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Roger Revelle (1909–1991) with piston corer
aboard R/V *Horizon*, MidPac Expedition, 1950

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EDITORIAL

A NEW CENTURY TURNS HISTORICAL

GREGORY A. GOOD

This first issue of 2000 appropriately has a mostly twentieth-century cast. As the century (and the millennium) turn, we now have to be much more careful for a while before saying, "During the current century . . .". The special section in particular concentrates on developments in a quintessential twentieth-century science, oceanography. This section, publishing some of the presentations from the Maury II conference on the history of oceanography, is thoroughly introduced by Naomi Oreskes, so I will call attention to only one aspect of it. All of the papers concern the patronage of oceanography in the United States. This American focus is partly due to other papers from Maury II having been published elsewhere. Readers should note that the editor is developing an issue for 2001 with an international oceanographic focus.

I am pleased to include a second article on Florence Bascom by Lois Arnold, which carries us forward into her doctoral research years at Johns Hopkins University. Several more articles are in preparation for future issues relating to women who have been involved in the geosciences.

This issue brings back the feature **Research Notes**, consisting of shorter scholarly pieces and progress reports about on-going projects. Please consider submitting shorter pieces for this section. Submissions will be subject to the usual peer-review process. The report by Tanya J. Levin and Ronald E. Doel brings us up-to-date on an oral history project that promises to be useful to scholars interested in the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and the history of marine geology and geophysics. The note by John Sinkankas suggests that researchers might find a visit to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia useful, given the significance of the library of William Maclure (1763–1840) to its collection.

This issue lacks a **Focus Book** section, but look for it to return in the future.

Readers and HESS members should note that beginning with vol. 20, 2001, **Earth Sciences History** will have a new editorial board, with some new procedures, in place. Over the years the current board has contributed significantly to the health and success of the journal and the society. However, the journal has imposed on the good nature of most of these board members for much too long—in some cases, for twenty years! The new board will be brought in with a three-year rotation, to match the rotation of the editor's position. More will be said about these changes in vol. 20, no. 1.