

FISHERIES SCIENTIST HONORED BY U.S.

The first Award of Excellence of the American Fisheries Society has been presented to Dr. W.E. Ricker, Chief Scientist of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. Dr. Ricker is a resident of Nanaimo, British Columbia, and works at the Board's biological station there. He is at present on a six-month teaching and research assignment in Moscow.

Elwood A. Seaman of Virginia, president of the AFS, presented the medal and \$1,000 in prize money at the Society's ninety-ninth annual meeting held in New Orleans. He paid the award winner the following tribute:

"Dr. Ricker has been called the foremost scientist in Canada by his Canadian peers, and in the United States is recognized for his superb and original contribution to the theory of lake circulation; to the methodology of statistically sound sampling in fishing waters; to measuring and interpreting the vital statistics of fish population; for new concepts about growth and mortality and about predator influences on salmon survival and relations between parent fish stocks and numbers of surviving progeny."

Dr. Ricker was also cited for his scientific and technical versatility. He was a professor at the University of Indiana for 11 years and editor of the *Journal of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada* for 12 years. He has had almost 150 scientific papers published.

The new award is not just for recent scientific accomplishment but for recognition of excellence of lasting contributions to fisheries and aquatic science.

WHAT PRICE HOUSEWORK?

Although men have found a way to overcome the obstacles facing them when they tried to walk on the moon, they have failed to overcome the difficulties of measuring the value of the services provided in their homes — services, that is, such as domestic activities which, if paid for, would be calculated as a national economic product.

Last month, in an address entitled "Housework Services — The Orphan in Economic Reckoning" to the Engineers' Wives Association at the National Arts Centre, Miss Sylva Gelber, Women's Bureau director, Canada Labor Department, said that it could be done.

Miss Gelber outlined efforts by economists for half a century to devise some formula for measuring the monetary value of the unpaid domestic services provided by members of a family. She quoted illogical situations that can, and do, arise because services provided for payment are dropped from the national product when they are provided without payment. Much of her speech was based on views put forward over the years by outstanding economists, many of whom agreed that the confused state of affairs resulting from present practices needed rectifying.

Miss Gelber contended that, although there were difficulties in measuring unpaid household services, the availability of statistical tools in this age of technology should facilitate the removal of such obstacles.

"Perhaps the time has come," she said, "when those who provide the services should bring pressure to bear on the social scientists, to ensure that the *bona fide* services, unpaid though they be, should no longer be set aside as valueless in dollar terms."

Miss Gelber suggested that housewives should insist on a value being placed at least on the unpaid domestic services they provide. "In so doing, they will acquire from society a new attitude towards their services and, at the same time, make meaningful the measure of all services reflected in the national accounting," she declared.

AID FUNDS TO INDIA

At the request of the Government of India, Canada has agreed to release \$174.5 million in counterpart funds for the financing of 14 development projects in the Asian subcontinent. These funds derive from past gifts of wheat and commodities to India.

The proposed projects are related to Canada's current contribution to the Indian economy, particularly in agriculture and transportation and the Canadian-financed multi-million dollar Idikki power project.

The counterpart fund, a long-established feature of Canada's international assistance program, is designed to ensure that each aid dollar is put to the maximum use for development. When foodstuffs or commodities are supplied on a grant basis, the recipient country sets up an account in its own currency equivalent to the dollar value of the Canadian shipment. These funds are then spent on economic development projects that have been agreed on by both countries. Title to counterpart funds rests with the recipient, and investment priorities are established basically on its initiative.

HOW SYSTEM WORKS

Under this system, the recipient country receives essential supplies that it lacks the foreign exchange to purchase. At the same time, it is able to underwrite development programs by investing the local currency funds "generated" by the grant of food or, occasionally, other commodity assistance from a donor.

The \$174.5-million counterpart expenditure agreed on by Canada and India includes minor irrigation projects and other agricultural schemes such as education, research, staff training and improvement of grain-storage methods. A soil-conservation program involving over two million acres is planned and will be supported by counterpart funds.