Some ABCs

By RON INOUYE

in education

Teachers interested in marine education who may be in the Vancouver, British Columbia, area on May 23-26, 1980, have a treat in store. The Northwest Association of Marine Educators will hold their annual general meeting in that city. The purpose of the conference is to provide teachers with opportunities to exchange ideas, gain curriculum information, meet others involved with marine education and tour sites of industrial, educational and scientific interest in the greater Vancouver area.

It is appropriate that Alaska, with four-fifths of the U.S. coast line, expand its education programs to include more marine education. Our schools have generally not included marine related phenomena as an integral part of the course of study even when the schools are situated on rivers or along the coast. As the state begins to recognize the importance of the natural marine resources, emphases on aquaculture, hatcheries, bottom fisheries and even boating safety and such water related activities must surely increase.

Marine education programs are active in few communities in the state. Those programs range from general awareness activities in the elementary levels to extensive high school biology and career training programs for fishery related vocations.

Currently there is a small number of marine educators in the state who belong to the Northwest Association of Marine Educators; they are interested in expanding their numbers by identifying others in the state who would be interested in initiating programs or discussing their current on-going programs. Whether by contacting those people listed below who are active in marine education or attending the Vancouver meeting, Alaska teachers have an excellent opportunity to learn more about marine education.

Marine Educators' Conference
c/o Rod MacVicar
Teacher Centre, 1000 Austin Ave.
Coquitlam, British Columbia
CANADA VcK 3P1

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