

## An Eponym for Reuben Lasker

Reuben Lasker published in 1975 and 1978 two papers in which he suggested that the maintenance—through a “period of calm”—of thin layers of food-rich patches was crucial to the survival of newly hatched northern anchovy larvae. These papers had an enormous influence on fisheries research throughout the 1980s, as can be easily assessed, e.g., through citation analysis.

Recently, Peterman and Bradford (1987, their note No. 16) operationally defined the periods of calm alluded to above as periods of four consecutive days with wind speed below  $10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . They also proposed to view periods of five consecutive calm days as two partly overlapping 4-day periods, period of six days as three partly overlapping periods, etc.

I recently proposed (Pauly 1987), in a book

largely devoted to following up on R. Lasker's work, the term “Lasker events” as an eponym for a period of four calm days with winds less than  $5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . The present volume provides an appropriate context to reiterate and refine this suggestion.

Thus, to allow different authors to identify different hypotheses related to the effects of periods of calm, I propose to use the notation “*i/j* Lasker event” for period of calm lasting *i* days and defined by winds not exceeding *j*  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ . Thus, e.g., Peterman and Bradford (1987) worked with “4/10 Lasker events”, while Mendelsohn and Mendo (1987) worked with “4/5 Lasker events”.

This suggestion offers a parallel for the more general “Lasker-hypothesis” now widely used as an eponym for the mechanism proposed by Lasker (1978, 1985).

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