cal Society's Journal of Chemical Documentation. Most of the Division papers are now published in this journal, for which the Division's executive committee serves informally as an advisory committee.

The Division has many active committees. Among these, a chemical documentation committee concerns itself with determining the ever changing documentation needs of chemists and suggesting appropriate solutions for the more pressing ones. A translations committee keeps abreast of foreign language aspects of the chemical literature. Another committee is concerned with instruction in chemical literature, as regards both college courses on chemical literature and the development of science-information and information-science curricula. Division representatives also serve on appropriate committees of other societies, such as the American Documentation Institute's committee on information retrieval terminology.

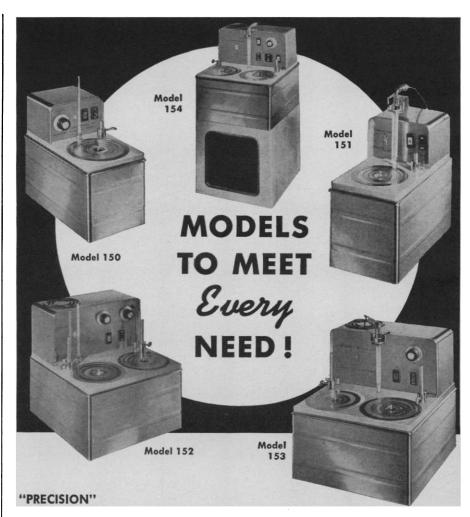
Officers of the Division are: chairman, Carleton C. Conrad, supervisor of special studies in the records division of E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company's secretary's department at Wilmington, Delaware; chairman-elect, Harriet Geer, head of chemical biological records for Parke, Davis & Company, Ann Arbor, Michigan; secretary, Barbara M. Davis, research librarian for Cabot Corporation's new products research department at Billerica, Massachusetts; assistant secretary, Nellie M. Payne, literature chemist of the Velsicol Chemical Corporation, Chicago, Illinois; and treasurer, Eugene Garfield, director of the Institute for Scientific Information at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. AAAS Council representative is Ben H. Weil, head of the information processing section of Esso Research and Engineering Company's technical information division, Linden, New Jersey.

B. H. HEIL Esso Research and Engineering

American Fisheries Society

Company, Linden, New Jersey

The American Fisheries Society was founded in New York City on 20 December 1870, under the name "American Fish Culturists' Association." The primary objective was to promote the cause of fish culture. On 28 February 1878 the organization modified its name



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to "American Fish Cultural Association" and broadened its scope to include all questions of a scientific and economic character that pertained to fish. On 14 May 1884 the name was changed to "The American Fisheries Society," and on 16 December 1910 the Society was incorporated under that name in the District of Columbia. The Society antedates practically all of the specialized groups interested in some particular aspect of natural science, conservation, or fisheries.

The present-day objectives of the Society, which have broadened from time to time, are as follows: (i) to promote the conservation, development, and wise utilization of the fisheries. both recreational and commercial; (ii) to promote and advance the development and application of all branches of fishery science and practice, including aquatic and fishery biology, engineering, economics, fish culture, limnology, oceanography, fish parasitology, ichthyology, and related fields, such as nutrition; (iii) to gather and disseminate technical and other information on fishes, fisheries, fishing, and all phases of fishery biology and practice; (iv) to hold meetings for the presentation, exchange, and discussion of information, findings, and experience on all subjects and techniques related to fisheries, and all phases of fishery science and practice; and (v) by such other means as may be appropriate, to unite and encourage those interested in fisheries, and all other phases of fishery science and practice.

Although there were many outstanding scientists active in Society affairs in early years, names that stand out as representing leaders who influenced the thinking in the field of fisheries include: George C. Embody, H. S. Davis, E. A. Birge, James A. Henshall, Barton W. Evermann, Jacob Reighard, R. W. Eschmeyer, Thaddeus Surber, Hugh M. Smith, J. G. Needham, Raymond C. Osborn, A. G. Huntsman, Percy Viosca, and E. C. Fearnow.

The American Fisheries Society has long filled the role of leading public thought in the field of fisheries since the day it first influenced the Congress of the United States to establish the first federal fish hatcheries. The Society has acted in many ways as both the national and international coordinator on various fisheries programs and policies.

The American Fisheries Society has expanded into an international associa-

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tion which draws its membership from the United States, Canada, Mexico, and 37 other countries throughout the world.

Its scope now covers every interest and activity related to fish and fisheries. Although membership is not limited to professional biologists and the allied fields associated with the field of fisheries, 80 percent of the membership is of professional level. Lay conservationists interested in maintaining an adequate knowledge of the field also hold membership.

The Society meets once a year, usually in September in conjunction with the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners. Annual meetings usually consist of an opening keynote address coupled with a plenary session, three half-days of technical sessions, and one evening open-discussion assembly. Frequently, a technical session involves a symposium on some subject in the field of fisheries.

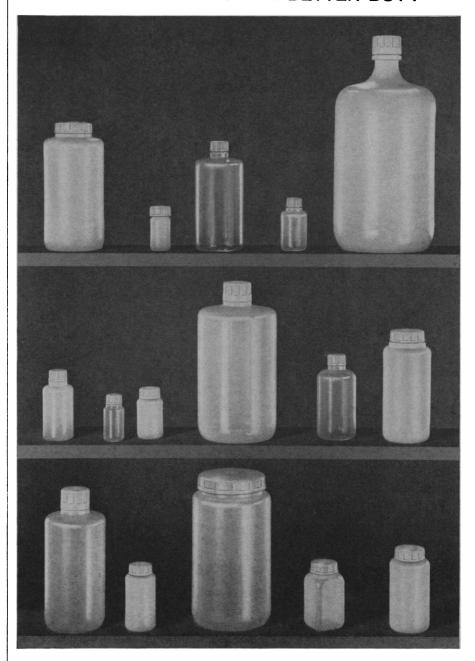
Meeting locations rotate among the different sections of the North American continent. Seven annual meetings have been held in Canada, one in Mexico, and the remainder have been in the United States. The Society is an affiliate member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is a member of the Natural Resources Council of America. It also supports in various ways the Watershed Congress and Boy Scouts of America.

Four regional meetings of the Society are held each year, namely the Northeastern, the Southern, the North Central, and the Western divisions. Several "chapters" of the Society meet throughout the year, principally on a local and state level. The divisions include the Canadian Provinces.

At its annual meeting, the Society elects a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a secretary-treasurer, and a finance committee. The editor of the Society is appointed by the president. Major decisions of the American Fisheries Society are made by an executive committee.

The official scientific journal of the American Fisheries Society, the *Transactions*, has been published without interruption since 1870. It is one of the oldest scientific publications in the nation, indeed the oldest in the field of conservation. Now in its 93rd volume, this quarterly is the principal reference source for scientific reports on

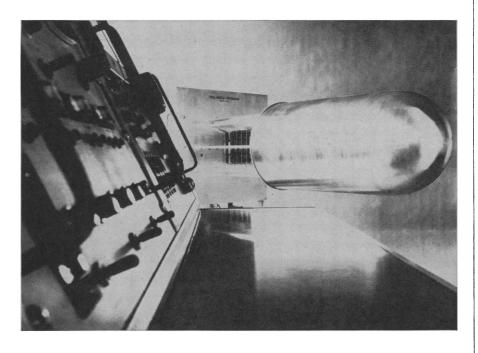
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various subjects in fisheries and aquatic resources of North America and other global regions. A wide range of subjects is covered, such as pollution, limnology, ichthyology, fish culture, fishery management, fish nutrition, fish parasitology, and so forth.

Two index issues of the *Transactions* are available, one covering 1872–1928, the other from 1929–1952. Special Publication No. 2, "A List of Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from the United States and Canada," is published by the Society. This reference is the only publication of its kind available and is in wide demand.

A Newsletter for the membership is published six times a year. The Society also has available a brochure entitled "Fisheries as a Profession" which serves as a career guide for students interested in entering the field of fisheries. This publication is made available to all high schools or to individuals who are seeking information on this career field.

The Society issues professional certificates to its members who are qualified by academic standing or experience in the field of fishery biology.

ELWOOD A. SEAMAN, Secretary-Treasurer

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Medical Library Association

The Medical Library Association came into being with a meeting of eight persons—four physicians and four librarians—in the editorial offices of the *Philadelphia Medical Journal* on 2 May 1898. At first the organization was called "Association of Medical Librarians" but at the 10th annual meeting (1907) the name was changed to its present form.

The objectives of the Association are the fostering of medical and allied scientific libraries, the exchange of medical literature among its members, and the improvement of the professional qualifications and status of medical librarians.

Membership may be on an institutional basis, provided that the medical or allied scientific library concerned meets standards of size, organization, and maintenance. Membership is also open to individuals engaged in professional medical library work, and in an associate status to persons in-