

Each member was asked to present a short, informal discussion of trout management or research activities within their agency. General discussion centered around design criteria for selective withdrawal outlets and the economics of trout catchout ponds. The committee also enjoyed a field trip to the Hoods Creek-Walnut Fork Research Station to review stream improvement devices and artificial spawning areas.

During the Charleston, South Carolina meeting President Hooper established an ad hoc Fish Disease Committee. The purpose of the committee is twofold: (1) to study problems associated with the spread of fish diseases in the southeastern United States, and (2) to propose measures by which the spread of fish diseases may be minimized or curtailed. Some of the thoughts on how these objectives may be attained are as follows:

1. A list of the important diseases for which examination should be made.
2. Establish standardized procedures for examination of fish for certification.
3. Draw up uniform regulations for certification which can serve as a basis for supportive legislation by the various states.
4. Determine feasibility of a Federal Disease Control Center for the Southeastern United States to coordinate fish disease activities and to serve as a record center for all fish kills.
5. Draw up a list of qualified people to make certifications.

At the annual meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, President Barkley presented plaques to Past Presidents of the Southern Division in recognition of their leadership and personal contributions to advance and improve the science of fisheries in the professional and public interest. Past Presidents present to receive their plaques were: Jack Dequine, Jack Chance, Jeff Fuller, Gene Surber, Barry Freeman, Gene Ruhr, Bernie Carter, Alex Montgomery, Jim Davis and Hudson Nichols. Past Presidents absent from the ceremony were: Ed Hueske, Norm Benson, Carlos Fetterolf, Buck Byrd, Andy Hulsey, Howard Zeller, and

Ed Barry. Past Presidents Bob Martin and Red Tatum received similar plaques at the completion of their terms in office.

The next annual meeting of the Southern Division will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee on October 23-25, 1972. Reports from the Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee strongly indicate that this will be an outstanding meeting and all are invited to attend.

### Report of the Western Division

ARTHUR N. WHITNEY, *President*

I was able to attend three of the Division's chapter meetings this year—my own chapter in Montana and two of the largest chapters in the Division. These were the Portland Chapter, which met in Newport, and the California-Nevada Chapter which met in San Louis Obispo. I was well impressed with the quality of these chapter meetings. The papers were good and the discussions were lively. In my opinion the real future of our Society, as far as meaningful input at meetings by the rank-and-file members are concerned, lies in the chapters.

The Division's most significant question of the year arose last September when the Arizona-New Mexico Chapter wrote the Parent Society's Executive Committee requesting that the Western Division be split into Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions. Since this was a letter, not a petition as required for such a change, the Executive Committee could not act upon it and suggested that it be referred to the Division for discussion. Our business meeting in Portland was the first chance for the membership of the Division to consider this matter; however, we could only discuss it. We could not actually have split at that time even if that had been the desire of most of the membership.

The Parent Society's Bylaws state that divisions may be formed by any 25 or more members of some geographical area petitioning the Society's annual business session for formation of a division. If this is passed by a two-thirds majority, then a new division

is formed. Even though we could not split at Portland, I explained that if the desire of the group was to do something other than to continue under our present organization, then we should signify that desire to the Parent Society. Theoretically, 25 members from any portion of the Division could petition to form a new division and thus break away from the Western. In practice, however, I believe it would be extremely difficult to get such a petition accepted by a two-thirds majority of the Parent Society's annual business meeting without some indication that the action met the desire of most of the people in the present Division's membership. Therefore, I advised if any group present wanted to split to another division they should move to so notify the Parent Society at the "other business" portion of our agenda.

The primary reason given by the Arizona-New Mexico Chapter for wanting to split was to reduce the area in which meetings are held and thereby hopefully increase the chances of attending for individual members. Also, splitting the Western Division would effectively break our meetings away from the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners meetings, at least a portion of the time. This, in turn, would give more time for fisheries sessions and hopefully require less expensive facilities. While I personally agree it would be well to break from the Commissioners' meeting, the Division would not have to split in order to do this. However, in the past most of the members attending our

meetings have wanted to continue meeting with the Western Association.

Other dissatisfactions with the Division than those mentioned above have also been expressed. I have heard criticisms this past year that the Western Division is not following the Parent Society's objectives and that it is a do-nothing group whose only activity is an annual meeting. I do not fully agree with these criticisms. Certainly the annual meeting is our major activity, but rather than split the Division I would prefer to see the persons who want the Division in other activities working to get it so involved.

Funding has always been a problem; however, we will soon have a new source of money. The National Executive Committee, at its St. Louis meeting in March, moved to rebate fifty cents per member to the Divisions without any dues increase. Therefore, we who have been living on less than \$100.00 per year will soon have a treasury balance of approximately \$600.00. Thus, I believe a much more important question than "Shall we or shall we not split?" is the question, "How can we use these new funds to best benefit the members of the Western Division?" To aid in our deliberations I asked the presidents of the other Divisions what some of their activities were and what they might be planning to do with the new funds. At meeting time I had received a reply only from the North Central Division, which was discussed. Other Divisions' replies have been forwarded to President Larson for his consideration.

## BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual business meeting of the American Fisheries Society was called to order by President Edwin L. Cooper at 10:40 a.m., September 12, 1972 in the Crystal Ballroom of the Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, Arkansas. He declared the presence of a quorum, as required by Article IV, paragraph 3, of the Constitution.

Because of the length of this session, it is impractical to publish a detailed report of all comments, discussions, and questions. A stenotyped copy is on file in the Society's Executive office for reference and verification

of this resume. All actions taken, resolutions adopted, and motions passed are included herewith.

Reports of the Divisions, Standing Committees, and ad hoc Committees were pre-