department of Fish and Game chaired a round table discussion on the state of California fisheries. A minisymposium of inshore papers was chaired by Edward DeMartini. We look forward to the 1985 conference.

In response to increasing financial pressures, CalCOFI has used the greatest number of volunteers in the history of its field sampling series: 67 volunteers, of whom 36 were Mexican nationals, were among the 122 people involved in seagoing operations in 1984-85. They contributed to a total of 4,000 person-days during 323 ship-days at sea; 966 hydrographic stations were sampled, and approximately 150,000 items of data (exclusive of weather) were obtained. To top this off, all data reports were published soon after the cruises. Finally, an ocean sampling program of quarterly cruises on a reduced grid commenced in 1985.

The reviewers and editorial staff of this volume, particularly Julie Olfe, are to be congratulated for their excellent work. This volume is the second, and last, of those edited by John J. Grant during his term as CalCOFI Coordinator. He has asked the committee to pass along his deep appreciation to everyone in the CalCOFI family for their assistance and support during the past two years. The committee wishes to thank John for his tireless efforts as CalCOFI Coordinator. George Hemingway of the Marine Life Research Group of Scripps Institution of Oceanography will be the coordinator for the next two years.

*The CalCOFI Committee:
Izadore Barrett
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