

# Rededication of the Woods Hole Laboratory

August 16, 1985

## Opening Remarks

**Mr. Richard C. Hennemuth, Director,  
Woods Hole Laboratory:**

“Welcome to the final event of our Centennial Celebration: The Rededication of the Woods Hole Laboratory.

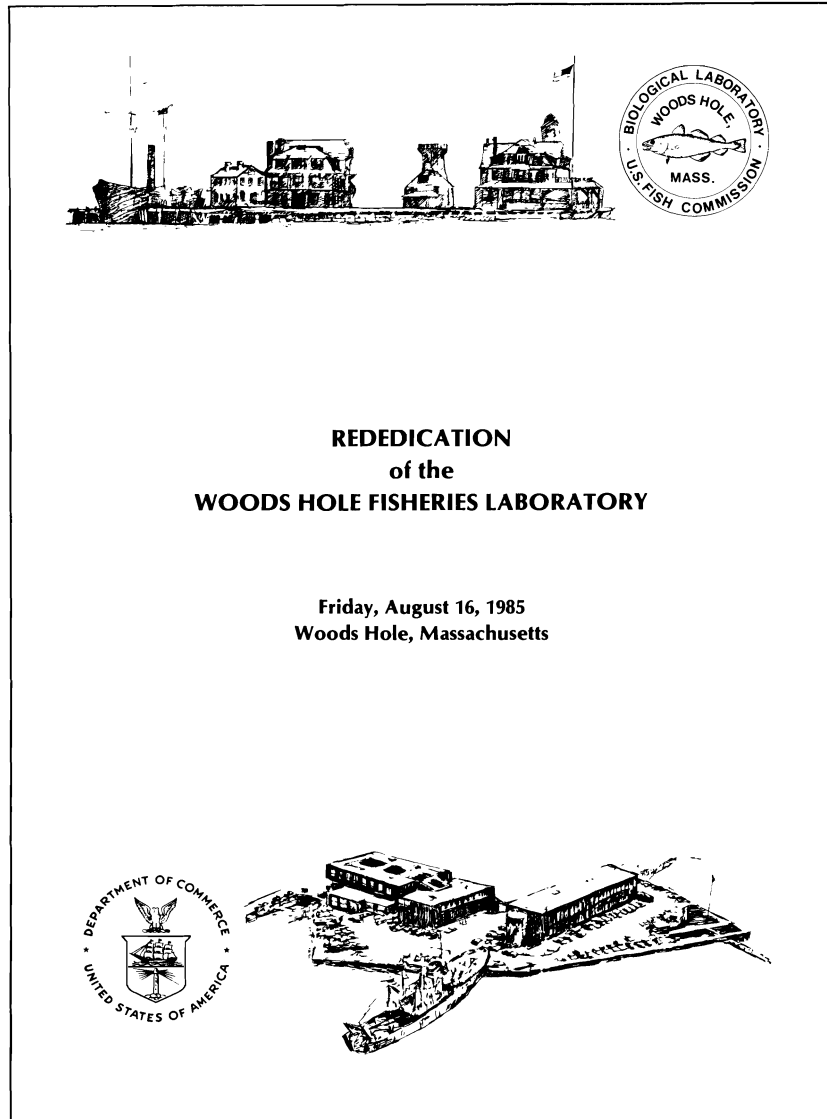
“We will begin with an Invocation by the Reverend Jeanette Burton, Pastor of the John Wesley United Methodist Church of Falmouth, Massachusetts.”

## Invocation

**Rev. Jeanette Burton:**

“Let us pray.

“Thank You God for the privilege of coming here this morning. Thank You for our awareness of Your presence always with us, the fact that we do not have to ask Your presence, for we know You are with us. You have promised to be with us always. We give You thanks for the insight and the foresight of those who, a hundred years ago, built this facility, provided to find ways to use that which You have given to us, and to use it wisely. We pray for the blessing upon those of the present day, as You blessed those of the past. And we ask that You will prepare others for the future that they will carry on this work that has been so ably performed in the years past. We ask Your blessing upon those who are presently working here in this place, that they continue to wisely use what You have given. Bless us as we endeavor to be aware that each one of us is responsible for taking care of the resources You have given to us through Your Grace. Bless us as we continue this service of dedication that we may be more sensitive and aware of our need for one another as we acknowledge our need for You, which we ask in Jesus’ name, Amen.”



Program for the rededication of the Woods Hole Laboratory.

**Mr. Hennemuth:**

“Our week’s activities, and the preparations for them, have provided an opportunity to reaffirm our origins, and

examine our progress in gaining knowledge about our fishery resources, and the application of this knowledge to con-

servation and management. Much has been learned and accomplished. There is yet much to do.

"I have had the pleasure of working here at this Laboratory for the last quarter of the century we are celebrating. My career here has provided me with the opportunity to learn about the oceans, the living marine resources, the fishermen, and the way society views and values these resources.

"It has been stimulating and rewarding. I encourage anyone who can to become involved in fisheries. I have learned that the world views fisheries, and always has, as something much more than a commodity. Conservation has been the watchword.

"The record is clear, the people working in this Laboratory over the past 100 years have contributed greatly to the conservation of fishery resources. The present, very dedicated and competent, staff is continuing that tradition.

"This ceremony will emphasize that it is equally, or perhaps more, important to look to future programs and continued efforts to conserve our very valuable marine resources.

"It is now my pleasure to introduce Mr. Allen Peterson, the Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center. The Center was established in 1976 to gather the six laboratories of this region under one umbrella. The job we have to do is ever greater, and the coordination of the six laboratories is a very important part of the Center's program. Allen Peterson has been Director of the Center since 1983. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1964. He began his career as a biologist in the Division of Marine Resources of Massachusetts and subsequently became its Director; he was the Northeast Regional Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service from 1979 to 1983; he was Chairman of the New England Fisheries Management Council in 1979 and is currently a United States Commissioner of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization. Mr. Peterson."

### Greetings and Introductions

#### Mr. Allen E. Peterson, Director, Northeast Fisheries Center:

"Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, scientific colleagues, members of the industry, and employees of the Woods Hole Laboratory. It is a distinct pleasure for me to speak at this Centennial Rededication. We have heard, during the course of this Centennial week, from many distinguished people about the past and future of this Laboratory's contributions to fisheries science and fisheries. The purpose of this Rededication, however, is not to dwell on the past, but rather to look forward to another rewarding and productive 100 years. One of my roles today is to introduce some of our distinguished guests and colleagues who are here to celebrate with us.

"Dr. Harley Knebel is the Associate Branch Chief for Atlantic Marine Geology of the U.S. Geological Survey located in the Woods Hole community. Our Federal colleagues share the study of the sea, and we are pleased to have Dr. Knebel with us today.

"We heard, earlier this week, the scientific presentation of former Laboratory Director Dr. William Royce, which was very informative and gave us a good background on some of the problems and issues that we will face in the future. Dr. Royce was Director of this Laboratory from 1948 to 1951 and did some of his early scientific work here. It is a pleasure to welcome you back to Woods Hole, Dr. Royce.

"We have another former Director on our platform, a person with a long tenure at the Laboratory, Dr. Herbert W. Graham who was Director from 1951 to 1970. We have heard much this week of his contributions to the Laboratory and to the study of fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic.

"The *R/V Albatross IV* that you see behind us and the *R/V Delaware II*, which is presently at sea, are an integral part of the Center's research program. These ships are manned, in part, by the NOAA Corps of our parent organization, NOAA, and operated out of the Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, Virginia. Admiral Wesley Hull is in

command of that Center; we are very pleased to have him with us here today, and commend his staff and officers for their participation in the Centennial.

"I must tell you that my involvement in the planning of this Centennial celebration has been minimal, but it has been a great pleasure to participate in the week's events. Mr. Hennemuth, the Laboratory Director, has had the planning responsibility, and he and his staff have done an excellent job. My role has been to see that they had enough money to work with, and to provide a little advice and guidance, somewhat like a grandparent-to-be. We are all relieved that NOAA did an excellent job in planning the weather. So, it really has been enjoyable for me, but it will also be a relief not to have to worry about it any longer.

"The Northeast Fisheries Center, as Mr. Hennemuth mentioned, is a group of six laboratories on the northeast coast of the United States dealing with fisheries related problems. The mission of the Northeast Fisheries Center, simply stated, is to understand the ecosystem dynamics in the waters of the Northwest Atlantic, and to interpret and evaluate the effects of man's activities on that ecosystem. We must then translate that understanding of the ecosystem and man's effects upon it into applied products to be used in managing the fisheries, dealing with contamination and other ocean-use issues, and in responding to other kinds of immediate events.

"In order to understand the ecosystem and its dynamics, it is no longer effective to use individually specialized laboratories, but rather to utilize the combined multidisciplinary expertise at all of our facilities to answer some of the questions and respond to the problems and issues with which we are faced.

"In addition to Woods Hole, our laboratories are located in Gloucester, Massachusetts; Narragansett, Rhode Island; Milford, Connecticut; Sandy Hook, New Jersey; Oxford, Maryland; and we also have a facility located in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. The talents and abilities of all of the people at these laboratories are brought to bear on common problems; my role as Center Director is to help

define those problems, set the policy and directions and, most importantly, provide the resources to get the job done. I find this work very rewarding and pleasing, mostly because of the dedicated staff, as well as the involvement with colleagues in other academic and scientific communities. The Woods Hole Laboratory has been most unique in getting the job done.

"I don't know why the Center's headquarters was originally located in Woods Hole, but when I became Center Director, I was happy that it was here for very personal reasons. My home is on Cape Cod, and I enjoy the opportunity to work here as well. I think that locating the headquarters here was based on the fact that the Woods Hole Laboratory is the oldest of the laboratories, has an outstanding reputation, and that it is advantageous to be located in the Woods Hole scientific community.

"There is one problem in having a

laboratory here, however, and that is that we are frequently referred to as the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and although at times that bothers us, it really shouldn't, because I think it is an honor to be referred to in the context of any of the other organizations here in Woods Hole. As you know, the Marine Biological Laboratory, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the Geological Survey are also located here. This Laboratory enjoys a great advantage in working with such a broad spectrum of marine scientists and dedicated people. The collaboration between this laboratory and the other institutions allows for greater productivity and efficiency of operation, and certainly, the intellectual atmosphere that fosters the resolution of marine related problems is probably better here than anywhere else in the world.

"This leads me to introduce our first speaker, Dr. Paul M. Fye, the President

of the Corporation, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Dr. Fye received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Columbia University. He was Director of the Oceanographic Institution from 1958 to 1977; those 19 years as Director have made him an institution also. His achievements are evident when one views the Institution and all of its facilities and programs. He is now the Corporate President of the Oceanographic Institution, but I understand is still keeping his hand in research by serving as Acting Director of the Marine Policy and Ocean Management Group. It would take the better part of this program merely to list the scientific accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Fye and his lifetime of involvement in ocean science development. I won't even begin to try to do that. It is clearly a pleasure to introduce to you, one of the world's most renowned marine scientists, Dr. Paul M. Fye."