

A Trip down Memory Lane

I have been a member of CSE (and its predecessors, the Conference of Biological Editors, the Council of Biological Editors, and the Council of Biology Editors) for more than a few years, so imagine my pleasure in reading Martha Tacker's lovely retrospective, "CBE Views: A Look Back", in the first issue of *Science Editor*. For me, this was a marvelous trip down Memory Lane.

I looked first at Martha's list of the "Editors of the *CBE Newsletter* and *CBE Views*". I then realized that I had been lucky enough to have known all 14 of these distinguished colleagues. And each truly "rose to the challenge of editing a publication for editors", as Martha pointed out. Some may have been better than others, but I remember all of them as being very good. To me, the two most recent editors, Martha Tacker and Barbara Gastel, have been the best of all, but perhaps these two giants have succeeded simply by standing on the backs of the giants who preceded them. Of the earlier giants, Evelyn Myers and Gisella Pollock come quickly to mind.

I must mention Fred Cagle, the first editor of the *Newsletter*. Frankly, I can't

remember a thing about Fred's editorship. I can, however, remember the first CBE annual meeting that I attended. The meeting was held in New Orleans, and the annual banquet was held in Fred's backyard. He served oysters, crayfish, and a great many other seafood specialties. Magnificent! Since then (1959 or 1960, as I recall), I have attended many CBE annual meeting banquets, but none has ever come close to matching the quality of that one.

On the other hand, the first issue of *Science Editor* is clearly superior to all of the other *Newsletters* and *Views* that preceded it. The new format is superb. The text and illustrations are interesting and impressive. (Showing the front covers of books being reviewed is a nice touch.) I offer congratulations to Editor Gastel and to all who worked with her in creating this fine new publication.

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