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Brief Biographical Sketches of NMFS Scientists

**Working in Field
of Fishery Food Technology
at Seattle Montlake Laboratory
(who began work prior to 1950)**

August 1983

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BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF NMFS SCIENTISTS
WORKING IN FIELD OF FISHERY FOOD TECHNOLOGY AT
SEATTLE MONTLAKE LABORATORY WHO BEGAN WORK PRIOR TO 1950

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ABSTRACT

Brief biographical sketches are presented for scientists working in the field of fishery food science at the Montlake Laboratory of National Marine Fisheries Service and predecessor agencies. Those listed are ones who began work prior to 1950 and who worked for a minimum of four years. The biographical sketches are arranged in chronological order and cover the following individuals: Roger W. Harrison, Andrew W. Anderson, William Clegg, Charles Butler, Maurice E. Stansby, John Dassow, F. Bruce Sanford, Martin Heerdt, Lynne G. McKee, R. Paul Elliott, Mabel Edwards, Kathryn Osterhaug, Frank Piskur, G. Ivor Jones, David T. Miyauchi, Neva L. Karrick, George Pigott, Roy Stevens, and David H. Wieg.

INTRODUCTION

Mark Morton, a former National Marine Fisheries Service Biologist, after retirement, put out a series of leaflets giving biographical information about Pacific coast fishery biologists. Several such leaflets were prepared and sold at minimal cost to interested biologists. In 1980, he contacted Maurice Stansby and asked for him to prepare some brief biographies of people who had worked for NMFS in the field of fishery technology. Eighteen such biographies were prepared and furnished to Mark Morton who, however, died before anything could be done with them. This report presents these brief biographical sketches.

The criteria used in selecting the individuals to be included were as follows. Individuals covered must have started working at the Montlake Laboratory before 1950. They must have had a minimum of four years working at the Montlake Laboratory. They must have been working on technological fishery food science research projects with such backgrounds as chemistry, biochemistry, chemical engineering, microbiology, or food technology. Bordering fields such as economics, exploratory fishing or fishing gear operations were not included.

In Table 1 are listed in chronological order the individuals for whom biographical sketches are included. In this table are also listed the periods of time that they worked at the Montlake Laboratory and the total number of years worked.

Table 1.--Chronological listing of food science technologists who began work prior to 1950 at NMFS Montlake Laboratory in Seattle.

Individuals	Dates	Years
Roger Harrison	1933-1942	9
Andrew W. Anderson ^{1/}	1933-1937	4
William Clegg ^{1/}	1937-1955	18
Charles Butler ^{1/}	1937-1939; 1942-1948	7
Maurice E. Stansby ^{2/}	1938-1940; 1942-1983	43
John Dassow	1940; 1947-1950 1955-1982	31
F. Bruce Sanford	1940-1971	31
Martin Heerdt	1942-1964	22
Lynne G. McKee ^{1/}	1942-1962	20
R. Paul Elliott ^{1/}	1942-1949	7
Mabel Edwards	1943-1962	19
Kathryn Osterhaug	1943-1961	18
Frank Piskur	1944-1948; 1977-1981	8
G. Ivor Jones ^{1/}	1945-1950	5
David T. Miyauchi ^{1/}	1945-1948; 1950-1980	33
Neva L. Karrick	1947-1979	32
George Pigott	1948-1951; 1953-1955	5
Roy Stevens	1949-1956	7
David Wieg ^{2/}	1949-1983	34

1. Now deceased.
2. Still working (at the time this report was compiled) at the Montlake Laboratory.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Roger W. Harrison

Roger Harrison had worked for the Bureau of Fisheries as a chemical engineer from 1928 to early in 1933, first in Washington, D.C., then in Reedville, Virginia, and then in Gloucester, Massachusetts. During 1933 he together with Andrew W. Anderson, were transferred to the Montlake Laboratory to undertake the first technological work at the location. Roger was in charge of the laboratory which soon expanded by addition of other staff. Roger built up the laboratory to one having good facilities and staff until 1942 when he was transferred to Washington, D.C. to be Chief Technologist for the entire Bureau of Fisheries. He retired from his Bureau of Fisheries position in November 1944. From then through 1958 he was with Halibut Liver Oil Producers Co. in Seattle. From 1958 to 1962 he conducted fisheries surveys for USAID in Korea. From 1962 through June 1969 he was Chief Fisheries Technologist for FAO in Rome. He retired from FAO in June 1969. In 1971 he carried out for the International Executive Service some work on upgrading the quality of smoked canned oysters in Korea. Since then he has conducted some studies for FAO in foreign countries. Recently he has been active in civic affairs in La Mesa, California, where he now resides. He has been serving on a small panel, sponsored by the Small Business Administration and under the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) to encourage building up of small business operations.

Andrew W. Anderson

Andy Anderson, a graduate of the College of Fisheries old curriculum in fishery technology had considerable experience in the fishing industry dealing with fish meal and oil before he ever worked for the government. After he began work for our agency, he started in Washington, D.C., in fishery statistics. He joined the then newly established Technological Laboratory at Gloucester, Massachusetts in 1931. In 1933 together with Roger Harrison, he was transferred to the then two-year old Montlake building for the first work there in the field of fishery technology. During his four-year tenure at the Montlake Boulevard establishment, he worked on fishery by-products and upon the new procedure for extracting oil from salmon trimmings at times when the salmon were quite fat for using as an additive to cans of salmon when the fish were lean later in the season.

Andy transferred to the Washington office in 1937 to inaugurate the new fishery Market News Service. He then advanced rapidly into administrative positions as Chief, first of the Market News Service then as Chief of the branch of Commercial Fisheries. He later became Assistant Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. After retirement in 1961, he served for a short time as Fisheries Attache for our State Department in Copenhagen.

He has been living outside Poulsbo, Washington, on Hood Canal where he was quite active in local civic affairs. He died in 1982.

William Clegg

Bill Clegg was a native of England. He was an excellent analytical chemist who, however, looked upon himself as a sub-professional. Nevertheless he carried out a tremendous number of analyses on the composition of thousands of fish during his long tenure (1937 to 1955). His early appointment starting in 1937 was on a temporary basis and there was no way of getting it converted to one which would count toward retirement benefits. Consequently after such a change was made, he was able to work until he was 75 years of age and could qualify for a pension. He retired then in 1955 and lived by himself in a small house until his death sometime in the early 1960s.

Charles Butler

Charlie Butler served for a little more than a year as chemist at Montlake Laboratory from 1937 to 1939. After positions in industry (Columbia River Packers' Association in Astoria and Dawes Products Co. Fish Liver Oil Extracting Co. at Ketchikan, Alaska), he returned to the Montlake Laboratory for a 5-year period, 1943-48. During this time he worked primarily on projects concerned with fishery by-products. He was also active in connection with assistance which the laboratory gave to the Reconstruction Finance Corp., a governmental agency, in design and building of the government-owned factory fish processing ship, "Pacific Explorer."

Mr. Butler left his position in Seattle to transfer to the newly established Bureau of Fisheries Laboratory at Honolulu where he was in charge of the technological research program. Later in 1950 he transferred to Washington, D. C., where he was successively: (1) Fishery Products Technologist, (2) Chief, Technological Section, (3) Saltonstall-Kennedy Programs Coordinator, (4) Chief of the Branch of Technology, and (5) Assistant Director of the Division of Industrial Research. Owing to poor health, he took early retirement in 1968.

In retirement he lived in Florida, later in North Carolina, and finally in Alexandria, Virginia, where he died in January 1980.

Maurice E. Stansby

Maurice Stansby carried out research on fresh fish at the Bureau of Fisheries Technological Laboratories at Gloucester, Massachusetts, 1931-1935 and at College Park, Maryland, 1935-1937. Early in 1938 he transferred to the Montlake Laboratory where he worked on analytical methods for fish and on cold storage life of frozen fish from 1938-40. He was the first Director of the Ketchikan Laboratory 1940-42.

From 1942 to 1966 he was Director of the Seattle Technological Laboratory. Important programs which he directed during this 24-year period included war-time projects such as effects of preserving fish in cans of reduced tin content, utilization of fish cannery waste, nutritional properties and composition of fish and fish meal, development of standards for grading fish, and a comprehensive program on the chemistry, nutritional properties and utilization of fish oil.

From 1966 to 1971 he directed a small fundamental basic research unit, Pioneer Research Laboratory, at Seattle with main emphasis on mechanism for oxidative deterioration of oils of fish but with some work on chemistry of unusual lipids in shark and some on dimethylnitrosamine in processed fish. After formation of the Northwest Fisheries Center in 1970 he became the first Director of the new Division of Environmental Conservation looking into effects of pollutants on living fish.

Since his retirement in 1974, he has continued to work as a scientific consultant in the Center Director's office of the Northwest and Alaska

Fisheries Center. Much of this work has dealt with fish oils especially with their nutritional properties. He was co-editor of the book "Nutritional Evaluation of Long-Chain Fatty Acids in Fish Oils" published by Academic Press in 1982. He has authored about 165 scientific publications during his career.

John Dassow

John Dassow began work at the Montlake Laboratory in 1940 on a temporary position. John worked only a short time there before getting a better position in industry. He was employed in 1941 by the Alaska Fisheries Experimental Commission where he worked until 1945 in the laboratory operated in Ketchikan jointly by the federal government and the then Territory of Alaska. He returned to the Montlake Laboratory as Chemist in 1947, working for 3 years before being sent to Ketchikan in 1950 to be Director of the Fishery Products Laboratory there. He remained in Alaska until 1955 when the expanded Saltonstall-Kennedy programs at Seattle required someone of his background. He then returned to the Montlake Laboratory and served as Assistant Laboratory Director for programs dealing with applied research. He was largely responsible for much of the fine work conducted in subsequent years on such aspects as development of standards for fishery products, work on new preservative methods such as irradiation, etc. In recent years under Dr. Steinberg, and since 1980 John Spinelli, he served as Deputy Laboratory Director, originally of the technological laboratory, now Utilization Research Division of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center. He retired in 1982 and continues to reside in his Mercer Island home near Seattle.

F. Bruce Sanford

After gaining experience as a chemist working in industry at a concern dealing with vitamin oils, Bruce Sanford began his career at the Montlake Laboratory in July 1940. He worked at research concerning fish liver oils and Vitamin A. After the late 1940s, Vitamin A was being produced synthetically, and fish livers, at least in this country, were no longer used as a Vitamin A source. Bruce then carried out for a time research in other areas, particularly in connection with measuring drip in frozen fish. Bruce became very interested in scientific editing and began editing papers for publication by technologists and chemists at the Montlake Laboratory. Eventually he was made editor for all papers produced by the staff of the Technology Division throughout the country.

Bruce retired in 1971, and he lives in Seattle. He is interested in photography, especially taking close-up pictures of flowers. He continues his interest in scientific communication. Currently, he is writing two books-- "Fundamentals of Technical Writing" and "BASICA for use with the IBM Personal Computer."

Martin Heerdt

Martin Heerdt transferred from a position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Marketing Administration in November 1942 to a position as technologist with the technological laboratory at Montlake Boulevard. He was one of several new employees hired to carry out research needed on handling of fish in connection with war-time problems. He worked at the Montlake Laboratory from 1942 to April 1964. During his early service at Montlake, he worked on such projects as dehydration of fish, freezing of fish, and other preservation problems.

He developed tuberculosis and spent some time in a sanitarium. Upon his release, he was able to work part-time. He spent some of this part-time work on preparation of Abstracts for the then new Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Journal, "Commercial Fisheries Abstracts."

Since he left the Montlake Laboratory, he has been living at his home in Seattle.

Lynne G. McKee

Lynne McKee, after a long career as fishery technologist for the fish canning industry, began work at the Montlake Laboratory in November 1942. He was concerned mostly with problems dealing with the war-time tin shortage and was involved in programs where fish were canned in experimental packs, using tin plate of decreasing thickness. From such tests it was possible to determine the minimum thickness of tin plate that would preserve the fish without can corrosion after storage. After World War II, Lynne continued other work involving canned and preserved fish. Because of his mechanical ability, he was able to build various mechanical equipment for laboratory use such as a tenderometer for measuring texture of fish. Lynne retired in 1962. Thereafter, he resided at his home at Rocky Point (south of South Bend, Washington near Bruceport Park). He died in early 1980.

R. Paul Elliott

Paul Elliott began work at the Montlake Laboratory in November 1942 as a bacteriologist. He worked on a number of projects relating to prevention of spoilage in fish which might occur due to shortages of materials in World War II. He continued on this type of work until 1948 at which time he became assistant editor for Commercial Fisheries Abstracts, a new journal put out by the Seattle laboratory for national and international circulation. He continued in this work through February 1949 when he resigned to accept a fellowship to Norway.

Since that time Paul continued his career in microbiology and chemistry. From 1950 through 1959 he was bacteriologist with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C. From 1959 to 1964 he was a chemist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Western Regional Laboratory at Albany, California. From 1964 to 1966 he worked again at the U.S. Food and Drug Laboratory, this time as head of a microbiological group.

From 1966 to 1971 he worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service continuing with this agency as Chief of their Microbiology and Chemistry Laboratory from 1971 to 1974. After 1974 Paul was a consultant food microbiologist working from his home in Pebble Beach, California. He died in 1980.

Mabel Edwards

Mrs. Mabel Edwards was employed in May 1943 as a laboratory aid. She had been a school teacher but had no special training for the type of work carried out for her new position. She learned this on the job and worked for quite a few years under the direction of Neva Karrick running assays for vitamins and other components in fishery products. She continued on until her retirement in June 1962. Mabel still lives about two blocks from the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center so we continue to see her from time-to-time.

Kathryn Osterhaug

Kathryn Osterhaug worked at the Montlake Laboratory from May 1943 until October 1961. During most of this time she worked in her main field as a home economist. Her work was largely that of developing new recipes for cooking seafood. She published numerous leaflets on this subject. She also served the laboratory in another capacity. This was related to setting up and conducting taste tests (organoleptic tests) for use by preservation programs to determine whether some process or set of storage conditions altered edibility of the product.

Late in her career she became involved in preparations of abstracts for the government monthly bulletin, "Commercial Fisheries Abstracts." In 1961 she transferred from the Montlake Laboratory to the "Commercial Fisheries Abstracts" office elsewhere in Seattle and became Associate Editor for this publication. She retired in 1965 and now resides in Edmonds, Washington, near Seattle.

Frank Piskur

Frank Piskur started his career as a chemist in the meat industry. Maurice Stansby, in 1941, when he was a Director of the Fishery Products Laboratory at Ketchikan, Alaska, recruited for a chemist there and induced Frank to accept a position to work on fish in Alaska. In September 1944 Frank transferred to work at the Montlake Laboratory where he remained until December 1948. Frank then went on to a series of positions, all with the National Marine Fisheries Service (and its predecessor - Bureau of Commercial Fisheries). Among these were being Director of the Technological Laboratory at College Park, Maryland; Assistant Director of the Regional Office in Juneau, Alaska; working in the Foreign Fisheries Division in Washington, D.C.; and being editor of "Marine Fisheries Abstracts" (formerly "Commercial Fisheries Abstracts") in Seattle. After demise of this journal in 1975, he retired. However, he returned to work at the Montlake Laboratory from 1977 to 1982 as a scientific editor in the Environmental Conservation Division of Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center. He currently resides at his home in Richmond Beach near Seattle.

Dr. G. Ivor Jones

Dr. Jones began work at the Montlake Laboratory in 1945. He had previously been employed with the Food and Drug Administration's field laboratories. One of the research areas in which he was quite active was in looking into new ways to utilize salmon cannery waste. Means for extracting potentially valuable chemicals from such waste were looked into. He also carried out work to improve the physical-chemical analytical methods for Vitamin A in fish liver oils.

After Dr. Ivor Jones left the Montlake Laboratory in 1950, he worked for 18 years at the National Cannery Association, Seattle laboratory, as a chemist. In 1968 he joined the staff of the University of Washington's College of Fisheries as Associate Professor. He died in April 1980.

David T. Miyauchi

Dave began work at Montlake Laboratory in July 1945 as a chemist. He had a long and productive career, largely working on various aspects of preservation of fish by various methods. He was involved with much work on cold storage of frozen fish. Later he did much of the Pacific coast research on application of irradiation at low levels for extending the shelf life of refrigerated fish.

Between 1948 and 1949, Dave was detailed to the then new Honolulu Laboratory. After two years when it was decided not to continue technological studies in Hawaii, he returned to Seattle. He continued on as a project leader in many areas of research on processing and preserving of fish. He retired early in 1980. He died in 1981.

Neva L. Karrick

Neva Karrick started work at the Montlake Laboratory in February 1947. Her background, with a major in chemistry and a minor in bacteriology, fit nicely into a new large project sponsored by the Division of Industrial Research and Development which was just beginning with the objective of finding new ways to preserve and utilize Alaskan cannery waste which up until then had been discarded. After completion of this project, Neva, obtaining for the first time a permanent position at the Montlake Laboratory as chemist, was assigned to another new program on development of better feed for hatchery fish. In this program she adapted microbiological assay procedures for determination of B vitamins in salmon hatchery feed. With assistance from Mabel Edwards, an analytical program was carried out lasting until 1954 which provided comprehensive knowledge of B vitamin and other components in fish hatchery feed.

In 1955 a very large new program was initiated at the Montlake Laboratory which dealt with investigation of properties of fish oils and the development of better uses for them. Neva's ability in supervision was by this time recognized, and she moved rapidly from her former role as research chemist into administrative duties. Eventually she became Assistant Laboratory Director, responsible for programs dealing with chemistry and involving basic research. She remained in a position of Assistant Laboratory Director with the Technological Laboratory until 1966. She then moved in a similar role with the newly formed Food Science Pioneer Research Laboratory. After NOAA

was formed in 1970 and the Pioneer Research Laboratory became a part of the Environmental Conservation Division of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, Neva served as Assistant Director of this new Division. She retired in April 1979 and is still living in Seattle.

Dr. George Pigott

George Pigott worked at the Montlake Laboratory as a fishery technologist and chemical engineer from July 1948 to 1951, and again from 1953 to 1955. In his first three years at the Montlake Laboratory, George carried out research which resulted in practical methods for the Alaska salmon industry to collect and preserve salmon cannery waste for shipment and use in fish hatcheries in the Pacific Northwest. In his second period of employment at Montlake, from 1953 to 1955, he held a Continental Can Co. fellowship and he carried out research to determine nature of the reaction of fish in cans during storage which results in sulfide discoloration.

George worked for the National Cannery Association Seattle Seafood Laboratory from 1955 to 1957 and at the Boeing Co. in Seattle from 1957 to 1959. He then went to the University of Washington to get his doctorate and then became an academic staff member in the College of Fisheries at the University. He has been a full professor there since 1972.

Roy Stevens

Roy Stevens was employed in February 1949 to work on the then new government publication, "Commercial Fisheries Abstracts" which was then prepared by the Technological Laboratory at the Montlake Laboratory under Maurice Stansby as editor. After becoming familiar with this publication in November 1949, Roy became Assistant Editor for the Abstracts journal. He continued in this capacity until 1955.

Roy then branched out into market development activities, working first in Seattle. During 1956 he transferred to the Washington office where he worked in the market development field until his retirement in 1975. After that time, he worked with a fish brokerage concern in Seattle until 1979 and currently does work as a fishery consultant from his home in Seattle.

David H. Wieg

Dave Wieg, who had worked previously as a laboratory aide at a fish liver oil manufacturing concern in Seattle, began work at the Montlake Laboratory in March 1949. He has carried out work in his career as physical science technician over the years in many of the different programs under way at the laboratory along different lines. He has thus become proficient at many tasks and is an invaluable member of the staff where he assists professional chemists and fishery technologists with their research.

