

Rededication Address I:

Address by Dr. Paul M. Fye, President of the Corporation, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

“Distinguished guests, ladies, and gentlemen.

“This a great day! A great occasion! An occasion that is important to Woods Hole, to this Laboratory, and to everyone who works here. I am pleased to bring you the greetings of your sister organizations in the village on this happy occasion. We regard you, of the Fisheries, as our elder statesmen; the senior scientists in residence; and I am most happy to participate in the rededication of this Laboratory.

“When Spencer Baird arrived in Woods Hole in June 1871, as told in Paul Galtsoff’s brief history of this laboratory, and as already noted a number of times this week, it marked the beginning of a change for our small village of Woods Hole. It is noteworthy that the arrival of a single individual, even though he was President Grant’s newly appointed United States Commissioner of Fisheries, could have such an impact on the destiny of our village. At the time of Baird’s visit, Woods Hole already had

an interesting history which went back to the earliest days of the settlement of this continent, a history that even preceded the famous settlement at Jamestown, Virginia, or the Pilgrims landing in Provincetown and Plymouth. Bartholomew Gosnold is believed to have landed in Woods Hole in 1602 in his explorations of the Cape and the Islands.

“For the next 200 years, this corner of the Cape remained rural, principal occupations being fishing, hunting, and farming. Later the production of salt by solar evaporation in ponds along Little Harbor and the building of a grist mill provided some variation in the work of the settlers. In 1815, Elijah Swift began building whaling ships at the mouth of Eel Pond and thus, ushered in the whaling days which continued until the Pacific Guano Works started operations in 1863. Hence, at the time of Spencer Baird’s visit there was little about Woods Hole that foretold its destiny as one of the great marine research centers of the world. I’m told that the most remarkable

thing about Woods Hole at the time of his visit was the stench from the guano factory if the winds were strong. There is little doubt in my mind that the establishment of the Fisheries Laboratory in Woods Hole is the primary reason for the scientific pre-eminence of this village today.

“I have found, over the years, that if I identified myself [as being] from Woods Hole it was sufficient to open doors at marine centers around the world. The choice of Woods Hole as the site of a newly created fisheries laboratory was a happy choice. In his history Dr. Galtsoff tells us, also, that this choice was made after considering a number of other locations. Baird recognized the importance of being centrally located compared to the New England fisheries; of clean salt water of sufficient depth to bring in a fishing vessel of any size, and the importance of good communications between Boston, New York, and especially Washington, D.C., which were enhanced a year after his visit in 1872.

“And so, we meet here today to commemorate a hundred years of research in fisheries biology and oceanography. We celebrate the past century and we congratulate those who have dedicated their careers to the continuation and fulfillment of the goals of our scientific forefathers. We are here today to rededicate this Laboratory to a second century of outstanding scientific pursuits. May the good Lord continue to bless your work as He has in the past.”

Mr. Peterson:

“The next person I would like to introduce is listed on our program as President Emeritus of Suffolk University. (I am never quite sure what President Emeritus or Professor Emeritus stands for.) Thomas Fulham may not even realize it but he was my first boss, because when I went to work for the State of Massachusetts in the 1960’s he was a member of the Board of Natural Resources which was the directive body for natural resource programs in the State of Massachusetts. Over the years

Tom has had an opportunity to further the careers of a great number of fisheries people, even some who went on to higher office, such as governors of the State of Massachusetts. So Tom’s involvement in fisheries goes back a long time.

“Firmly entrenched in the Boston Community, he was a son of one of the leading families of Boston. For his education, Tom traveled west, as far west as Worcester; he attended Holy Cross College.

“Tom’s career has been varied but is most notable for his long and involved

association in the fisheries arena. The Fulhams have been involved in the fishing business in Boston on a continuous basis for a long time and Tom has been a stalwart in that business. In my early days, I was told and quickly learned that we had better pay attention to what was happening on the Boston fish pier or that we would soon hear from Tom Fulham and the Fulham family. Their impressive record of being reliable people and leaders in the fishing industry is well known to everyone in the industry. However, Tom went beyond just being involved with the exploitation of the

resource. He served on the first committees that led to the formation of the International Commission for the North-west Atlantic Fisheries and became a U.S. Commissioner to ICNAF. After the demise of ICNAF he was quick to pick up on the domestic side of management with the formation of the Regional Fisheries Management Councils. Tom be-

came a member of the New England Fisheries Management Council and contributed in that body for several years. On and off, he is still involved in the fishing business. He served as the President of Suffolk University during the 1970's and now carries the prestigious title of President Emeritus of Suffolk University. Personally, I like to

remember Tom as one of the foremost leaders, contributors and supporters of fisheries research and fisheries management; certainly his contributions have been as great as anyone's in the United States in those areas. It is my pleasure to introduce my former boss and personal friend, Tom Fulham."

Rededication Address II:

Address by Mr. Thomas A. Fulham

"Mr. Chairman, distinguished platform guests, ladies, and gentlemen.

"I can help you out with the word Emeritus. It was described to me by a friend who said that it comes from two Latin words: "E" and "Merito". "E" meaning "out" and "Merito", "deserving"—deserving to be out—that's me.

"I am very pleased to be here today because it gives me the opportunity to do publicly that which I have done privately many times, and that is to express my appreciation and, by association, the appreciation of the fishing industry, to the scientists who work here at this institution, and have for the last hundred years and, please God, will work here for many hundreds more. As

far as I am personally concerned, it adds a facet to my life that I could have gotten no place else, and one of my principal teachers, Dr. Herbert Graham, is here today.

"Being a scientific camp follower for many many years, with no scientific trade, gave me an opportunity to learn what the fishery scientist does, and the contribution that he or she makes to the constituency that they support, namely, the fishermen, the fish dealers, government agencies, and the public at large. A very non-appreciative audience! I have often felt that to be a good fishery scientist, you should have the proclivities of a Cistercian Monk of the strict observance, because what you do

is largely not understood, not appreciated, and not supported very heavily. The people for whom you work really do not understand what you are trying to do. I am talking about your constituency, which is fishermen, fish dealers, members of the government, and the general public. But you continue to work at it and you continue to make progress because you are devoted to perhaps the most interesting, fascinating, and intriguing aspect of our earth's ecosystem, the open ocean and the creatures in it.

"That was the world that the scientists opened up for me, and it gives me an enormous amount of pleasure to speak here today. I wish that I could mention all the people who added that delight to my life. But rather, I will leave you with one thought. Agricultural science, as an organized science, is probably 5,000 years old; fisheries science, as an organized science, might be 300 years old. So, if the fisheries scientists get any substantial complaint from their constituencies, they can remind them that they have 4,700 years to correct it."

Mr. Peterson:

"The last person I will have the privilege of introducing, in all probability needs no introduction, at least not to this particular audience. He is Mr. William Gordon, the Assistant Administrator of Fisheries within NOAA. To most of us, he is known as the Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, or, simply as the Boss.

"Bill Gordon earned his B.S. in Zoology at Mount Union College, and his

M.S. in Fisheries from the University of Michigan. He began his fisheries career as a biologist at the Great Lakes Research Station in Sandusky, Ohio, and I happen to know for a fact that, although he left there some time ago, some of his ties there are still very strong and Bill frequently goes back to talk with some of those same fishermen that he worked with back in the 1950's. He served as Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Laboratory in Sandusky in 1959 and 1960; he served

as Deputy Gear Base Director in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the early 1960's; he was on the Program Planning Budget Office staff in Washington in the late 1960's until 1970. He then moved on to loftier heights as Deputy Regional Director, then Director of the Northeast Region during the early 1970's. He then moved on to Washington, D.C., to become the Director of the Office of Resource Conservation and Management from 1979 to 1980. He was named to the office he holds today, Assistant Admin-