

NILS ROSÉN

(1882 - 1970)

ils Rosén, a well known figure in the International Council in the 1930s', 40s', and early 50s', died on 1. May, 1970, at the age of 87 years. He was born on 11. June 1882, at Hälsingborg (on the west coast of Scania), attended the local Grammar School and proceeded to the University of Lund. In 1910 he attained his doctor's degree with a thesis dealing with parasitic molluscs, was a university lecturer from 1910 to 1914 and held the professor's office 1910-1912.

In 1914-1919 Nils Rosén was Fisheries Inspector for the upper northern district of Sweden and in 1919-1949 for the west coast district of Sweden with residence in Gothenburg. He retired in 1949. Rosén was also engaged in several other activities. Thus he was a member of the Swedish Hydrographic-Biological Commission (1930-1948) and acted in many cases as an expert and investigator in official duty concerning fishery problems. He was secretary of the Göteborgs and Bohuslän fishermen's association (1919-1949) and was the editor of the association's yearbook. In 1928-1934 he edited a Swedish Fisheries journal ("Ny svensk fiskeritidskrift").

Along with all this he published works covering Zoology, Zoogeo-graphy and Fisheries Biology, of which here may be mentioned "Vår fiskerinäring" (1947, an exhaustive manual on the Swedish fishing industry), "Die schwedische Westküstenfischerei" (1953, in Handbuch der Seefisherei Nordeuropas) and "Svenskt fiskerilexikon" (1955, a big Swedish fishery dictionary). His publications also included papers on salmon and trout in the northern part of Sweden. Furthermore he published or collaborated in several works of popular science. As editor and collaborator he was scrupulous but easy to deal with for those who observed deadlines. Those however who tended to lag behind, he chased up energetically.

Rosén attended the Statutory Meetings of ICES for the first time in 1920 and thereafter in the years 1931, 1932, 1934-1939, 1945-1953 as an expert. He was a member of the Salmon and Trout Committee (1931, 1932, 1934-1939, 1944-1948), of the Transition Area Committee (1947-52) and of the Statistical Committee (1935-1939, 1945-1953). Nils Rosén took an active part in the work of the International Council. He was chairman of the Statistical Committee 1947-1953 and was the editor of the Bulletin Statistique for the years 1939-1953 (volumes 29-37). With his pronounced sense of order Nils Rosén was well fitted for the work as editor.

Although Nils Rosén was from his youth trained in and interested in scientific work, he had to devote most of his time to administration. Yet all his life he carefully tried to follow events not only in the fields of fisheries and fisheries biology but also in the broader field of zoology. This wide interest, combined with a good memory and a clear head, meant that he could easily keep and willingly took part in talks and discussions on different problems. Owing to this and to his easy and helpful attitude he made many friends within ICES as well as in other spheres.

Nils Rosén was a hard worker, very rapid and effective in action and had an open eye for rationalization, which was a great help to him in the large amount of work which piled upon him. He built up a very big collection of reprints and cuttings which made it possible for him to give answers within short time (for instance to telephone enquiries) to the most varied questions in his sphere of activity. Instead of taking out the vacation which was due to him according to law, for many years he asked for and received permission from the authorities to stay during the summer months in a little fishing village in his district

all the time carrying out his usual work as fisheries inspector. This, among other things, made it possible for him better to follow what happened in the fishery.

His physical and mental capacity was good until shortly before his death. Thus for a long time after his retirement he continued as inspector of the state export-control of fish on the west- and south-coast of Sweden and to be adviser to courts concerning compensation claims of owners of private fishing-rights following a Fisheries Act of 1950.

After having ceased to attend the Statutory Meetings of ICES he maintained his interest in the proceedings. Every year before the meetings he asked me, his successor as fisheries inspector, to give his kindest regards to his old friends in ICES and asked for further information of them. His many friends in Sweden and abroad will all miss him deeply. Nils Rosén married Ingegerd IHRFELDT in 1915. She died before him and he was survived by a son, architect by profession.

Sven Sahlin